

THE BOARD OF NESS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
July 20, 2026

The Ness County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 20, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Ness County Commissioner Chambers. Chairman Travis Petersilie called the meeting to order with Commissioners Mark Davis, Dave Albers, and County Clerk Lori Hertel in attendance.

Noxious Weed

Noxious Weed Director Chilton Miller met with Commission. Maps of sprayed areas, types of chemicals, and responses noted were discussed. State highway spraying contract was signed by Commission. Miller has started spraying State ditches but not completed yet. Pre-emergent spray used last year was helpful, would like to do more of it this year.

Road and Bridge

Ness County Road and Bridge/Landfill Supervisor Bryan Whipple met with Commissioners. Colby Dunagan from Foley Equipment met with Commission to explain delay of mini excavator.

Equipment repairs were reviewed.

Employment matters were discussed.

Whipple reported \$280.00 in landfill fees June 30 – July 3rd. 30 yards of rock was hauled July 6-10th.

Also reported was \$260.00 in landfill fees July 7 – 11th. 20 yards of dirt and 60 yards of crushed concrete were hauled July 13- 17th.

Whipple has contacted Earl Crosswhite from the City of Ness City to discuss purchasing/trade of services for crushed concrete.

Emergency Preparedness

Ness County Emergency Management Director Travis Rothe updated Commission on the Governor's Disaster Declaration for the flash flooding several weeks ago.

Rothe has been approved for IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert Warning System).

Employee safety classes are available through Forrest Rhodes on harassment. Scheduling will be in September.

Kevin Knoll

Surveyor Kevin Knoll met with Commission to request Commission, County Attorney and County Clerk sign the completed Ransom Cemetery Plat prior to having it recorded by the Register of Deeds Office.

Minutes and Correspondence

Minutes of Regular Meeting held on July 13, 2026, were reviewed, approved, and signed as presented. Correspondence was reviewed and acknowledged.

Commission

Due to rising fuel costs, the IRS issued a mid-year increase in mileage rates to 76 cents as of July 1, 2026.

Motion: Upon the motion of Davis, seconded by Albers, Commission voted unanimously to raise the mileage rate reimbursement from 72.5 cents to 76 cents in accordance with the IRS, effective July 1, 2026.

Commission agreed to schedule a Multi-County meeting for August 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Custodian

Custodian Tina Harrison spoke with Commission on dress code policy when mowing. KWORCC will be contacted for clarification.

Freedom Claims Management, Inc.

Julie Yarmer, President of FCMI met with Commission to review our plan, funds and give estimate of costs for 2027 for budgeting purposes.

Adds/Abate/Escapes to Tax Roll

The following changes were made to the 2023 tax roll:

Abate- Oil-\$2,605.74

The following changes were made to the 2025 tax roll:

Abate-Real Estate-\$1,297.32, Oil-\$52,009.64, and Personal Property-\$15.90

County Attorney

Ness County Attorney Jacob Gayer requested an Executive session to discuss a client.

Motion: Upon the motion of Albers, seconded by Davis the Commission voted unanimously to recess into executive session to discuss legal counsel pursuant to the attorney-client privileged communication exception K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), for a period of 5 minutes beginning at 12:52 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (Albers, Davis, Petersilie, Gayer and Hertel in executive session). Regular session resumed at 12:57 p.m. No decisions were made. Accounts Payable for July 17, 2026, were reviewed and approved.

Accounts Payable

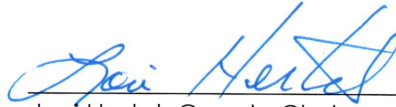
Accounts Payable dated July 17, 2026, were reviewed, approved, and signed by Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 1:14 p.m.

Attest:



Travis Petersilie, Chairman



Lori Hertel, County Clerk

July 20, 2026