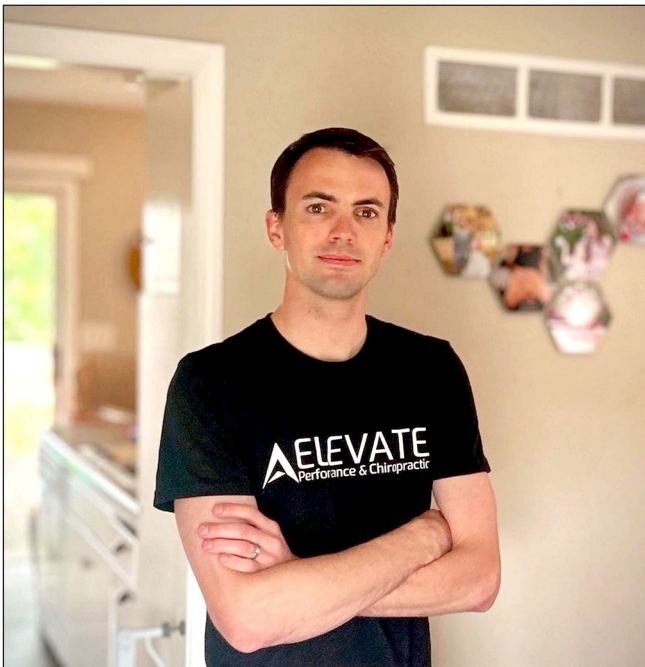


Nex-Tech loans \$47,000 to launch chiropractor center in Plainville

Nex-Tech has made a \$47,000 loan to support Elevate Performance and Chiropractic, a comprehensive chiropractic and wellness care service in Plainville.

Elevate Performance Chiropractic treats the root cause of pain rather than just symptoms by combining chiropractic care, rehab, and strength training. The loan was disbursed from the Nex-Tech Revolving Loan Fund, which provides low-interest loans to eligible local businesses to create jobs and sustain local socio-economic activities. This investment will serve the rural communities of northwest Kansas and is a testament to Nex-Tech's commitment to improving the quality of life for the customers and communities we serve.

Speaking on the loan support, CEO of Nex-Tech Jimmy Todd said, "We



KOLT NEWELL moved back home to be closer to family and give back to the community when he recently opened his chiropractic business, Elevate Performance, located in Plainville.

are happy to once again partner with another local business that will make life better for the communities

we serve. We already provide Plainville with world-class fiber broadband and technology solutions. Now

we are going the extra mile to stimulate economic activities that will benefit the whole community."

Located at 213 W Mill St, Plainville, Elevate Performance and Chiropractic is the vision of Kolt Newell, who moved back home to be closer to family and to give back to the community that raised him.

"I started Elevate Performance and Chiropractic because I saw a gap in the way chiropractic care was being delivered," Kolt said.

Kolt is passionate about helping active individuals move pain-free. He combines functional movement, personalized care, and rehab-based strategies to restore confidence, improve performance, and keep people doing what they love.

Speaking on the loan, Kolt said, "It was a smooth process of completing the loan process, and this has

helped achieve the dream of opening a chiropractic office back in Plainville. We are wrapping up renovations and hoping to hold a ribbon-cutting and open house soon."

Expressing delight at the loan, Executive Director of Rooks County Economic Development Jeanine McKenna said, "Rooks County Economic Development is excited to welcome Elevate Chiropractic to the Plainville community. It is a wonderful new resource that strengthens our community and supports better living for everyone."

Nex-Tech is a participant in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program (REDLG) through which it supports rural projects and business initiatives that create jobs across the region and contribute to a sustainable local econ-

omy.

"Nex-Tech is committed to helping local businesses and entrepreneurs create jobs across northwest and central Kansas," said Community Engagement Specialist Friday Otuya. "We currently have over \$1 million available through our revolving loan fund, and we are always excited to learn of the innovative ways businesses are trying to create or retain jobs."

Interested businesses can reach out to our Community Engagement team at econdevo@nex-tech.com.

For more information about the Nex-Tech Revolving Loan Fund, visit: <https://www.nex-tech.com/about/economic-development/community-loans-grants/>.

Visit Elevate Performance and Chiropractic: <https://www.elevateperformancechiropractic.com/>

Nine from Rooks County named to Fort Hays Tech | North Central 2026 Spring Honor Roll

Fort Hays Tech | North Central is proud to announce the release of the 2026 Spring Honor Roll, celebrating the academic excellence and dedication of our students. This distinguished list recognizes students who have achieved outstanding academic performance during the Spring semester.

The 2026 Spring Honor Roll includes students from various programs and disciplines, showcasing the breadth of talent and dedication across the campus.

