

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

July 27, 2026

Agenda: 8:30 – Bills
8:45 –
9:00 –
9:15 –
9:30 – Jeff Cox – Public Works
9:45 –
10:00 – Shila Moore & Pam Brown – GascaPades update

The Board of Stevens County Commissioners met in a regular session with all members present. County Attorney Paul Kitzke, and County Clerk Amy Jo Tharp were also present. Tron called the meeting to order. Shannon moved to approve minutes from the last meeting. Joe seconded. Motion carried. Joe moved to approve the county vouchers. Shannon seconded. Motion carried. The County Clerk was instructed to draw warrants on the Treasurer chargeable to the various funds of the county for the following amounts:

General	\$	56,318.49
Judicial District	\$	2,773.99
Road & Bridge	\$	159,499.23
Airport	\$	7,890.35
Fair Fund	\$	36,331.36
Noxious Weed	\$	10,179.09
EMS	\$	6,095.17
Fire	\$	1,888.66
Services For Elderly	\$	14,693.81
Comm Health	\$	21,535.93
Library Emp Benefits	\$	31,653.67
Airport Grants	\$	48,888.38
Sheriff	\$	37,011.19
911 Wireless	\$	121.20
TOTAL:	\$	434,880.52

Rex Evans presented the commissioners with information he obtained from DV Douglass Roofing concerning the courthouse and memorial hall roofs. Rex said the third floor has had no leaks since DV Douglass came out a year ago and did some minor repairs. The commissioners asked Rex to get figures for the cost of repair and cost of possible replacement for the memorial hall roof as well as repair costs to the courthouse roof.

Rodney Kelling checked in. He stated payroll for EMS and Fire will need to be adjusted to accommodate the remainder of the year with the hiring of Rickey Burrows in his new position.

The commissioners discussed the recent indigent death that occurred in Stevens County. The county is responsible for finding out if there are any assets which can be used to pay for services (cremation,

transportation, etc.). The county is responsible for the body if it has not and will not be claimed. The county can donate the body to science, pay for cremation, or burial. The county clerk will investigate if there are any assets which can be used to reimburse the county for cremation/burial of the body and will speak with the coroner about the next steps the county will need to take.

Jeff Cox was up next. Amy asked Jeff if his employees help with the fair, would they need to use personal or vacation time. Jeff replied that the employee will not need to use accrued time the Monday of setting up for the fair during the day, but if the employee chooses to help outside set up time and any other day, they will need to use accrued time.

Joe asked about the concrete pile at the landfill and Jeff has investigated renting a grinder but stated the equipment the county has will not be able to handle the large blocks of concrete without getting damaged. Jeff said he will check on receiving quotes to see which would be the most beneficial between hiring a company to crush the concrete or renting equipment to crush the concrete. The chip sealing of the asphalt roads has been completed but Jeff would like to complete three (3) more miles which will take two (2) additional tanks of oil. The commissioners agreed and suggested using the road and bridge highway improvement fund.

Jeff mentioned the landfill will need to start closing the old pits and plans to begin after repairs are done on the tractor. There will be additional costs for the closing of the old pits, and he will discuss the costs later when more information is gathered.

Amy informed the commissioners the quoted amount for auto assist for the courthouse phone system is a one-time fee of \$480.00. She expressed her interest in adding auto assist to the county clerk office line and one other office is interested as well, but the rest of the courthouse departments are declining to add the feature to their respective office phone lines. She will inquire if it will be cheaper if not all phone lines have auto assist, and plans to cover the expenses for the clerk's office phone with the county clerk tech fund. The commissioners approved.

Pam Brown and Shila Moore were on the agenda and presented an update about the 100-year anniversary for the Gascajades. Pam and Shila informed the commissioners that the dates of the anniversary will be July 24 – August 1, 2027. They are hoping to honor pilots who flew in the wars, learning more about the gas and oil fields and those individuals who were present during those years. Pam and Shila strongly encouraged the commissioners and community to check out their Facebook page, Gas Capital Historical Society, in hopes of receiving feedback from the community. The commissioners are interested in their ideas and are looking forward to seeing them come to fruition.

Abatement Orders for 2025 taxes numbered 18257 were reviewed and approved by commissioners and given to the County Treasurer; total valuation removed 171 with a relief assessment of -\$27.80.

Attest: Amy Jo Tharp, County Clerk

Tron Stegman, Chairman