



**WE'RE COUNTING DOWN TO SUNSHINE WEEK!**

**We champion Open Records and Open Government in our community.**

**Celebrate Sunshine Week with the World!**

**Protect Yourself from Fraud**

During National Consumer Protection Week (March 1-7, 2026), Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt encourages Kansans to learn how to spot scams, protect yourself with trusted resources, and take action against fraud.

As Kansas's insurance and securities regulator, the Kansas Department of Insurance (KDOI) plays a frontline role in consumer and investor protection.

"There are so many scams out there actively looking for ways to get at your pocketbook," said Commissioner Vicki Schmidt. "You can best protect yourself by making sure you know what to look out for."

Consumer resources and tips to protect yourself:

- Be cautious of unsolicited investment offers, particularly those involving cryptocurrency or other digital assets.
- Use Broker Check to help research the professional backgrounds of brokers and brokerage firms, as well as investment adviser firms and advisers.
- Check the Scam Meter tool to tell if an investment you're considering might be a scam.
- Grow your knowledge with investing courses to help those just starting out or even the most seasoned investors.
- Review insurance shoppers' guides for auto, home and renters, health and life insurance, and Medicare.
- Report fraud or file a consumer complaint to the KDOI by phone at 785-296-3071, by email at [t.KDOI.complaints@ks.gov](mailto:t.KDOI.complaints@ks.gov), or visit <https://www.insurance.kansas.gov/about/file-a-complaint>.

In 2025, the KDOI helped stop \$4.97 million of fraud through the Protect Vulnerable Adults from Financial Exploitation Act.

In addition to fighting fraud, the Department helps consumers recover the full value of their insurance. In 2025, KDOI recovered \$60.6 million for Kansans in need of support during their insurance claims process and over \$206.6 million for Kansas consumers since 2019.

For additional resources, visit us at <https://www.insurance.kansas.gov/> and <https://www.smartinvestks.gov/home-smartinvest>.

**CITY OF WAKEENEY COUNCIL MEETING**

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY 3 FEBRUARY 2026

The Governing Body of the City of WaKeeney, Kansas met in a regular session at City Hall 408 Russell Ave at 6:15 PM with the mayor presiding and the following members present:

Mayor F. Irene Dirks and Council Members Dave Anderson, Courtney Berning, Brent Deines, Curtis Flax, and Shane Pfeifer

BEING ABSENT: None

The minutes of the previous meeting was approved as written, printed, and distributed.

GUESTS: Travis Phillips, Monique Phillips, Lynelle Shubert, and John Shubert

CHIEF OF POLICE: Travis Phillips presented his monthly departmental report. Chief T fielded questions about the computer upgrades for the department and will get answers back for the next meeting. Used KHP patrol pickup will be delivered soon

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: Hardy Howard presented a report from the Patterson Foundation on four areas that make rural communities thrive and grow more than others. The four key areas involve Education, Health Care, Economic Opportunity, and Community Engagement.

Winter cold mix, crushed alley aggregate and the F-14 restoration were discussed.

At this time an ordinance making appropriation for the payment of claims for the month of January 2026 was read, whereupon, Brent Dienes motioned to approve claims in the amount of \$313,951.85 Shane Pfeifer seconded. Motion carried. Warrant no warrants were reviewed prior to approval.

MAYOR: Irene Dirks discussed community service program tax credit for Kelly Plaza funding.

In old city business, a motion was made by Curtis Flax and seconded by Courtney Berning to approve a \$5,000 allocation for the Heartland Community Foundation match month. Motion carried.

In other city business, Casey's truck traffic and the dog park at Eisenhower Park were discussed.

No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED: ATTEST:

**Western Kansas World**

**World Print**  
**785-743-2155**

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**BULLS OF the Prairie**

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026 • 1 PM CST AT THE RANCH • OAKLEY, KANSAS

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20 Black & Red Simmental/SimAngus™ Females

**SONS & DAUGHTERS OF:**  
VVS Proclamation E202, LBR5 Genesis G69, CDI Honor Guard 267H, KBHR Sniper, KBHR High Road, ASR Longevity, Bridle Bit Resource, Hooks Frontline, Hooks Beacon, Colorado Bridle Bit, CLRWTR Clear Advantage, LCDR Reserve, KBHR Dually H167, LCDR Progressive, Schooley Standout

**LOT 1 | RAINS NEW DIVIDE N530**  
REG: ASA #4643967

**LOT 42 | RAINS MISS NOEL N572**  
REG: ASA #4643917

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**KNOW YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS**

The following officials are locally-elected representatives for WaKeeney City Council, Collyer City Council, USD #208 School Board, Trego County elected positions, and State & US officials

**WAKEENEY CITY COUNCIL**

WAKEENEY CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS OF EACH MONTH, 6:15 P.M. AT WAKEENEY CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS MEETINGS ARE ALSO LIVE STREAMED ON THE CITY OF WAKEENEY FACEBOOK PAGE

<b>IRENE DIRKS</b> MAYOR TERM TO 2028	<b>BRENT DEINES</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	<b>CURTIS FLAX</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2028
<b>COURTNEY BERNING</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	<b>DAVID ANDERSON</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	<b>SHANE PFEIFER</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2028

