THE BOARD OF NESS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
October 19, 2026

The Ness County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 19, 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 the Commission to provide an update on department activities. Rothe reported attending two training classes the previous week, including training on new software for the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) and FEMA training. Rothe completed the final required test, FEMA G191, which focused on effective relationships between Incident Command and Emergency Operations Command using National Incident Management System (NIMS) principles.
The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) will hold a planning meeting with selected individuals to coordinate a tabletop training exercise scheduled for December. The tabletop exercise is planned for December 15 and will include emergency response personnel and participating agencies.

Road and Bridge
Ness County Road & Bridge/Landfill Supervisor Bryan Whipple met with Commission.
Crossing permit was approved for Silas Albers to install a waterline.
Culvert inventory was discussed.
Whipple reported $110.00 in landfill fees.
Discussed purchase options for a dump truck.
Colby Butler of Kirkham Michael presented a recap of Kirkham Michael's activities since September 21, 2026.

Minutes and Correspondence
Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 13, 2026, were reviewed, approved, and signed as corrected. Correspondence was reviewed and acknowledged.

Commission
Discussion was held regarding implementation of a county service fee for driver's license renewals.
Motion: Upon the motion of Davis, seconded by Albers, Commission unanimously voted to adopt Resolution #2026-08, setting forth fees charged for driver's license in Ness County.

RESOLUTION 2026-08

A RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH FEES CHARGED BY THE NESS COUNTY DRIVER'S LICENSE DIVISION BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1, 2026.

WHEREAS, the Treasurer's office of Ness County, Kansas provides driver's license services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners wishes to recover a portion of the costs of said services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NESS COUNTY, KANSAS, as follows:

1. That the Ness County service fee for driver's license transactions for in county or out of county residents, is set at $7.00 per application.
2. Said service fee is to take effect November 1, 2026.
3. This resolution sets forth in resolution form and otherwise confirms the action of the Board of County Commissioners on October 19, 2026.
4. Any prior Resolution that is inconsistent with the resolution herein is hereby repealed.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Ness County, Kansas this 19th Day of October 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
NESS COUNTY, KANSAS

Treasurer
Ness County Treasurer Malee Schaben met with the Commission to discuss financial investments and review investment options for the County.

NextEra
Devon Pishalski, project manager for NextEra Energy met with Commission to follow up on discussion on installing a back-up battery in north Ness County.

Brian Gabel
Brian Gabel joined Commissioner meeting to discuss crushed concrete project.

Ness County EMS
Ness County EMS Director Kathy Clouston met with the Commission to discuss equipment purchases using funds received through donations.
Clouston will attend an invitation-only exploratory trip to Missouri and eastern Kansas to learn about its implemented Community Healthcare Worker system. Ness County is working toward becoming the first county in western Kansas to implement this program.

Road and Bridge
Ness County Road & Bridge/Landfill Supervisor Bryan Whipple returned to follow-up on discussion of dump truck with more information.

Commission
A conference call to Noxious Weed Director Chilton Miller was made. Commission requested that he acquire additional bids on a 4-wheeler purchase for the Department.

Attorney
Ness County Attorney Jacob Gayer met with Commission. Gayer gave overview of conference on Digital Evidence for Prosecutors that he attended October 5-9.
An update on the Judicial Tax Foreclosure sale was provided.
Accounts Payable was reviewed and approved by Gayer for October 16, 2026.

Commission
Ness County Clerk Lori Hertel presented the 2027 Holiday schedule for review.
Motion: Upon the motion of Albers, seconded by Davis, Commission unanimously approved an amended Holiday Schedule for 2027. This schedule will be updated in Ness County's Policy Manual.

Accounts Payable
Accounts Payable dated October 16, 2026, were reviewed, approved, and signed by Commission.

Daily Statement
Daily Statements for October 1- 15, 2025, were reviewed, approved, and signed by Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Attest:

Travis Petersilie, Chairman

Lori Hertel, County Clerk