

Labette County Board of Commissioners

April 30, 2025

Convene

Chairman Vincent B. Schibi called the regular session of the Labette County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:05 a.m. on April 30, 2025, at the Labette County Courtroom. Attendance: Tom Barrett, Present, Vincent B. Schibi, Present, Terry Weidert, Present.

Others Present for the Meeting

County Counselor Brian K. Johnson, and Deputy County Clerk Lorrie Boulware.

Media Present

Ray Nolting from the Parsons Sun.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Terry Weidert made a motion to approve the minutes of April 21, 2025. Tom Barrett seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Tom Barrett (Yes), Terry Weidert (Yes), Vincent B. Schibi (Yes).

Judicial Center Roof

Chairman Vincent B. Schibi updated the commissioners on the repairs to the Judicial Center roof and interior following a water leak.

Sanitation Concerns

Sanitation Officer Charles Morse informed the commissioners about an email he received from the Kansas Bureau of Environmental Field Services, Environmental Specialist Supervisor Adrian Miller detailing some concerns about sanitation issues. No action was recommended by the State. A discussion was held concerning water contamination. The commissioners advised Mr. Morse to seek advice about water testing from the Wildcat Extension office.

Landfill Discussion

Discussion was held about the contract concerns with GFL Environmental Inc. Several citizens made comments and had questions concerning landfill options for Labette County.

Solid Waste Permitting

Kansas Department of Health & Environment Solid Waste Permit Section Chief Heather Merritt gave a presentation concerning the application and permitting process for landfills and incinerators in Kansas.

Recess

Commissioners recessed their meeting for 10 minutes and reconvened at 10:48 a.m. in the Commission Room.

Public Works Phone System

Public Works Director Sandy Krider and Assistant Public Works Director Ralph George informed the commissioners about problems they have been experiencing with their current phone system. They presented a proposal from Parcom to upgrade to a SIP line. Commissioner Terry Weidert made a motion to approve the proposal. Tom Barrett seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Tom Barrett (Yes), Terry Weidert (Yes), Vincent B. Schibi (Abstain).

Public Works Updates

Public Works Director Sandy Krider and Assistant Public Works Director Ralph George let the commissioners know that they will be taking pipe bids. They also gave a report about the Purple Wave auction that concluded on April 29, 2025.

Road Maintenance Discussion

Public Works Director Sandy Krider and Assistant Public Works Director Ralph George had a discussion with the commissioners concerning a section of Ness Road near Altamont and who is responsible for the maintenance of that section. Commissioner Terry Weidert said that he would reach out to Altamont Mayor Richard Hayward to get more information.

Minimum Maintenance Road

Commissioner Terry Weidert informed the other commissioners that he had been contacted by a group who will be doing excavation work at the Bender site, and they requested some road improvements be made in the area of 25000 Road and Chase Road. This section of the road is currently a minimum maintenance road. After discussion with Public Works Director Sandy Krider and Assistant Public Works Director Ralph George, it was recommended that the road stay as a minimum maintenance road. Commissioner Terry Weidert made a motion to rescind the resolution declaring that section as a minimum maintenance road. The motion failed for a lack of a second.

Darrell Shouse

Darrell Shouse appeared in person at the Labette County commission meeting, but due to his threatening of potential litigation against the county, no action was taken, and the matter will be handled by the attorneys, if necessary.

City of Chetopa Mayor

Newly appointed City of Chetopa Mayor Bob Boyd introduced himself to the commissioners and thanked them for their help with a recent water main break.

Recess

Commissioners recessed their meeting for 3 minutes and reconvened at 11:30 a.m. in the Commission Room.

Diversion Fund

Sheriff Eichinger informed the commissioners that he is appreciative of the help his department has been given through the County Attorney's diversion fund.

On-Call Supervisor

Sheriff Darren Eichinger discussed with the commissioners his policy of having an on-call supervisor from Friday evening to Monday morning and how that is handled. County Counselor Brian K. Johnson and the commissioners are fine with the policy.

Executive Session

Commissioner Vincent B. Schibi made a motion to go into executive session for non-elected personnel, to protect the privacy of the individual(s) to be discussed. Tom Barrett seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Tom Barrett (Yes), Terry Weidert (Yes), Vincent B. Schibi (Yes). Also present was County Counselor Brian K. Johnson and Sheriff Darren Eichinger for a period of fifteen minutes to reconvene at 11:59 a.m. in the commission room.

Payroll

Chairman Vincent B. Schibi made a motion to approve the following checks: Payroll check numbers 1812 to 1813 in the amount of \$5,002.76 and Direct Deposit numbers 826493 through 826619 in the amount of \$376,910.77 for a total amount of \$381,913.53. Terry Weidert seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Tom Barrett (Yes), Terry Weidert (Yes), Vincent B. Schibi (Yes).

Accounts Payable

Chairman Vincent B. Schibi made a motion to approve the following checks: Accounts Payable check numbers 37227 through 37338 in the amount of \$724,661.62. Tom Barrett seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Tom Barrett (Yes), Terry Weidert (Yes), Vincent B. Schibi (Yes).

County Appraiser

Commissioner Terry Weidert discussed the options for a contract for the County Appraiser position. Further discussion will be held at the May 5, 2025 commission meeting.

Solar Field Update

Chairman Vincent B. Schibi gave an update concerning a proposed solar field.

Juneteenth Committee Request

Chairman Vincent B. Schibi informed the commissioners that he had been contacted by a member of the Juneteenth Committee requesting a donation from Labette County for their Juneteenth Celebration. After a discussion by the commissioners, it was determined that they would continue their policy of not donating county taxpayer funds for community celebrations.

2026 Budget Preparation

Commissioners discussed the timeline for the preparation of the 2026 Labette County Budget.

SEK Regional Juvenile Detention Center

Commissioner Tom Barrett presented a letter of support for additional secure care beds at the Southeast Kansas Regional Juvenile Detention Center in Girard. Commissioner Terry Weidert made a motion for commissioner signatures on the letter of support. Vincent B. Schibi seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Tom Barrett (Yes), Terry Weidert (Yes), Vincent B. Schibi (Yes).

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. Monday, May 5, 2025.

Attest

Deputy County Clerk, Lorrie Boulware

Chairman, Vincent B. Schibi