A complete list of honorees is available below or on the Fort Hays Tech | North Central website at <https://fhtechn.edu/>

about-us/our-college/news/2026-spring-honor-roll.

Rooks County Students making the Spring Honor Roll include the following:

DEAN'S HONOR ROLL: Conor Balthazor,

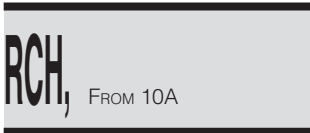


Palco, Electrical Technology; and Cason Iwanski, Stockton, Electrical Technology.

HONORABLE MENTION HONOR ROLL: Dalton Benedick, Plainville, Associate Degree Nursing; Braden Goss-

elin, Plainville, Associate Degree Nursing; Jenna Hinger, Plainville, Associate Degree Nursing; Shelby Staab, Plainville, Associate Degree Nursing; Noah Ferguson, Stockton, Automotive Technology; Kourtney Bigge, Stockton, Plumbing, Heating & AC; and Emerson Lowry, Stockton, Welding Technology

Fort Hays Tech | North Central remains committed to fostering an environment of academic excellence and providing students with the tools they need to succeed. The Honor Roll stands as a testament to the dedication of our students, faculty, and staff.



begun. Phase Two of the reconstruction will include a small meeting room, restrooms, and a storage area.

The CNO report was included in the Consent Agenda. Pam Harmon distributed an analysis of Emergency Department activity over the past two years. In 2024, the Emergency Department saw 1,525 total visits, with 150 classified as acute cases. Of those acute patients, 64 were transferred to Hays Medical Center.

In 2025, the Emergency Department saw 1,538 total visits, including 154 acute cases. Of the acute patients, 134 required transfer to Hays Medical Center. Overall, the department utilization has remained consistent and has averaged approximately the same number of patient visits per day each year, with trend comparisons reviewed for both 2025 and 2026.

The financials and CFO narrative were included in the Consent Agenda. Sheila Hachmeister reported that March 2026 financial performance trended below the same

period last year, with continued pressure from inpatient, emergency room, and swing bed volumes. Outpatient revenue has remained stable.

Contractual adjustments in March were higher than normal; however, year-to-date trends remain consistent with prior year averages. Leadership continues working with Forvis Mazars to refine calculations during the transition from the legacy MEDITECH system to Expanse.

Operating expenses, particularly labor-related costs, remain elevated. A discussion took place on the importance of continued focus on revenue recovery, operational efficiency, and monitoring cash reserves moving forward. Joshua Thaden noted it may be appropriate to wait another month to allow financial trends to stabilize.

CEO Joshua Thaden shared that there has been ongoing communication with MEDITECH regarding system performance and accountability concerns, as current issues are estimated to be costing approximately \$80,000.00 per month, with potential for shared responsibility given support challenges.

Thaden reported that

there have been internal discussions regarding Emergency Room and Walk-In Clinic provider coverage, noting that maintaining current staffing gaps continues to represent a significant ongoing cost to the organization.

Jay Casey made a motion to retain The Medicus Firm. Anna Muir seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion carried 4-0.

Thaden stated Vince VandHar of VVV Consultants LLC has been consulted regarding strategic planning and business development services, especially in light of locums tenens and Meditech.

Thaden and Pfannenstiel are developing a marketing plan for Rooks County Health Center, including promotion of its Top 20 designation. As part of this effort, they proposed leasing two strategically placed billboards to expand community reach.

Daniel Sanchez made a motion to lease the two billboards for \$10,500.00. Anna Muir seconded the motion. No further discussion took place, and the motion carried 4-0.

Thaden presented a proposal for a four-page advertisement and insert for a cost of \$2,600.00. Jay Casey made a motion to proceed with the ad and insert. Shelbe Darnell seconded the motion, and with no further discussion taking place, the motion carried 4-0.

The final discussion item was retaining VVV Consultants. Daniel Sanchez made a motion to retain VVV Consultants for a fee of \$6,500.00. Anna Muir seconded the motion. No further discussion took place, and the motion carried 4-0.

During New Busi-

ness, the Board turned to the Proposed Amendment to Governing Body By-Laws (Board Composition). At 6:53 p.m., Brad Plumer joined the meeting via phone. June Karlin explained that a recent question was raised regarding whether employees were eligible to run for Board membership. While the by-laws and Kansas statutes do not explicitly prohibit this, consultation with the Kansas Hospital Association and hospital legal counsel indicated that, for public hospitals in Kansas, the common law doctrine of incompatibility of public offices generally prevents an individual from holding a position that is subordinate to the Board on which they also serve. Although the Board primarily hires and evaluates only the CEO, it retains overall governance authority. A 2005 Kansas Attorney General opinion was also referenced, supporting this interpretation, noting that employees should not serve as trustees due to the Board's oversight responsibilities and potential conflict of interest.

