

Storms

(cont. from P.1)

came and blocked off the area. Wheatland Electric also came to Coolidge to repair a downed power line.

Hamilton County Fire Chief Ben Stultz explained the urgency. “If the downed power line had sparked into the vapor cloud it could have caused an explosion. We got lucky with the rain so the ground was wet. We had two guys put on SCBA Air packs. We then basically make a cone with water to push the vapor so we could shut the valves. Then we rolled the tank. We also checked to make sure no one was trapped.”

The camper was destroyed. Gert’s personal items including clothing were ruined.

Nikki reported, “We are grateful no one was hurt. So many people offered to lend us their camper. It really was nice.”

They weren’t the only ones. Tony and Tasha Colmenero’s roof of their shed was torn off. The metal from Toni and Terry Smith’s horse barn flew into neighbor’s yards.

Hamilton County Sheriff’s Department

Inmate Report

Arrest info:

Jason Brooner (52) of Eugene, Oregon arrested 05/26/2026 on Hamilton County Warrant in Sherman County, Kansas.

-Failure to Appear

Total Inmates: 4

Misc.

- For Sale
- Place your 25-word classified in the Kansas Press Association and 135 more newspapers for only \$300/ week. Find employees, sell your home or your car. Call the Kansas Press Association @ 785-271-5304 today!
- For Sale
- 2022 Grand Reflection 5th-Wheel RLS 303. 33 ft, Shedded-excellent condition, 14-ply tires, three slide outs, small generator. Only used 14 weeks. 620-290-0955
- Misc.
- We Buy Houses for Cash AS-IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Call today for your fair cash offer: 1-913-365-1969
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- Misc.
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- Misc.
- CASH PAID FOR HIGH-END MEN’S SPORT WATCHES. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-877-591-1108.
- Misc.
- GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts’ programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-877-850-0048
- Misc.
- BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-877-625-8924
- Misc.
- STOP OVERPAYING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE! A recent study shows that a majority of people struggle to pay for health coverage. Let us show you how much you can save. Call Now for a no-obligation quote: 1-877-329-3270 You will need to have your zip code to connect to the right provider.
- Misc
- INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don’t Accept the insurance company’s first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to cash settlements in the \$10,000’s. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now: 1-877-631-6845
- Misc
- AGING ROOF? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-877-835-0240 Have zip code of property ready when calling!
- Misc
- WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home’s value! Call 24/7: 1-877-420-3509 Have zip code of service location ready when you call!
- Misc
- NEED NEW WINDOWS? Drafty rooms? Chipped or damaged frames? Need outside noise re-duction? New, energy efficient windows may be the answer! Call for a consultation & FREE quote today. 1-877-514-4844 You will need to have your zip code to connect to the right provider.

Public Notices

(First published in The Syracuse Journal on June 4, 2026)

State of Kansas Notice Concerning Proposed Kansas Air Quality Class I Operating Permit Renewal

Notice is hereby given that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is soliciting comments regarding a proposed air quality operating permit. Scout Energy Management, LLC has applied for a Class I operating permit renewal in accordance with the provisions of K.A.R. 28-19-510 et al. The purpose of a Class I permit is to identify the sources and types of regulated air pollutants emitted from the facility; the emission limitations, standards and requirements applicable to each source; and the monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting requirements applicable to each source as of the effective date of permit issuance.

Scout Energy Manage-ment, LLC , 2225 W Oklahoma Ave, Ulysses, Kansas 67880, owns and operates the Bradshaw natural gas compressor station located at Section 31, Township 21S, Range 40W, Syracuse, Kansas 67878.

A copy of the proposed permit, permit application, all supporting documentation, and all information relied upon during the permit application review process are available for public review during normal business hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the KDHE, Bureau of Air (BOA), 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 310, Topeka, KS 66612-1366 and at the KDHE Southwest District Office, 302 W McArtor Rd, Dodge City, KS 67801. To obtain or review the proposed permit and sup-orting documentation, contact William Stubbs at (785) 296-4174 , at the central office of the KDHE or Ethel Evans at (620) 356-1075 at the KDHE Southwest District Office. The standard departmental cost will be assessed for any copies requested. The proposed permit, accompanied with supporting information, is available, free of charge, at the KDHE BOA Public Notice website, [https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/413/ Public-Notices](https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/413/Public-Notices).

