

NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 896-7311 or email jjump@atticaindependent.com

HARPER COUNTY COMMISSION *March 2 Minutes*

The Harper County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session. Chairperson McCurley called the meeting to order with Commissioners Struble and Waldschmidt. Ami DeLacerda, County Clerk, was also present.

Commissioner Waldschmidt noted a call he received over the weekend about the dog kennel operation in Danville, indicating he would pass the contact information to the Zoning Administrator to follow up.

Commissioner Struble moved to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$19,326.81; the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Struble moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$164,419.05; the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Waldschmidt moved to approve a transfer to the Health Reserves account in the amount of \$13,448.52; the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner McCurley noted traffic on the Freeport Road from the Newport Elevator and the group reviewed Resolution 2024-07, restricting semi-trailer traffic on designated county roads.

Mike Bennett and Janet Slankard, Public Works, met with the Board and discussed potential bridge replacements and scheduled projects. The Board approved an increase to Mr. Bennett's county credit card limit to cover the purchase of a tire repair machine, and recommended the County shop handle all tire repairs going forward. After an update on the new grader leases, Commissioner Struble moved to approve signing the Foley Cat Acknowledgement Letters and Delivery Services Records for two new road graders; the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Waldschmidt moved to sign a Federal Funding Agreement accepting a grant award of \$2,000,000.00 to replace the Baker Bridge; the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Slankard advised the Board that the bid verbiage for the scrub seal and chip seal projects have been submitted to the County Engineer for review, and the Plumb Thicket Monthly Inspection was submitted Friday (no issues were identified).

Josh Teel, Building & Grounds/IT, and the Board opened bids to purchase the digital sign. Commissioner McCurley moved to accept the only bid received, from the Historic Anthony Theater Board for \$1.00; the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Teel will coordinate delivery.

The Board agreed to participate in the Statewide Tornado Drill this month.

Richard Raleigh, County Counselor, and Tiffany Cooperrider, Harper City Administrator, met with the Board to review updates to the AVR/P/NRP program. Ken Leu and Pat Kerschen, City of Harper, were also in attendance. There was discussion about the current plan designating the entire county as "blighted", and eligible for the incentives.

Kansas State Statute prohibits this, however, a bill currently working in the Kansas legislature would allow it in counties with 10,000 or fewer residents.

It was suggested to exclude certain areas of the county, with the option to amend the program at a later date. Ms. Cooperrider advised that two businesses are currently waiting on the program's approval, and encouraged the Board to move forward with requesting AG approval of the Interlocal Agreement. Commissioner McCurley voiced support for the plan, and her concern that gaps in Economic Development Incentives offered in the county could be detrimental to gaining new business and expanding current businesses. Mr. Raleigh agreed to work with the Board to determine which areas to either include to exclude and update Ms. Cooperrider as soon as possible.

Ami DeLacerda, County Clerk, met with the Board for a brief Department update. Personnel Status Forms and a six-month evaluation were reviewed and approved.

At 9:33 a.m., Commissioner Struble moved to enter Executive Session. The justification for closing the meeting is to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel. The open meeting will resume at 9:38 a.m. in this room; the motion passed unanimously. Ms. DeLacerda remained in the meeting. The regular meeting resumed at 9:38 a.m. with no

binding action taken.

Catherine Rohrer, SCKCCA Director, updated the Board on the FY 2027 Comprehensive Plan, which includes utilization of the Blue Path app to monitor adult and juvenile offenders, along with training plans and general budget information. Commissioner Waldschmidt moved to sign the FY 2027 Community Corrections and Juvenile Corrections Comprehensive Plans; the motion passed unanimously.

At 10:16 a.m., Commissioner Struble moved to recess for five minutes; the motion passed unanimously. The meeting reconvened at 10:19 a.m.

Joe Pennycuff, County Appraiser, entered the meeting and presented windfarm data requested by Commissioner McCurley. Mr. Pennycuff also updated the Board on the Planning and Zoning meeting held last Tuesday, advising that a variety of opinions were represented by the Committee and attendees. Mr. Pennycuff noted that he had been contacted by an individual who had helped Kingman County draft their windfarm contracts. Commissioner McCurley expressed her preference to not work with this individual, but engage a neutral party, rather than someone with close ties to the wind industry. Mr. Pennycuff noted that representatives from NextEra, Bedrock, and Invenergy were present. The next meeting is scheduled for 3/24/2026.

The Board continued discussion about potential areas to exclude from the NRP/AVRP program. It was also noted that vendors from outside of Harper County were being used in the construction of the new homes in the RHID areas.