Brad Plumer made a motion recommending an amendment to Article I, Section 1 of the Governing Body By-Laws of

the Plainville Rural Hospital District #1 d/b/a Rooks County Health Center. The amendment specifies that the Rooks County Health Center shall be governed by a Board of Directors composed of five (5) members who are qualified electors of the district. The revised language states that only individuals who meet the criteria set forth in the by-laws, and who are not currently employed by the hospital, its affiliates, or any related entity, or the spouse of such an employee, may be elected or appointed to the Board of Directors. This provision is intended to preserve Board independence and align with the organization's Corporate Compliance and Conflict of Interest policies, thereby reducing potential conflicts between personal interests, hospital operations, and governance responsibilities. Dan Sanchez seconded the motion. No further discussion took place, and the motion carried 5-0.

When discussing the annual Board Meeting & Election, June Karlin recommended that, with only one board candidate running for the open seat, the hospital use paper ballots this election cycle. The Board agreed to utilize only paper ballots for

voting.

At 7:02 p.m., Brad Plumer made a motion to recess to an executive session for non-elected personnel for 15 minutes with Sheila Hachmeister, Jeff Van Dyke, and Joshua Thaden. The Board returned to regular session at 7:17 p.m.

A discussion took place regarding the performance of several of the specialty clinics and RCH clinics. Primary Care Clinics were also reviewed, with discussion centered on operational challenges and opportunities for improved efficiency.

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ROOKS COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL DIVISION

Case No. RO-2026-CV-000015

TITLE TO REAL ESTATE INVOLVED

GARY D. HARPER, Plaintiff,

vs.

DAWN M. DAHANI, MOURAD DAHANI, JOSH ODELL, deceased, BRANDEE SASSE as heir to Josh Odell, NICOLAS SASSE as husband of heir to Josh Odell, UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS, IF ANY, OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 308 MAIN ST., ZURICH, KANSAS 67663, the unknown spouses, if any, of any defendant; the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any deceased defendant or defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; the trustees of any defendant that are minors or are under any legal disability; and all other persons who are or may be concerned, Defendants.

(Pursuant to K. S.A. Chapter 60)

NOTICE OF SUIT

THE STATE OF KANSAS THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS AND TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on the 11th day of May, 2026, a Petition was filed in this Court by Gary D. Harper, seeking to quiet title to certain real property located at 308 Main St., Zurich, Kansas, legally described as:

All of Lots Seven (7), Eight (8) and Nine (9) in Block Eleven (11), in the Original Townsite of Zurich, Rooks County, Kansas (the "Property")

You are hereby required to plead to the petition on or before the 1st day of July, 2026, in the District Court of Rooks County, 115 N. Walnut St., Stockton, KS 67669. Should you fail to plead, Judgment and Decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

GARY D. HARPER, Plaintiff

Vernon L. Jarboe, #09436 SLOAN, EISENBARTH, GLASSMAN, MCENTIRE & JARBOE, L.L.C. 534 S. Kansas, Suite 1000 Topeka, KS 66603-3456 (785) 357-6311; Fax (785) 357-0152 vjarboe@sloanlawfirm.com Attorneys for Plaintiff

(First Published in the Sentinel-Times May 21, 2026, May 28, 2026, and June 4, 2026—3tc)

May 13th City of Palco/McKenna Center meeting minutes

Mayor Kyle Karlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present included Mayor Kyle Karlin; Council Members Brandon Kuhn, Stephen Desaire, Koleson Hubbard, Don Steeples, and Joan Underhill; City Clerk Larissa Wilson; Treasurer Patricia Wendling; and visitor Friday Otuya. The following individuals arrived after the meeting began: visitors Myron Keller (7:02 p.m.), Richard Davies (7:49 p.m.), Superintendent Marvin Keller (7:33 p.m.), and McKenna Tenant Manager/Fire Chief Gregg Whisman (8:34 p.m.).

The Agenda was pre-

sented and approved, as were the meeting minutes from the April 8th, 2026, and April 21st, 2026 meetings.

First on the agenda was Friday Otuya, who presented the City Council with the Smart Cities sign and shared business opportunities from Nex-Tech.

Myron Keller informed the Council that he is taking over ownership of Palco Grocery & Deli. A CMB license application was completed due to the ownership transfer. All required procedures were followed, and the city

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Tickets: Adults \$7 Seniors \$6 Students \$5

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7 pm on Friday and Saturday
3:00 pm on Sunday

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mckennayouthcenter.weebly.com Info: 785-737-2175