Please direct written com-ments or questions regard-ing the proposed permit to William Stubbs , KDHE, BOA, 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 310, Topeka, KS 66612-1366. In order to be considered in formulat-ing a final permit decision, written comments must be received no later than noon on July 6, 2026 .

A person may request a public hearing be held on the proposed permit. The request for a public hearing shall be in writing and set forth the basis for the request. The written request must be submitted to William Stubbs, KDHE BOA, 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 310, Topeka, KS 66612-1366, no later than noon on July 6, 2026 in order for the Secretary of Health and Environment to consider the request.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has a 45-day review period, which will start concur-rently with the public comment period, within which to object to the proposed permit. If the USEPA has not objected in writing to the issuance of the permit within the 45-day review period, any person may petition the administrator of the USEPA to review the permit.

The 60-day public petition period will directly follow the USEPA 45-day review period.

Any such petition shall be based only on objections to the permit that were raised with reasonable specificity during the public comment period provided for in this notice, unless the petitioner demonstrates that it was impracticable to raise such objections within such pe-riod, or unless the grounds for such objection arose after such period. Contact Ward Burns, USEPA, Region 7, Air Permitting and Standards Branch, 11201 Renner Boulevard, Lenexa, Kansas 66219, (913) 551-7960, to determine when the 45-day USEPA review period ends and the 60-day petition period commences.

The preceding notice refers to the air permit for Scout Energy Manage-ment, LLC located at Section 31, Township 21S, Range 40W, Syracuse, Kansas 67878.

If you want more information or you have other questions, please contact the KDHE Non-Discrimination coordinator and call 785-296-5156 or send an email to: KDHE.NonDiscrimination@ks.gov [El aviso anterior se refiere al permiso de aire para Scout Energy Man-agement, LLC ubicado en Section 31, Town-ship 21S, Range 40W, Syracuse, Kansas 67878.

Si desea obtener más información en español o tiene otras preguntas, por favor, comuníquese con el Coordinador de No Discriminación de KDHE y llame al 785-296-5156 o envíe un correo electrónico-co a: KDHE.NonDiscrimination@ks.gov.

Janet Stanek, Secretary Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Hm County Commissioners Meeting Minutes May 19, 2026

Michael W. Lewis – Chairman
Andy Coleman, Vice-Chairman
Brian Grilliot, Commissioner
Aaron Plunkett, Commissioner
Nikki Schwerdfeger, Commissioner

Robert Gale, Jr., Attorney
Angie Moser, County Clerk
Angie Talbot

Chairman Lewis called the Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with all Commissioners and the County Attorney present.

AGENDA: Commissioner Grilliot moved to adopt the Agenda with the addition of NRP Applications under Business. Commissioner Coleman seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

PRIOR MINUTES: Commissioner Schwerdfeger moved to approve the May 5, 2026 Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Plunkett seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

FRANK BURNS: Mr. Burns, Superintendent of Rural Operations, discussed the following:

- He has hired some new employees at the Road Department and now has ten employees.
- The demo trash truck from GS Products has 74 hours 2,100 miles.
- The dollar amounts presented by Frank at the last Commissioner Meeting for the Caterpillar service agreements were wrong. Chris McCammon with Foley Equipment presented the correct cost of service agreements for all of the graders and the loaders. Commissioner Lewis moved to rescind the Motion made at the May 5, 2026 Commissioner Meeting for Caterpillar Service Agreement Contract due to incorrect information on the contract cost. Commissioner Plunkett seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.
- Had a request to access the County’s right of way on County Road E to place a water line. Frank will get the permit process started and report back.
- Presented a proposal from B & H Paving, Inc. for this year’s chip and seal project for 8 miles of paved road @ \$20,280 per mile for a total of \$162,240.00. Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the proposal from B & H Paving, Inc for this year’s chip and seal project in the amount of \$162,240.00. Commissioner Plunkett seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.
- Waiting on parts for the loader dozer to finish the repairs.
- Commissioner Lewis moved for a 5-minute executive session for matters pertaining to non-elected personnel with the Commissioners, the County Attorney, and Frank Burns present. Commissioner Coleman seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. The executive session began at 9:06 a.m. and the regular meeting resumed at 9:11 a.m. Commissioner Lewis moved for an additional 5-minute executive session for matters pertaining to non-elected personnel with the Commissioners, the County Attorney, and Frank Burns present. Commissioner Plunkett seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. The executive session began at 9:11 a.m. and the regular meeting resumed at 9:16 a.m.
- Discussed what the Road Department’s responsibility is for the road that is going to the new sewer pond in the City of Coolidge. Frank was instructed to follow the minimum maintenance road protocol and try and accommodate any requests.