**USD 208 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

USD 208 BOE MEETS THE 2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH, 5:30 P.M. AT TREGO GRADE SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM

<b>CLAYTON WILSON</b> PRESIDENT TERM TO 2028	<b>ERIC KINDERKNECHT</b> BOARD MEMBER TERM TO 2028	<b>BECKY WINDHOLZ</b> BOARD MEMBER TERM TO 2028
<b>SETH ALBERS</b> VICE PRESIDENT TERM TO 2030	<b>UNFILLED</b> UNEXPIRED 2-YR TERM TERM TO 2028	<b>CAREY FOSE</b> BOARD MEMBER TERM TO 2030
	<b>ASHLEY CONNESS</b> BOARD MEMBER TERM TO 2030	

**COLLYER CITY**

COLLYER CITY COUNCIL MEETS THE 1ST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, 7:30 P.M. AT THE CITY BUILDING

<b>LARRY WALT</b> MAYOR TERM TO 2028	<b>ROBERT HARDMAN</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2028	<b>JENNIFER RICKER</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2028
<b>JEFF KNOP</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	<b>ADAM SCHNEIDER</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030	<b>LANE KEITH</b> COUNCIL MEMBER TERM TO 2030

**TREGO COUNTY COMMISSION**

TREGO COUNTY COMMISSION MEETS EVERY TUESDAY AND THE LAST DAY OF EACH MONTH, 5:00 P.M. AT THE TREGO CO. COURTHOUSE - COMMISSION ROOM, WAKEENEY

<b>KURTIS BROCK</b> CHAIRMAN, DIST. 1 TERM TO 2027	<b>JERRY WHITE</b> COMMISSIONER, DIST. 2 TERM TO 2029	<b>JARED HAGER</b> COMMISSIONER, DIST. 3 TERM TO 2029
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**TREGO COUNTY OFFICIALS**

<b>EDWARD PRITCHARD</b> SHERIFF TERM TO 2029	<b>LORI AUGUSTINE</b> CLERK TERM TO 2029	<b>RENEE NEFF</b> TREASURER TERM TO 2029
<b>ABRAHAM PFANNENSTIEL</b> ATTORNEY TERM TO 2029	<b>BRENDA BROCK</b> REGISTER OF DEEDS TERM TO 2029	<b>RICHARD FLAX</b> DIST. MAGISTRATE JUDGE TERM TO 2029
	<b>ADAM WILSON</b> APPRAISER APOINTEED	<b>TIFFANY GILLESPIE</b> CLERK OF DIST COURT APOINTEED

**US SENATE**

<b>JERRY MORAN</b> SENATOR HAYS: 785-628-6401	<b>TRACEY MANN</b> US HOUSE, KS-1 DODGE CITY OFFICE: 620-682-7340
<b>DR. ROGER MARSHALL</b> SENATOR SALINA: 785-829-9000	

**US HOUSE OF REP.**

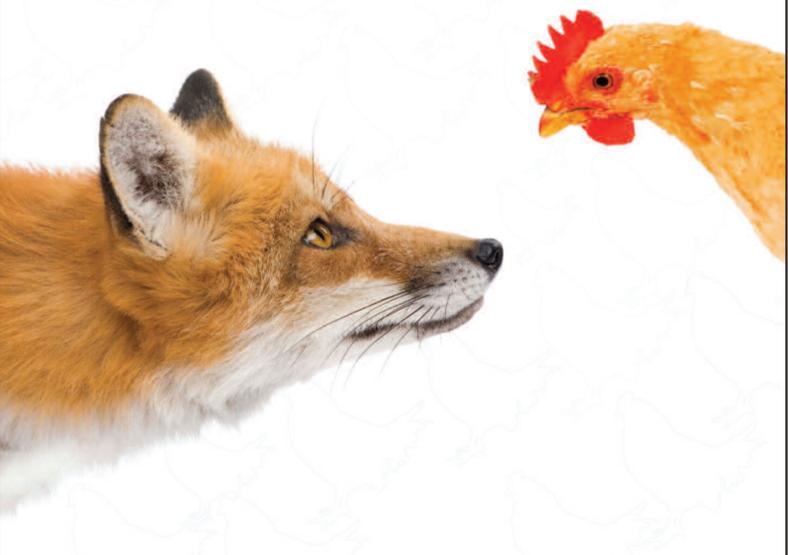
**Voters in Trego Co.**  
US House Kansas District 1  
Senate District 40  
House of Representatives District 118

<b>RICK BILLINGER</b> DIST. 40 EMAIL: <a href="mailto:RICK.BILLINGER@SENATE.KS.GOV">RICK.BILLINGER@SENATE.KS.GOV</a>	<b>JIM MINNIX</b> DIST. 118 REPRESENT. EMAIL: <a href="mailto:JIM.MINNIX@HOUSE.KS.GOV">JIM.MINNIX@HOUSE.KS.GOV</a>
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**WHEN PUBLIC NOTICES REACH THE PUBLIC, EVERYONE BENEFITS.**

Some officials want to move notices from newspapers to government-run websites, where they may not be easily found.

This is like putting the fox in charge of the hen house.



Keep Public Notices in Newspapers

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