

ELK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approved Minutes  
August 26, 2024

If you would like to attend the meeting via zoom, go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82182357431?pwd=RscnSpPjuUYEpn22wiQfcOI5sjfqab.1>

select join meeting and enter meeting ID: 821 8235 7431 Password: 381355

**1:00 p.m. – County & Rural Fire RNR & 2025 Budget Hearings**

Regularly Scheduled Meeting

1:10 p.m. - Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance & Prayer

Minutes Approval – Regular Meeting of August 12, 2024 & Canvass on August 15, 2024

1:10 p.m. – Public Forum

1:15 p.m. – Department Reports

Ambulance	Rural Fire
Appraiser	Sheriff
Emergency Management	Treasurer
Health	County Counselor
Public Works	County Clerk
Register of Deeds	County Attorney
Community Development	

Old Business:

Real Estate @ 1285 Evergreen, Moline

Property on Dove Road, Moline

New Business

2:00 p.m. – Michelle with Klenda Austerman – County Tax Sale

2:15 p.m. –

2:30 p.m. –

3:00 p.m. – Commission Discussion

Abatements:

Presentation of Claims

Other

Adjournment

Future Events: SEK Fall District Meeting September 19 @Crawford County

Commissioners Present:

Perry Russell, District I

Doug Hendricks, District II

Jake Liebau, District III

County Clerk: Kerry Harrod

County Counselor: Paul Dean

Others:

Rachel Ware, Treasurer

John Walker, Sheriff

Gillian Beaumont, EMS

Don Sanders, Public Works

Kandy Dowell, Health

Nick Miller, Noxious Weed

Lonnie Marshall

Janet Harrington

Michael, Lawrence Accountability

Stephanie Ollenborger, ROD

Erica Cordell, EM

Chris Miller, Deputy Appraiser

Kelly Young, Deputy Sheriff

Shari Kaminska, Community Development

Kaye Spooner

Linda Marshall

Justin Spiels

Call County & Rural Fire RNR and Budget Hearings to Order

Chairman Liebau called the revenue neutral rate and budget hearings to order at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's room of the Elk County Courthouse. Commissioners Hendricks and Russell were all present as well as County Clerk Kerry Harrod and County Counselor Paul Dean.

County Revenue Neutral Rate & Budget Hearings

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to approve resolution 24-10 a resolution of the County of Elk to levy a property tax rate exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to approve resolution 24-11 a roll call vote of Elk County to levy a property tax exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to approve and adopt the 2025 County Budget as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

### Rural Fire District #1 Revenue Neutral Rate & Budget Hearings

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to approve resolution 24-09 a resolution of the Elk County Rural Fire District #1 to levy a property tax rate exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to approve resolution 24-08 a roll call vote of Elk County Rural Fire District #1 to levy a property tax exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to approve and adopt the 2025 Elk County Rural Fire District #1 budget as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

### Close of Hearing

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to closed the County & Rural Fire RNR and Budget Hearings at 1:23 p.m.

### Call to Order

Chairman Liebau called the regular meeting to order at 1:23 p.m. Commissioners Hendricks and Russell were present as well as County Clerk Kerry Harrod and County Counselor Paul Dean.

### Minutes Approval

Commissioner Russell moved and Commissioner Hendricks seconded the motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 12, 2024 as presented. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Russell moved and Commissioner Hendricks seconded the motion to approve the special meeting minutes of August 15, 2024 as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

### Executive Session 1:25 p.m.

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to recess into executive session for attorney-client privilege to discuss legal matters for 10 minutes with County Counselor Paul Dean present not to return to open session until 1:35 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Back in session 1:35 p.m.

No action taken.

### Public Forum

Justin Spiehs spoke of free speech, constitutional rights, and county policies. Michael with Lawrence Accountability spoke of an arrest made in front of the courthouse that was unconstitutional and county policies not being followed. Kaye Spooner spoke of the notice put out by SISSA and spoke of election security. Janet Harrington stated she was the sheriff for Elk County for 17 years and she said she is ashamed of how the department is working now. Mrs. Harrington asked the Commissioners if they attended the new commission training when they were elected into office and if any constitutional law was taught at the training. Mrs. Harrington would like the Commission to start to follow the constitutional laws.

### EMS

Gillian Beaumont stated John Hester resigned and she will be posting a job opening. The grant funding for Abby Bowman was approved in the amount of \$1,500.

### Emergency Management

Erica Cordell stated the vehicle maintenance was done on the county car.

### Health

Kandy Dowell stated she is taking applications for an EMS/Health billing clerk. Commissioner Russell moved and Commissioner Hendricks seconded the motion to give Kristina Hanks a merit increase from \$23.34 an hour to \$23.84 an hour. Motion carried 3-0.

### Public Works

Don Sanders presented the Commission with quotes for the HVAC, windows, and electrical work of the courthouse.

### Community Development

Shari Kaminska stated Lemonade Day will be Saturday during Labor Day weekend. Ms. Kaminska spoke with Rick Pemberton with the KCC regarding the courthouse projects.

### Treasurer

Rachel Ware presented on the behalf of Klenda Austerman LLC regarding the county tax sale.

### County Clerk

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to appoint Vera Jontra and Marla Foster Ware to the ballot destruction committee to destroy the 2022 ballots. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Russell moved and Commissioner Hendricks seconded the motion to approve the temporary permit for September 14, 2024 and September 21, 2024 at the Elk County Fair Grounds. Motion carried 3-0.

### Property on Dove Road, Moline KS

Commission will list the property for their purchase price plus an additional 7 to 10 percent through Alan Johnson Reality.

### Executive Session 2:26 p.m.

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to recess into executive session for attorney-client privilege to discuss legal matters for 10 minutes with County Counselor Paul Dean present not to return to open session until 2:36 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

Back in session 2:36 p.m.  
No action taken.

Warrants

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to approve the warrants in the amount of \$72,273.84. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjournment

Commissioner Hendricks moved and Commissioner Russell seconded the motion to adjourn at 2:45 p.m. Motion carried 3-0.

ATTEST:

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Kerry E. Harrod  
Elk County Clerk

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Perry Russell, District I

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Doug Hendricks, District II

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Jake Liebau, District III (Chairman)