THE BOARD OF NESS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
September 21, 2026

The Ness County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, September 21, 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.

**Emergency Preparedness**
Ness County Emergency Management Director Travis Rothe met with Commission.
Rothe reported September 2, 2026 President Trump approved federal Public Assistance for the severe weather, straight-line winds, and flooding that occurred in Kansas June 18-30, 2026. Rothe has already submitted the costs incurred for Ness County, waiting for a response.
Reminder of Employee training on Tuesday September 29th, 9:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. for Work Place Anti-Harassment.
The Commission was informed that the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) has been implemented and is now up and running.

**Road and Bridge**
Ness County Road & Bridge/Landfill Supervisor Bryan Whipple and Assistant Supervisor Eric Seib met with Commission.
Colby Butler of Kirkham Michael presented a recap of Kirkham Michael's activities since August 24, 2026.
Butler presented an agreement for the FAS and Off-System Bridge Inventory and Appraisal. Five bridges require annual inspections, with a deadline of November to complete the inspections.
An Authority to Award Packet was received from KDOT for Project No. 068 C-5356-01, listing L&M Contractors, Inc. as the low bidder in the amount of $354,966.
***Motion***: Albers made a motion, seconded by Davis, unanimously voted to accept low bid from L&M Contractors Inc. for $354,966. The County's matching funds for this Grant is 0 (zero).
Whipple updated Commission that Penco Engineering has started working on the Landfill expansion last Friday. If drilling and testing is needed, Milco Company will be used.
Discussion on sand and available sand pits was held.
Equipment repairs were discussed.
Whipple reported $380.00 in landfill fees collected September 8–12, 2026. 75 yards of dirt was hauled September 14-18.

**Sheriff**
Ness County Sheriff Brandon Mitchell met with the Commission.
Sheriff Mitchell updated Commission on department activity.
Discussion was held on the increase of Axon contract for 2028.

**Commission**
Commissioner Albers gave a review of KLPG (Kansas Legislative Policy Group) meeting held in Dodge City last week.
***Motion***: Petersilie made a motion, seconded by Davis to accept Kirkham Michael's agreement for FAS & Off-System Bridge Inventory & Appraisal for $3,600. Motion carried. Petersilie and Davis – Yes, Albers – No.

**Minutes and Correspondence**
Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 14, 2026, were reviewed, approved, and signed as presented. Correspondence was reviewed and acknowledged.

**Attorney**
Ness County Attorney Jacob Gayer reviewed and approved Accounts Payable from September 18th.

**Ness County EMS**
Ness County EMS Director Kathy Clouston invited Commission to a meeting with Patterson Family Foundation Tour Group this afternoon at 2:00 at the Ness County Historical Bank Building.
Clouston has been invited by the United Methodist Healthcare Foundation to tour facilities already implementing community health workers October 21-23.
BC/BS Pathways Grant submission deadline is October 2nd.
Ambulance repairs were discussed.

**Daily Statement**
Daily Statements for September 1 - 15, 2026, were reviewed, approved, and signed by Commission.

**Accounts Payable**
Accounts Payable dated September 18, 2026, were reviewed, approved, and signed by Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Attest:

Travis Petersilie, Chairman

Lori Hertel, County Clerk

September 21, 2026