

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
OCTOBER 27, 2025

Agenda: 8:30 – Bills
 8:45 – Karen Vines w/ HUB
 9:00 – Rodney Kelling
 9:15 – Transfer Station Bids
 9:30 – Tony Martin – Public Works

The Board of Stevens County Commissioners met in a regular session. 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. Shannon moved to approve the county vouchers. Joe 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	\$	60,936.12
Judicial District	\$	505.53
Road & Bridge	\$	71,928.00
Airport	\$	2,730.23
Airport Grants	\$	5,581.98
Noxious Weed	\$	4,192.75
EMS	\$	7,935.23
Fire	\$	2,652.52
Community Health	\$	10,887.52
Comm Health Grants	\$	-
911 Wireless	\$	-
Landfill Closure	\$	9,803.23
Non-Specific Equipment	\$	-
ROD Tech Fund	\$	-
Empl P/R Misc W/H	\$	-
Sheriff	\$	35,904.01
TOTAL:	\$	213,057.12

Karen Vines with HUB presented the commissioners with employee benefit information explaining Blue Cross and Blue Shield will have a fourteen percent (14%) increase in 2026. There will be no vision insurance increase. Karen described different plans under Blue Cross and Blue Shield and expressed United Healthcare is coming in higher. The commissioners tabled deciding on employee benefits until November 10th, 2025.

Page Bolin with AES, Nate Wolters with Wolters Construction, Rodney Kelling, Rex Evans and Tony Martin were present.

Nate Wolters presented sealed bids for the transfer station:

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| 1. Bid with insurance scope of work/repairs | \$142,068.14 |
| 2. Wolters scope of work/repairs different from insurance | \$114,491.70 |
| 3. Demolition of transfer station | \$89,000.00 |

Nate explained the largest cost is rental of a crane to do repairs or demolish. He stated the insurance scope did not include use of a crane or man-lift which is roughly \$500 per hour. The demolition cost is less because the crane would not be needed for an extended period. Joe said he would like a completion date and for the county to hold ten percent (10%) of the total cost until the job is completed and inspected. Nate asked for the county to mow around the building as the weeds are high, and the potential for a fire is great due to the cutting torches. Nate also asked if the county could provide some kind of water tank so in case there is a fire they have a way of extinguishing it quickly. Tron said he could try to find something. The commissioners and Nate also discussed a way of sealing off the area after the demolition is done to prevent the danger of people and vehicles having access to the drop-off at the transfer station.

Joe made a motion to accept the demolition of the transfer station bid by Wolters Construction in the amount of \$89,000.00, with a completion date of no later than March 1, 2026. Shannon seconded, motion carried.

Nate said he would like to reuse some of the material for a vehicle barrier for the area around the transfer station as there will be some pits needing filled in.

Page Bolin with AES brought in a request for a one (1) year extension on the conditional use permit as per zoning regulations. She stated the construction will begin early the second quarter of 2026 and expect to have everything completed by August 2028.

Shannon made a motion to extend the conditional use permit with AES Solar Construction for one (1) year. Joe seconded. Motion carried.

Rodney requested a ten (10) minute executive session over non-elected personnel wages. Shannon made a motion to go into executive session for ten (10) minutes over non-elected personnel wages beginning at 10:00 AM. Joe seconded. Executive session concluded at 10:07 AM. No action taken.

Rodney stated his planned retirement date is January of 2027. He informed the commissioners he would like to train his replacement for six (6) months prior to retiring. The commissioners suggest advertising for the position of Emergency Management Director which includes the job duties of Fire and EMS director. The commissioners have requested a copy of the job description for Rodney's position. Rodney also requested that the start pay for his position should be between \$62,000.00 to \$63,000.00 per year. Rodney asked the commissioners for a pay raise for Margaret Bell and himself. Rodney requested Margaret to receive \$800.00 per pay period and forego receiving payment for calls.

The commissioners approved to set the start pay for Emergency Management Director at \$62,000.00 and allow a pay raise for Margaret Bell of \$800.00 per pay period with no pay for calls. The decision on Rodney's request for a pay increase was tabled.

Rex stated he has purchased some green lights for the courthouse to commemorate Veterans Day. The company hired to update the Veterans monument has started work. Amy informed the commissioners the

county has received grants from the County Foundation Board and Pheasant Heaven totaling \$1,800.00 to help with the update of the memorial. However, Amy said there are three (3) additional names which will increase the cost. The garage doors at the Moscow fire station will be completed this week.

Tony asked the commissioners to approve and sign Resolution 25-10 Adopting the Waste Management Plan for 2026.

Shannon made a motion to accept ***Resolution 25-10 Adopting the Waste Management Plan for 2026***. Joe seconded, motion carried.

Tony informed the commissioners KDHE approved the completed landfill pit. Wheat has been planted on a little over twenty-five (25) acres around the landfill to help keep dirt from blowing. Tony has received two (2) different quotes for copiers, both under \$5,000.00, with one (1) being refurbished. The commissioners approved the purchase of a copy machine from Southern Office Supply for \$4,750.00. Tony informed the commissioners the asphalt plant is being shut down due to the weather.

The commissioners requested Tony revise the job description for public works supervisor with planning and zoning separate to be used for advertisement.

Amy told the commissioners the AWOS system at the airport has been having issues and after extensive investigations, Pioneer Communications stated it is outdated and has bad wiring. Pioneer has presented the airport with two (2) quotes for the repairs:

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| 1. Replace copper | \$11,953.48 |
| 2. Replace copper and install duct | \$14,025.48 |

Joe made a motion to bypass the bid process and approve the quote from Pioneer Communications in the amount of \$14,025.48 for repairs to the AWOS system at the airport. Shannon seconded.

Attest: Amy Jo Tharp, County Clerk

Tron Stegman, Chairman