

Commissioner’s meeting—

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motion to approve Road department expenses:

Triple L \$8,228.20 (2018 Western Star #5 turbo) Schwab Eaton

\$3,172.50 (2026 interim bridge inspection)

Schwab Eaton \$5,658.28 (engineering services RS380 bridge)

Midwest Mobile \$623.25 (2026 Cat motor grader #226 radio)

Engemann Drainage \$1,830.00 (landfill service line/termination of meter)

Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion was held between County Attorney Baskins and the Board of County Commission regarding the County Commission spending authority of \$2,000.00 and unauthorized expenditures.

Commissioner Hall asked for a tube price list from Engemann Drainage Company, Inc. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris said she has asked both NEK Drainage Supply, LLC and Engemann Drainage Company, Inc. for price lists. NEK Drainage Supply LLC does not have an updated price list as prices are going up again. Engemann Drainage Company, Inc. responded that prices are changing too often to give a price list due to the fuel crisis. Commissioner Grable pointed out that Metal Culverts, Inc. is only able to guarantee tube prices for 30 days. Norris will ask again for a 2026 price list when she obtains the annual contractor price list.

Commissioner Grable informed the County Commission that Foley Equipment will have a roller available around June 1, 2026 for use by the Road department to prepare new roads for chip seal. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris will contact Vance Brothers to coordinate rental of the roller as close as possible to Vance Brothers chip sealing roadways.

Paul Smith voiced concerns with the Road department not blading the 1300 block of Larkinsburg Road prior to dust control material being applied to the roadway. He said dust control material was also applied south on Last Chance Road; however the Road department bladed the road prior to application. Mr. Smith asked that Larkinsburg Road be fixed and fixed right for the twelve other households that live along the road.

Commissioner Grable said he would take Mr. Smith’s request under advisement.

Paul Smith inquired about the County Road department hauling off debris from private property located on Last Chance Road, using the County loader and dump truck. Commissioner Grable said the debris hauled off is being used by the County for fill and was hauled to the Second Road District shop.

Doniphan County Freedom Rock Foundation members Micheal Brissett and Rachel Peden met with the County Commission and Custodian Laura Winkel to discuss site location for the Freedom Rock to be painted by artist Bubba Sorensen honoring Doniphan County Veterans. The rock will be a 6’ x 7’ granite stone 5’ high weighing 23,000 pounds, with the project to commence September 21-30, 2026. Mr. Brissett said the structure will need to be covered and the Foundation has a landscaper willing to donate landscaping services. The Board of County Commissioners, along with Micheal Brissett, Rachel Peden, County Clerk Peggy Franken and Custodian Laura Winkel toured the courtyard to determine site location. No action was taken pending Mr. Brissett getting additional information from the crane company who will set the stone.

Cameron J. (CJ) Heinrich of Diamond Fab and Bob Rahe met with the County Commission to discuss the unfinished courthouse handrail project, condition of concrete steps and concerns with heating element in the courthouse steps. The County Commissioners, Emergency Management Coordinator Scott Morris, Custodian Laura Winkel, County Clerk Peggy Franken, CJ Heinrich and Bob Rahe viewed the handrails and steps before returning to the County Commission meeting room. On June 24, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners accepted the bid of Diamond Fab in the amount of \$100,900.00 for replacement of courthouse steps and handrails on both the north and south sides of the building, along with handrails on the north, west and south sides of the courtyard. Bids also called for heating element to be installed in both the north and south side courthouse steps. To date the work has not been

completed on the handrails and for the previous two winters the heating element has not been operational in the steps. Diamond Fab installed handrails on the west and south courtyard steps the morning of May 4, 2026, however the south handrail did not match the north or courthouse steps. Mr. Heinrich told the County Commission the existing rail was in bad condition so he fabricated a new handrail, if a new one has to be built to match the existing handrail, there will be an additional charge. County Attorney Baskins questioned why there would be an additional charge after the project has taken two years. Commissioner Grable said the County would not be agreeable to paying any additional amount for matching the handrail on the south courtyard steps with the north. The Board of County Commissioners agreed the north and south courtyard handrails shall match the courthouse steps. CJ Heinrich said in the end he wants the County to be happy so he will redo the south courtyard step handrail to match the north courtyard handrail. Mr. Heinrich also has caps to place over the bolts on the south courthouse step handrails, which will be installed this week. If additional caps are needed on other handrails, they will need to be ordered and additional time will be required.

The discussion then turned to the workability of the heating element placed in the concrete of the north and south courthouse steps when they were replaced. The heating element is designed to melt snow and ice off of the courthouse steps; for the past two winters the heating element has not worked. Bob Rahe told the County Commission he worked on the boiler system used for the heating element during the week of April 27, 2026 and the system is up and running at 100% after Mr. Rahe replaced the thermostats, which are pre-set. Mr. Rahe said the water in the system is heated at 150 degrees. Each thermostat has a 24-hour timer, with Rahe recommending the system be turned on 6-hours prior to snowfall to let the system heat up. County Attorney Charles D. Baskins said the system had a 5-year warranty, two years in the system is not working and there is skepticism the system will work. Mr. Rahe said the system is 100% operational and he will personally extend the warranty an additional two years, covering parts and labor through 2032. Commissioner Grable said there have been concerns voiced with the type of antifreeze used in the boiler system heating element. Bob Rahe said he used anti-freeze based on supplier recommendations. County Attorney Baskins asked Mr. Rahe if he had the manual for the boiler which states the type of antifreeze that must be used. Mr. Rahe will get a letter from the manufacturer certifying that the type of antifreeze in the system is the recommended type for County records. County Attorney Baskins asked about the condition of the south courthouse steps being uneven and different texture than the north steps. Bob Rahe said Portland cement was removed from concrete in 2025 replaced with limestone cement, thus creating a different look and texture.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Hall made a motion to adjourn at 10:54 A.M. Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Doniphan County meeting minutes

Meeting minutes By Clerk Peggy Franken

On April 27, 2026 the Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Doniphan County Commission, Troy, Kansas, at 8:30 A.M. with Second District County Commissioner Wayne Grable, Chairman, calling the meeting to order. First District County Commissioner Timothy D. Collins, Third District County Commissioner Bobby Hall and County Clerk Peggy Franken present. County Attorney Charles D. Baskins was present for a portion of the meeting.

The Kansas Chief Reporter Melanie Davis observed the entire meeting. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, Northeast Kansas Environmental Services Health Specialist Martha Smith, Health Department Administrator/Home Health Director Chantal Wilburn, LPN, Sheriff Mark Allen, and Undersheriff Brendan Wolvington were present for a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve County Commission meeting agenda as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Hall made a motion to approve County Commission minutes of the April 20, 2026 regular meeting as written. Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Collins made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of April 30, 2026 as presented. Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve abated taxes to the 2025 Doniphan County tax roll in the amount of \$210.42. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Jerry K. Dubach Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center currently houses nine local inmates.

Clerk Peggy Franken informed the County Commission she received word from the Doniphan County Freedom Rock Foundation that artist Bubba Sorensen will work on the memorial rock project September 21-30, 2026. The Board of County Commissioners asked Clerk Franken to set up a meeting

with representatives of the Doniphan County Freedom Rock Foundation to discuss site location in the courtyard.

A listing of unused road equipment to be sold by Big Iron Auctions was presented to the County Commission for review by Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris. The equipment list includes:

#46 2005 Mack dump truck (First District)
#106 2003 Ford F250 (First District)
#69 Grapple (Second District)
#133 2016 belly dump trailer (Second District)
#161 2004 Hi-Way salt spreader (Second District)
#185 2005 Vibro hammer tramac (Second District)
2006 snow plow off of #222 2006 International (Second District)
Pickup bed/trailer (Second District)

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris told the County Commission the second of three 2026 Caterpillar motor graders will be delivered to Foley Equipment this week; following modifications it will be delivered to the First District road shop. The third and final 2026 Caterpillar motor grader is set to be delivered to Foley Equipment in mid-May for the Second District road shop.

