

NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jjump@atticaindependent.com

HARPER COUNTY COMMISSION *March 16 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, & Shonda Larson, Finance Director, were also present.

Mike Bennett & Janet Slankard, Public Works, met with the Board. There was discussion on using railroad flat cars to repair various bridges in the county, and the decision was made to leave a bridge on SW 170 Ave. closed rather than repair, due to low traffic. The proposals for sealed bids to seal various roads has been submitted to Kaw Valley for review. Commissioner Struble moved to approve fuel contract bids from Astra for the period of 4/1/2026 – 9/30/2026, #2 dyed diesel - \$3.529; #2 clear diesel - \$3.829; 87e10 gas - \$3.139; the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Struble complimented the work done on Pilot Knob Road, and the group discussed other roads in need of attention. There was also discussion on the federal sign program,

and a recommendation not to participate in the future.

Josh Teel, IT/Building & Grounds, met with the Board. Commissioner Waldschmidt moved to approve an Inordinate Spending Request to service the various AEDs located in County facilities in the amount of \$1,739.89; the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Teel is also researching options for service on the detention center doors.

Ms. Larson confirmed a grant awarded by Wheatland Electric in the amount of \$2500.00 to use for the 5th floor Clocktower access project. Due to the cost for full renovations, the Board and Mr. Teel elected to complete the project as funds are available, rather than all at once.

Jan Harding, EMS, presented an Inordinate Spending Request to Zoll for a ventilator and case, using opioid grant funds. Commissioner Waldschmidt moved to approve the request in the amount of \$11,301; the motion passed unanimously.

The Board approved travel requests, agreed to increase the monthly compensation for the EMS Medical Director to \$1200.00 per month, and discussed plans for the flower bed in front of the Anthony EMS station.

At 9:22 a.m., Commissioner Waldschmidt moved to recess for five minutes; the motion passed unanimously. The meeting reconvened at 9:27 a.m.

Commissioner Struble moved to sign titles for two new vehicles in Public Works; the motion passed unanimously.

At 9:32 a.m., Commissioner Struble moved to enter Executive Session. The justification for closing the meeting is to discuss personnel matters of

nonelected personnel. The open meeting will resume at 9:45 a.m. in this room; the motion passed unanimously. Ms. DeLacerda remained in the meeting, and was joined by Audrey Anderson, Register of Deeds, and Cynthia Hekel, Treasurer. At 9:45 a.m., Commissioner Struble moved to extend the Executive Session for 10 minutes; the motion passed unanimously. At 9:48 a.m., Joe Pennycuff, County Appraiser, entered the meeting. At 9:55 a.m., Commissioner Struble moved to extend the Executive Session for 5 minutes; the motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting resumed at 9:57 a.m. with no binding action taken.

The group discussed challenges of maintaining property ownership changes in multiple departments and software, and resources available.

Commissioner McCurley reminded Mr. Pennycuff of the County policy that if a fleet vehicle is available, and an employee opts to use their personal vehicle for business travel, they will not be reimbursed for mileage, and advised that they were denying an Appraiser's Office accounts payable voucher for mileage.

Ami DeLacerda, County Clerk, met with the Board. Commissioner Waldschmidt moved to approve 3/9/2026 meeting minutes; the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Struble moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$168,207.61; the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Struble moved to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$126,437.77; the motion passed unanimously.

The group reviewed Workers Compensation

rate history, and approved Personnel Status Forms.

Commissioner Waldschmidt moved to approve Personal Property abatements resulting in a reduction of taxes of \$67.16; the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Struble moved to approve a Gas correction resulting in a refund of \$799.12; the motion passed unanimously.

Oleg Alba, Acre Strong, met with the Board to introduce their Advisory Service and discuss how Harper County might benefit from engaging their services while negotiating with the various energy companies potentially entering the County. Commissioner McCurley expressed her preference to not allow any more facilities into the county, and Commissioner Waldschmidt expressed his preference to allow it. Commissioner Struble stated that he is not for or against them, but if they are allowed, the county must be fairly compensated.

Mr. Pennycuff shared that water availability & the number of abandoned oil and gas leases were concerns shared by the Steering Committee. He believes they are not in favor of wind and solar farms, but feel it could significantly impact the mill levy.

At 10:54 a.m., Commissioner Waldschmidt moved for a 5 minute recess; the motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting resumed at 10:59 a.m.

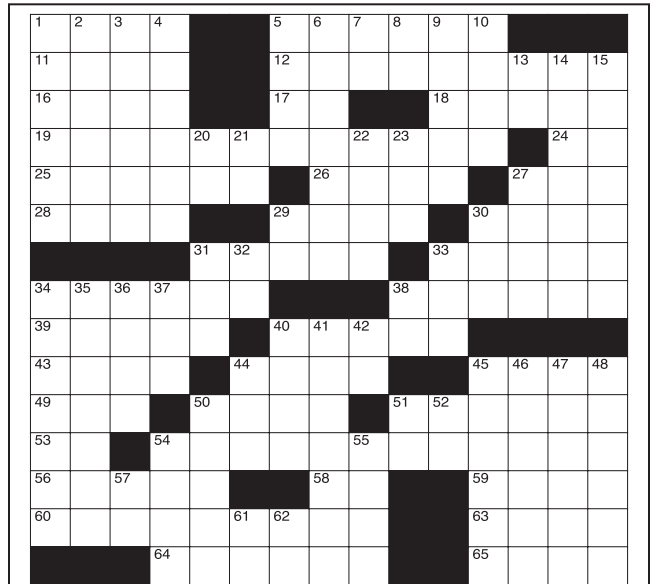
At 11:00 a.m., Commissioner Struble moved to enter Executive Session. The justification for closing the meeting is to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel. The open meeting will resume at 11:10 a.m. in this room; the motion passed unani

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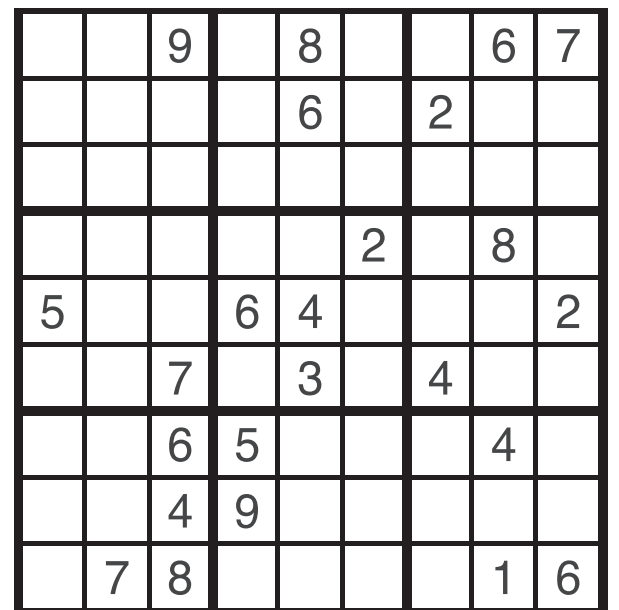


CLUES ACROSS

- "Bird of Paradise" constellation
- Red Sox WS winner Bronson
- Whirl
- The State Dept. has a notable one
- Energy, style and enthusiasm
- Part of the mind
- Mountainous country
- Type of beverage
- Atomic #109
- Opposite of falsities
- Female sheep
- Rocky peak
- Sensitive information sharing environment
- Ethnic group of Thailand
- Patron saint of Rome Philip
- Psychedelics
- Japanese pine
- Have an impact on
- Violent disorder
- A French river
- Early Mesoamerican civilization
- Messenger ribonucleic acid
- Musician Clapton
- Ancient Greek sophist
- Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- Valley
- A way to unwind
- Atomic #93
- Recommending
- Indigo bush
- Larry and Curly's pal
- Off-Broadway theater award
- Fencers
- Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
- Relating to songbirds
- A way to assign

CLUES DOWN

- Some are "secret"
- Intestinal openings
- Distant planet
- Assembly possessing high legislative powers
- Genus of typical owls
- One with distinctively colored hair
- Red cross
- An alternative
- Abominable snowmen
- About ear
- The opening letters
- Feeling of regret
- Atomic #39
- Luteinizing hormone
- Atomic #55
- Carries a debt
- Albanian monetary unit
- Semitic abjad letter
- Yes
- Negative
- Earn a perfect score
- Partner to cheese
- Snack nuts
- Quadruped's body part
- Locate
- Pitching statistic
- "... myself and I"
- Utah city northwest of Provo
- Football players in the trenches
- One who runs the show
- Wood
- Performing artists
- Slang for a cut
- More breathable
- Most crafty
- Provokes into action
- University of Dayton
- Sodium
- Large fish of the mackerel family
- Not one
- ... and behold
- Sports highlight show
- "The Great Lakes State"



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Anthony, KS 67003
620-914-1200
www.Pattersonhc.org
24-7 Emergency Department
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CLINIC SERVICES

- Telehealth Visits and Traditional Office Visits
- Preventative Health Care
- Annual Wellness Visits
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- Woman's/Men's Health
- Pediatric care • Routine Check-up
- Chronic Disease Management
- COPD • Diabetes • CHF
- Stroke • Arthritis
- Blood Pressure • Asthma
- Occupational Medicine
- DOT-Certified Exams
- Preemployment Physicals
- Blood Alcohol Testing • EKGs
- Workers' Comp Assessments
- Drug Screens • Wound Care
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Outpatient Rehabilitation Services

- Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation
- Physical Therapy
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- Counseling Services (youth/adult/seniors)
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CLINICS

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302 N Botkin St
Attica, KS
620-254-7272
Mondays 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ENTERTAINMENT

Main Street Golf and The Putting Room
Located at 907 Central in Harper – inside the Harper Advocate building.

- Indoor Golf Play & Practice
- Indoor Putting Practice
- Swing/Putting Lessons
- Speed Swing Training

Call or text (316) 226-0719 for tee times.

KANSAS LIFELINE PROGRAM

The Lifeline Program helps low-income families and individuals stay connected so they can access healthcare, find jobs, attend classes, stay in touch with family, and call for help in an emergency.

Eligible Services:

- Residential phone service
- Broadband Internet

You may be eligible for Lifeline if you receive any of the following benefits or your income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FHPA)
- Veterans Pension & Survivors Pension Benefit
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Head Start Tribal Programs (only those meeting its income qualifying standard)
- The Food Distribution Program on Tribal Lands

For more information about Kansas Lifeline,

visit <https://www.lifelinesupport.org>

visit <https://kcc.ks.gov/telecommunications/lifeline> or call

the Kansas Corporation Commission 800.662.0027

*The Kansas portion of the discount may only be applied to phone service. The federal discount may be used for Internet or phone service.

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