Richard Raleigh, County Attorney, returned to the meeting to discuss two resumes submitted for the County Attorney position from attorneys practicing in neighboring counties. He will forward both to the Republican Committee for review.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 16 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioner Room at the Harper County Courthouse.

PUZZLES SPONSORED BY:

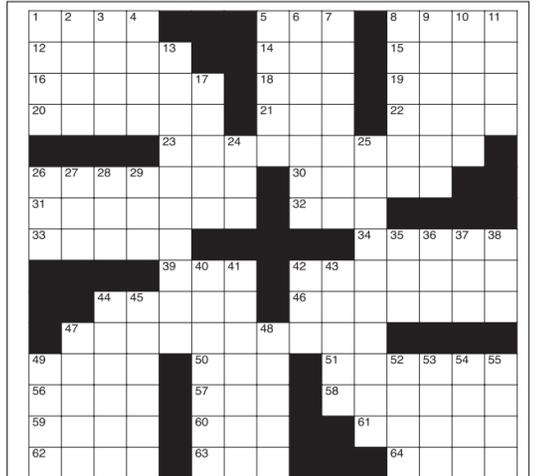
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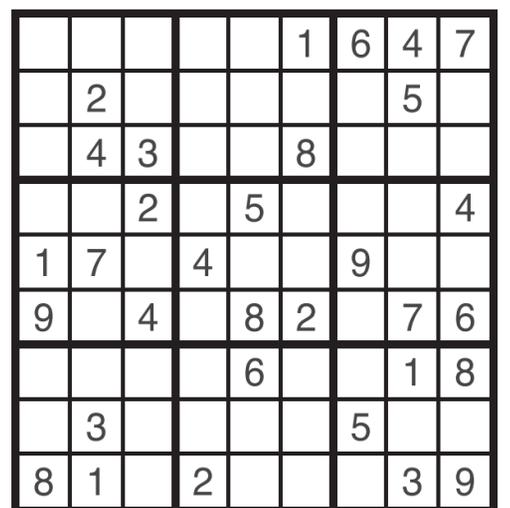


CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Unit of dry measure
5. One who defies authority
8. Social media giant
12. Render holy
14. "Much ___ about nothing"
15. Computer manufacturer
16. Creed
18. Immoral act
19. Mountain pass
20. Winged nut
21. Don't know when yet
22. Elected officials
23. Corrupt tendencies
26. Popular adult beverage
30. Made a mistake
31. Morally correct
32. Type of whale
33. Portable conical tent
34. Native people of the Congo</p> | <p>39. More (Spanish)
42. Classroom implements
44. Cognizant of
46. One who tells
47. Free from bondage
49. Thick piece of something
50. Containing two adjacent nitrogen atoms
51. Removed from the record
56. Legendary singer Turner
57. Broke up the earth
58. Hunking expedition
59. Contributes
60. Unit of work or energy
61. Wreckage on the sea bed
62. Affirmative! (slang)
63. Witness
64. Scrape (Archaic)</p> |
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CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. "___ and flows"
2. Humble request for help
3. A position of leadership
4. Continent
5. Adherent of a particular religion
6. Things that can be eaten
7. Self-governing Netherlands territory
8. Long-tailed crow
9. Repeated
10. Bluish greens
11. Humanities
13. Someone who serves in the armed forces
17. Labor (Spanish)
24. Zero
25. Shared by involving three parties
26. Queens ballplayer
27. Consumed
28. Rest here please</p> | <p>29. Men's fashion accessory
35. American time
36. Sound unit
37. They ___
38. Soviet Socialist Republic
40. Places to play video games
41. A sudden attack of illness
42. When you hope to arrive
43. Charges
44. Actress Seyfried
45. A tributary of the Ohio River
47. Omit when speaking
48. Armored fish
49. Remain
52. From a distance
53. Adventure story
54. Geological times
55. Eat dinner</p> |
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X P N G S I S Y L B D S C D E I E N N D
 A B A I S M S M R T N E M H C I R N E X
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 I D E X V R H A I G S A P N A G M X I P
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 I O H B A I B X E D N I C I M E C Y L G
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 A B E S D I C A Y T T A F R T L T E A B
 S T N E I R T U N O R C A M I X B Y I Y

NUTRITION WORD SEARCH

AMINO ACIDS, ANTIOXIDANTS, BASAL, BIO-AVAILABILITY, CALORIES, CARBOHYDRATES, CELLS, DIETARY, ELECTROLYTES, ENERGY, ENRICHMENT, FATTY ACIDS, FIBER, FORTIFICATION, GLYCEMIC INDEX, IRON, LIPIDS, MACRO-NUTRIENTS, METABOLISM, MICRONUTRIENTS, PROBIOTICS, PROTEIN, SATIETY, VITAMINS

GUESS WHO ?