Final invoice in the amount of \$39,250.00 has been received from Engemann Drainage Company for Randolph and Monument Road intersection reconstruction project located in Section 7, Township 4, Range 22E.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the following Road department invoices:

Overhead Door Company \$1,398.80 (Third District)
Redneck Diesel \$674.48 (#11 2018 Western Star brake drums)
Engemann Drainage Co. \$1,050.00 (120"x15" tube Second District)
Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall clarified for the record his motion the previous week to purchase plastic road tubes from Engemann Drainage Company, saying “Engemann Drainage Company is the only in-county vendor now and in the future if anyone in the county sells tubes the County will buy from them. Roger has to keep his inventory up and pay sales tax.”

Commissioner Hall also recommended striping asphalt roads. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris will seek a cost estimate for current asphalt roadways.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve hard surfacing road quotes for 2026. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion.

tion. Motion carried 3-0.

Vance Brothers \$589,279.35 chip seal

•Mineral Point Road south of Troy, Kansas, 1 mile

•Peck Road south of 175th Road 1 mile

•Randolph Road south of US Highway 36 1.37 miles

•150th Road (new) double shot of oil and chip seal 5.3 miles

•Saratoga Road (new) double shot of oil and chip seal 2.3 miles

Herzog Contracting Corp. \$601,775.00 asphalt

•240th Road west Highland, Kansas, 3.4 miles

Midwest Sealing & Construction \$10,037.50 sealant

•Castleton Road south of Highway 120 crack sealant 1.5 miles

Martha Smith, Northeast Kansas Environmental Services Health Specialist, presented the Board of County Commissioners with the 2025 annual report for Northeast Kansas Environmental Services.

Health Department Administrator/Home Health Director Chantal Wilburn, LPN, requested permission to purchase pack-n-play cribs for the annual Community Baby Shower at a cost of \$3,872.79 with \$3,280.00 to be paid with grant funds and the remainder \$592.79 from donations made to the Doniphan County Health Department. Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the purchase of pack-n-play cribs for the Doniphan County annual Community Baby Shower in the amount of \$3,872.79. Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Sheriff Mark Allen and Undersheriff Brendan Wolvington discussed wages for deputies, 911 dispatchers and jailer positions, presenting comparable wages to Atchison, Brown and Jackson counties in Kansas and Richardson County, Nebraska. Undersheriff Wolvington said there was a misunderstanding when 2026 pay increases were granted regarding the starting wage for 911 dispatchers and jailers; with the Sheriff and Undersheriff believing the wage increase also increased the starting wage.

At 9:25 A.M. Commissioner Grable made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect 911 dispatch personnel, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 9:35 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. County Attorney, County Clerk, Sheriff and Undersheriff remained.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to increase the starting wage for 911 dispatch and jailer positions to \$17.50 per hour for day shift and \$18.00 per hour for night shift workers, effective April 27, 2026. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Collins made a motion to adjourn at 9:49 A.M. Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Wathena & Riverside High School Alumni Banquet

The 2026 alumni banquet is coming up! This is a reminder to get your reservation and payment turned in as soon as possible to allow the committee time to plan accordingly. The honorary classes this year are the RHS class of 2026, WHS class of 2001, and the WHS class of 1976. We look forward to seeing everyone for a great night of reminiscing.

Please see the RSVP with detailed date, time, and location below.

Invitations will NOT be mailed
Saturday, June 13, 2026 @ Glacial Hills
961 Vernon Rd Wathena, KS 66090

4:00 pm Social Hour (BYOB) 6:00 pm Dinner

Make checks payable to WHS Alumni.

Complete form and return to Brandi Hewins

2121 171st Rd, Wathena, KS 66090

or Venmo @Brandi-Hewins, please include name and class year. Additional Scholarship/Donation money MUST be on a separate check, also made out to WHS Alumni

DEADLINE IS JUNE 1st – COST IS \$30 PER PERSON

Alumni Name (\$30.00) _____ Class of _____
Alumni email address _____

Alumni Spouse (\$30.00) _____ Class of _____
Non Alumni spouse/guest (\$25.00) _____

of guests _____ Total \$ enclosed _____

I regretfully cannot attend but have enclosed \$10 alumni dues. Business meeting will be held during the reunion. Memorial scholarship fund contributions are welcomed!

We ask if you know of any alumni who have passed away, please write

name and graduation year _____

Form /Drop off available with Doris at City Hall



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