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WANTED

LAWN SERVICE - Do you need Lawn Service? Call Mark @ 620-214-9629.
 39p41

BIDS

ACCEPTING BIDS - Russell County Commissioners will be accepting sealed bids for the sale and removal of the white goods/metal stockpile located at the Russell County Landfill until 9:00 a.m., Mon., May 5, 2025. For specifications contact Russell County Highway Dept., 4288 E. Hwy 40, Russell, KS 67665 or call (785) 483-4032.
 40n42

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED - Farm help wanted. Experience preferrable. (785) 698-2292. Leave a message.
 40n41

Home Oil Service & Convenience Store, Inc.
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Russell County Commission meets

(From the Unofficial and Unapproved minutes of the Russell County Commission Meeting held on April 7, 2025)

At 9:00 a.m., Duke Strobel made the motion to open the meeting and approve the minutes of the March 17, 2025, meeting. Dean Haselhorst seconded. Steve Reinhardt voted yes, and Jason Krug voted yes. The motion passed. Commissioner Alan Kuntzsch was absent. Others present at the meeting were Administrator Stephanie Grisham, County Attorney Dan Krug, and County Clerk Kristi Whitman.

The Commissioners had their review. The Commission would like to speak with Deb Scheibler with Workforce One before making any decisions. Duke Strobel made a motion to appoint Nick Turner to the Russell County Fair Board. Steve Reinhardt seconded the motion. Jason Krug voted yes. Dean Haselhorst voted yes. Motion passed. Jason Krug said Pheasants Forever was interested in using the 4H Building next year. Duke Strobel stated someone asked about road conditions in a township. Duke stated he spoke with the Township Trustee, and they stated they did not need Russell County's help at this time. Steve Reinhardt stated he received a complaint about the approach at a bridge near Mark Mai. Justin Mermis, Co-Public Works Director, stated Penco is reviewing recommendations to fix it.

Justin Mermis, Interim Public Works Co-Director, presented the Engineer Report to the Commission. There will be a Hell Creek Bridge Zoom meeting on May 14th. The 2025 Annual Township Meeting minutes were presented. Dean Haselhorst made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2025 Annual Township Meeting. Steve Reinhardt seconded the motion. