

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE GEARY COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
February 9th, 2026

Commissioners Present: Keith Ascher, Trish Giordano, and Kathy Tremont

Others present: Courtney Gilbert, County Clerk, Betsy Edwards County Counselor

Chairman Tremont called the County Commission meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The road viewing for the Walker Road vacation was held at 9:00 a.m.

Arriving at the public hearing for vacation of Walker Road:

Jeremie Myers, Public Works Administrator

Bobby Miller, road viewer

Chairman Tremont opened the Public Hearing for a vacation on Walker Road:

Bobby Miller, Alan Hildebrand and Terry Heldstab were appointed as road viewers.

The road viewers agreed that the road vacation would have no adverse effect on any landowners.

Certificate of viewing was presented by Mr. Miller.

Commissioner Ascher moved to accept the road viewers recommendation and approve the certificate of viewing for Walker Road, Commissioner Giordano seconded, all voted in favor aye

Crystal Malchose, Human Resources Director, gave the weekly report:

- Employee task force meeting is this week, commissioner Ascher will be attending
- Lunch and learn, presented by Commerce Bank will be held on February 12th 2026, in the conference room.
- Congratulated employees, Jayme Coffey and Raquel Cinco on graduating from the Flint Hills Regional Leadership program.

Tami Robison, Finance Director, gave the bi-weekly report:

- Presented CIP project funding document for Chairman Tremont to sign for the Sheriff's Office request that was previously approved.
- Sales tax report was presented. For the county tax, we are over \$5,196.00 from last year in the general fund and in the hospital debt fund we are over \$980.00. We are 8.33% into the year and have collected 10.59% of what was budgeted for the general fund and 8.72% for the hospital debt fund.
- Cash reports were presented. These reports reflect that the Finance and Treasurer's Office are in balance.
- Fund status reports were presented. The GL report comes out of CIC and reflects \$39,349,030.92 ending balance. This number is also reflected in the Treasure's Office statement. The composition of cash report that is generated out of CIC is also reflecting \$39,349,030.92 verifying all reports are in balance.
- CIP reports were presented. Revenue into CIP for the month of January was interest income and \$72,500 transfer in for EMS. Mrs. Robison states there is \$145,000 in CIP for EMS and if the board is in consensus, she will initiate that payment to the City of Junction City for 2026. The board agreed and Mrs. Robison will make that payment.
- Ending of 2025 and beginning of 2026 CIP cash balance is \$4,081,826.02. With unencumbered cash and pending approved projects leaves \$2,599,639.35 projected 2026 cash balance.

- Building cash flow reports were presented. \$250,000 was transferred in as approved by the budget. An insurance reimbursement of \$1,836.80 was collected. 2025 ending/2026 beginning cash balance is \$440,539.75. Income for 2026 is \$251,836.80, with a total of \$692,376.55. There is a pending approved project of \$12,000 leaving the 2026 projected cash balance of \$680,376.55.
- Chairman Tremont asked Mrs. Robison about the County Attorney's concerns on getting the front doors fixed at the Pennell Building. Mrs. Robison states Mr. Myers is working on quotes for this.
- Mrs. Robison states that Public Works Administrator, Mr. Myers, is interested in purchasing some land for Public Works equipment storage and asked where those funds would be spent out of.
- The commissioners would like to have a discussion with department heads on February 23rd, 2026, regarding the finance policy and purchase card program. They want to ensure each employee is being treated the same way.

Sheriff Nate Boeckman gave the bi-weekly update:

- 85.5 daily average jail population, 12 accidents, assisted outside agencies 52, 0 batteries and assaults, 0 burglaries, 3 citations, 192 papers served, 0 domestics, 3 drug investigations, 0 DUI's, 0 motor vehicle thefts, prisoner transports 4, 0 sex offenses, 1 shots fired, two thefts, 111 traffic stops, 0 weapon violations, 21 arrests, total primary incidents 428, 127 other calls for service for a total of 555 calls.

Presented 2025 end of year accomplishments:

- Achieved National CALEA Accreditation, the first and only Sheriff's Office in Kansas to obtain this.
- Dual accreditation from both CALEA and KLEAP.
- Secured over \$55,000 in grants with \$15,000 in pending grants
- Renegotiated contracts with Dispatch/Jail, Kellwell Foods and USD 475, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- Over 50% reduction in overtime expenses.
- Increased revenue from \$449,000 to \$723,503.
- First time in 20 years the Sheriff's Office is fully staffed.
- The detention center implemented a Corrections Training Officer Program.
- The detention center's policy manual received a much-needed update.
- Volunteer inmate worker program.
- JC Naz Church provides religious services to inmates via a tablet.
- The Sheriff's Office and Junction City Police Department have joined SWAT operations, criminal investigations, criminal interdiction, joint training initiatives and school resource officer programs.

Commissioner Giordano told Sheriff Boeckman that he had an impressive first year as Sheriff and praised him for working well with other departments and agencies.

Discussion on the jail and Pawnee Mental Health with Sheriff Boeckman:

- Commissioner Giordano commented that if someone is on Medicaid and they are arrested, they lose their Medicaid benefits and if they are a Pawnee Mental Health patient, they will not come and see them in the jail.
- Sheriff Boeckman stated that Tiffany McCone is an employee of Pawnee Mental Health but provides mental health services to inmates at the jail on a contract basis with Southern Health for 10 hours per week. Sheriff Boeckman commented that Tiffany sees an average of 10-15 inmates per week. Currently, Tiffany believes she does not need the full 10 hours and could get her work completed in 8 hours, this is something that needs to be renegotiated in the future.

Health completed 8 crisis evaluations that last 15-20 minutes and those were covered and were completed via zoom or phone.

- Commissioner Giordano feels that if Tiffany is not going over 10 hours and there are Pawnee Mental Health patients that are inmates and need care, Pawnee Mental Health should be treating them. Geary County allocates \$200,000 per year to Pawnee Mental Health and if there are inmates that need care while incarcerated, Pawnee should be doing more and if they are not willing to do that, a portion of the allotment could go to the Sheriff to hire mental health providers to provide care.
- Commissioner Giordano has asked Sheriff Boeckman to continue to collect data and report back before June.

Raquel Cinco, CVB Director called in to the meeting:

Requested approval to attend a Travel & Adventure Show on April 11-12 at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, CO.

- The commissioners have requested additional information, and Mrs. Cinco will be in next week with that.

Commission review and update:

Giordano:

- Met with Tyler Mason, he is the military liaison for Senator Marshall. They spoke about the importance of keeping the Army Hospital here.
- Attended the pipeline meeting at the Elk's.
- Attended the CVB Board meeting, they agreed that the trade show would be beneficial to attend.
- Attended the Regional Economic Innovation Summit which was put on by The Flint Hills Regional Council. This was a very good event and a success. The EDC's were tasked with getting manufacturers to attend and Geary County was the only county there that did not have any manufacturers in attendance. Unfortunately, our EDC director was not an active participant and showed up two hours late.
- Attended the convening meeting for Regional Economic Rural Community Group with all 25 communities that were selected for this specific grant for quality of life, strengthening the economy and regional collaboration.

Ascher:

- Attended pipeline meeting last week at the Elk's.
- Attended the Solid Waste meeting at Public Works, they revised the plan to reflect that the landfill is open the second Saturday of the month.
- Attended a Super Bowl event and the city manager, Kim Zimmerman, was also in attendance. Mr. Zimmerman states that he thinks things are going well right now with the County and the City. Mr. Zimmerman commented that he was interested in doing the joint clean up and would accept tires once a year but not twice.
- Asked for clarification on funding for Freedom Fest. Commissioner Giordano commented that Blues and BBQ and the Mud Bogg are two separate entities that hold events in Junction City that assist with fundraising for Freedom Fest but are not the same as Freedom Fest. Commissioner Ascher and Chairman Tremont are going to think about this more and the board will discuss again next week.

Tremont:

- No meetings last week
- County Day is March 3rd at the Capitol, herself and Commissioner Giordano will attend.
- Spoke about multiple house bills that she wanted fellow commissioner opinions on.
- County/City/School joint meeting is February 23rd at the Opera House at 5:30pm.

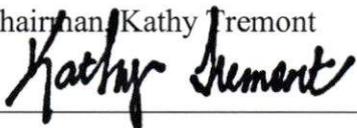
Commissioner Ascher moved to approve Change Orders 2026000039-2026000062, Chairman Tremont seconded, all voted in favor aye

Commissioner Ascher moved to approve the minutes from 02/02/2026, Commissioner Giordano seconded, all voted in favor aye

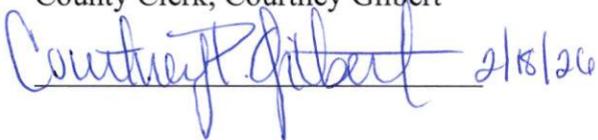
Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Chairman Tremont adjourned the meeting at 12:12pm.

Chairman Kathy Tremont



County Clerk, Courtney Gilbert


_____ 2/18/26

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