I am an actress born in Ohio on March 4, 1958. I studied drama at Ohio State University and made my TV debut in the series "Alien Nation." I am best known as the wife of a sports columnist trying to navigate living across the street from her in-laws.

Answer: Patricia Heaton

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The Attica Independent on Thursday, March 12, 2026) 1t

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HARPER COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANHONY, KANSAS RESOLUTION NO. 2026-04 Date Adopted: 2/16/2026 Date Published: 3/12/2026

A RESOLUTION EXTENDING A MORATORIUM AND PROVIDING FOR THE SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN TYPES OF IMPROVEMENTS ON ANY LAND WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF HARPER COUNTY; AND DIRECTING THAT POTENTIAL LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS FOR THE HARPER COUNTY UNIFIED ZONING CODE BE DEVELOPED

WHEREAS, the Zoning Code & Regulations do not presently include any regulations or standards that are specific to commercial solar energy systems; and

WHEREAS, Kansas statutes authorize counties to establish land development regulations to address their local development concerns and needs; and

WHEREAS, due to the impact that commercial solar energy systems have or might have on both nearby property owners and also future development, the Board of County Commissioners recognize that a need exists to develop, consider, and potentially adopt land development regulations and/or standards that may pertain to such property use; and

WHEREAS, the current Zoning Code provisions would allow a property owner to apply for a commercial solar energy system use through a special use permit; and as there are no rules and regulations currently in effect for such use and development; and

WHEREAS, the time necessary to complete the task of developing, considering, and potentially adopting any regulations and/or standards for commercial solar energy systems would likely take multiple months; and

WHEREAS, the time necessary to adopt any regulations and/or standards for special commercial solar energy systems could result in an influx of such special use applications that may not be in the best interests of Harper County; that could be detrimental to the health, safety, and general public welfare of the citizens of Harper County; and, that might be inspired to occur only in an attempt to become established before any new land development regulations and/or standards are adopted which might limit, restrict, or prohibit such development; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to K.S.A. 12-741, et seq., and K.S.A. 19-101, et seq., Harper County has the police power and statutory authority to regulate the conduct of development through this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HARPER COUNTY, KANSAS that:

SECTION 1.

Within the unincorporated area of Harper County, the issuance of any special use permits within the Zoning Code for "Utility, Major" uses that would include commercial solar energy systems is temporarily suspended as indicated within this Resolution.

SECTION 2.

All Harper County officials, agencies, staff, agents, commissions, and/or boards charged with the responsibility to approve, license, permit, or otherwise authorize the establish-

ment and/or construction of commercial solar energy system facilities on property that lacks the proper zoning authority under the Zoning Code are directed to suspend the granting of such approval, licenses, permits, or authorization for the period stated within this Resolution.

SECTION 3.

Harper County Planning Board (and any applicable sub-committee(s) thereof) are directed to review the existing Zoning Code provisions pertaining to commercial solar energy systems. The Planning Board may then bring forward any proposed Zoning Code amendments pertaining to commercial solar energy systems, and related matters within the Zoning Code pursuant to K.S.A. 12-741, et seq. If deemed appropriate by the Planning Board (and any applicable sub-committee(s) thereof), potential amendments pertaining to commercial solar energy systems and related matters may be proposed to be made to the comprehensive plan for Harper County.

SECTION 4.

The moratorium imposed by this Resolution may be extended, amended, or terminated earlier than its expiration date by subsequent resolution approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

SECTION 5.

The director or Chairman of the Planning Board is hereby directed to be the administrator of the provisions of this Resolution. Any question as to the applicability of any provision of this Resolution shall be administered in accordance with the procedure established within the Zoning Code. Any person aggrieved by a decision involving such a question as to the applicability of any provision of this Resolution may pursue administrative remedies established within the Zoning Code.

SECTION 6.

If any section of this Resolution shall be adjudged invalid or held unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of this Resolution as a whole or any part or provision thereof, other than the part so declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 7.

The Resolution shall be extended and be in full force and effect after its adoption and publication in the official county newspaper and shall remain in effect until U/

The County Clerk is directed to publish this Resolution once in the official county newspaper.

Commissioners present and voting were:

BRIAN WALDSCHMIDT _____ x _____

DARRIN STRUBLE _____ x _____

MELINDA MCCURLEY _____ x _____

Dated this 16 day of February, 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HARPER COUNTY KANSAS

MELINDA MCCULEY, Chairman
Commissioner, Second District

ATTEST:

Amie DeLacerda, County Clerk

DECLINED

BRIAN WALDSCHMIDT, Chairman
Commissioner, First District

DARRIN STRUBLE
Commissioner, Third District