PIC BENEFITS: Rhonda Fernandez with PIC Benefit Services and Harrison Lambert with The Difference Card presented a health insurance plan for the County that includes a Blue Cross Blue Shield plan and a benefit card. The Benefit Card can be used to pay the first \$5,050.00 of any medical related expense. Rhonda will get together some renewal amounts and report back to the Commissioners.

ALAN HANSON: EMS Director, Alan Hanson, advised that the County was awarded the grant for the scale that attaches to the stretcher to get an accurate weight of the patient which helps in medication dosing. Alan has also applied for two other grants. One grant is from USDA for an electric lift cart and the other is a Patterson Family grant to replace the

ATV they use out in the sand dunes. Alan also advised that he has several pieces of equipment that he would like to declare as surplus property and dispose of it. He will get the list together and report back. He is working with the local high school to try and get an EMT course that will run concurrent with the school year.

WESTERN KANSAS CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER: Don Rivera with Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center, thanked the Commissioner for the past funding support and explained the services that they offer to children in Hamilton County and for all of the 34 Counties they serve. The families are not charged for any of the services provided. Mr. Rivera requested \$5,000.00 in funding from Hamilton County for 2027 for his organization. Commissioner Lewis moved to pay Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center \$5,000.00 from the Diversion Fund. Commissioner Schwerdfeger seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

TEAM LAB: Dennis and Lynda Odom, with Team Lab, presented information on the Base One liquid stabilizer that can be used on dirt roads to help build a base.

POOL BOARD: Elisabeth Eddy & Bekah Seal, Pool Board Members, discussed the new opening plan with the delay of the Contractor getting the pool sand blasted and painted. They are hoping the Contractor will be done painting today so they can fill the pool by June 3rd, have training for the lifeguards and swim instructors, and hopefully opening on June 8th. There will be six swimming instructors available this summer for swimming lessons.

APPRAISER: Letisha Esquibel-Heydman, County Appraiser, presented a Contract for Appraisal Maintenance from her Company, ACE Appraisal, LLC effective June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027 in the amount of \$91,500.00, which is the same amount as the previous contract. After discussions, Commissioner Coleman moved to approve Contract for Appraisal Maintenance with ACE Appraisal, LLC as presented. Commissioner Grilliot seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

STEVE PHILLIPS: Airport Manager, Steve Phillips, discussed the grant application for the FAA project No. 3-20-0081-020/021-2026 LED lighting project. Commissioner Lewis moved to submit the grant application for the FAA IJA/AIP 3-20-0081-020/021-2026 with a total project cost of \$1,082,400.00 with the County’s share being \$60,189.00. Commissioner Coleman seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

5-YEAR PLAN: The 5-year plan was reviewed.

HOSPITAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS: The Hospital Board informed the County Clerk that Natasha teVelde would like to be appointed to the Board to fill the vacant position and that Brian Loder is willing to serve another four year term. Commissioner Lewis moved to appoint Natasha teVelde to the Hamilton County Hospital Board of Trustees for an unexpired term ending May 31, 2029 and also to reappoint Brian Loder to the Hamilton County Hospital Board of Trustees for a four year term ending May 31, 2030. Commissioner Coleman seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

ZONING BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Jess Schwieterman and Steve Durler have agreed to serve another three year term on the Syracuse-Hamilton County Joint Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals Board. Commissioner Plunkett moved to reappoint Jess Schwieterman and Steve Durler to the Syracuse-Hamilton County Joint Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals Board for a three year term ending May 31, 2029. Commissioner Grilliot seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

ROW PERMIT: Received a ROW Permit from Wheatland Electric to place a primary URD line across Barton Street, east to west. The cable will be in four inch (4”) scheduled 40 conduit across road at a minimum depth of forty-eight inches (48”) cut to provide power to the golf course. Commissioner Plunkett moved to approve the Right Of Way Permit submitted by Wheatland Electric as presented. Commissioner Schwerdfeger seconded the

See **Minutes** page 9

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Editor@syrjo.com

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