

## COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

August 24, 2026

Agenda: 8:30 – Bills  
8:45 – Rodney Kelling & Rickey Burrows – Fire / EMS  
9:00 – Calvin May – County Gun Range  
9:15 –  
9:30 – Jeff Cox – Public Works  
9:45 –  
10:00 – Brandon Mann – KWORCC Safety Inspector

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            | \$ | 75,139.54  |
| Judicial District  | \$ | 693.00     |
| Road & Bridge      | \$ | 170,359.77 |
| Airport            | \$ | 14,176.56  |
| Noxious Weed       | \$ | 4,796.73   |
| Building           | \$ | 2,401.00   |
| EMS                | \$ | 7,017.52   |
| Fire               | \$ | 2,781.84   |
| Ins Agency Damages | \$ | 13,950.00  |
| Community Health   | \$ | 34,830.02  |
| Airport Grants     | \$ | 10,003.01  |
| Sheriff            | \$ | 41,166.35  |
| SW Equip Fund      | \$ | 10,000.00  |
| Equipment Fund     | \$ | 19,677.89  |
| 911 Wireless       | \$ | 117.56     |
| TOTAL:             | \$ | 407,110.79 |

Rickey and Rodney were first on the agenda and stated there are some issues with the EMT volunteers and are looking into the rules and regulations of county volunteer workers. Stevens County policy is the volunteer must work at least two (2) days a month to remain with the EMT department. Amy has emailed the KAC about county regulations regarding volunteer workers and has yet to hear back. Rickey said when Margaret Bell retires, he would like to fill the position with a full-time employee and at minimum, a part-time employee. The requirement for the position would be that the individual is an EMT or higher. Rickey and Rodney plan to put out a notification shortly, so there is adequate time for training. Rodney has applied for a State grant for fire bunker gear which covers ten (10) sets but will still need an extra seven (7) as the bunker gear will expire in February of 2027.

Rex Evans informed the commissioners he is waiting on a start and completion date from D.V. Douglass on the Memorial Hall roof. Rodney told Rex the door locks at the fire station are still not working and Rex said he had looked at the locks, and they will need to be repaired or replaced by a professional. Rex had put out a call to the vendor but will reach out to the vendor again to see what the timeframe is for the door locks.

Calvin May did not attend the meeting.

Sheriff Ted Heaton was in appearance.

Jeff Cox mentioned the road and bridge employees are currently working on the gravel roads and repairs are being made to the chip spreader. He has hired another employee to help with road and bridge and currently has a new employee mowing and learning to drive trucks. Jeff will be examining some roads and checking to see if any culverts need replaced before AES Solar begins installation of solar panels. Amy informed that there were no bids brought to the clerk's office for the concrete bid opening which is to be held today at 9:30 AM. Jeff said he had not received any either but stated Cesar Pena plans to come in soon and hopefully he will have something.

Cesar Pena with S&S Rock Crushing, Inc., came in and handed paperwork to the commissioners showing costs to crush the concrete:

1. Option 1 – S&S estimates crushing 5,500 tons of concrete rubble at a rate of \$14.00/ton
  - a. \$77,000.00 plus mobilization \$6,600.00 = \$83,600.00
2. Option 2 – S&S Estimates crushing ½ of the concrete rubble pile (5,500) at a rate of \$15.00 per ton and that material belongs to Stevens County Road & Bridge. The remaining material will be the property of S&S Rock Crushing.
  - a. 2,750 ton at a rate of \$15/ton is \$41,250.00 plus mobilization \$3,300.00 = \$44,550.00
  - b. S&S will load trucks with its loader.
  - c. S&S trucks will be weighed at no charge when loader scales are unavailable.
  - d. Materials will be hauled out during regular business hours unless prior arrangements have been made with Jeff Cox.
  - e. If Stevens County decides to sell materials to the general public, contractors, or others, they must be sold at the same price charged by S&S.
3. Option 3 – S&S agrees to process and crush concrete rubble at the Stevens County landfill at no expense to Stevens County. Material will be the property of S&S Rock Crushing.
  - a. Steel removed from material will be left on site.
  - b. Unit price bid, quantities are estimates only, and measurement method is by contractor's loader scales, which may be verified by survey at owner's option and expense.
  - c. All material will be screened to 1.5" minus.
  - d. Water source if necessary for dust control to be provided by owner.
  - e. All trash will be left on site.

Shannon made a motion to accept "Option 1" from S&S Rock Crushing, LLC., to have the concrete crushed and for the county to keep the crushed concrete for road work for the cost of \$83,600.00. Joe seconded. Motion carried.

Ted Heaton handed the commissioners a quote for a new computer in the amount of \$784.19 from Dell Technologies. Ted stated the change from the City electric to Pioneer Electric caused a surge and burnt up the other computer. Ted handed the commissioners a check from Progressive Insurance for an incident that occurred about two (2) years ago involving an automobile that struck the flagpole at the sheriff's department. Ted is trying to find someone who could replace the flagpole. There was a shooting incident about two (2) weeks ago north of Hugoton and all the perpetrators have been apprehended.

Amy Rich was asked to come in to clarify minimum work hours, employee absences, and rules regarding remaining on the county insurance plan. Required hours to remain KPERS eligible, FMLA, and MBE (sick) leave donations were also discussed. No changes were made to the county policy.

Abatement Orders for taxes 2006 numbered 152 through 154 were reviewed and approved by commissioners and given to the County Treasurer; total valuation removed 665 with a relief assessment of \$45.64.

Attest: Amy Jo Tharp, County Clerk

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Tron Stegman, Chairman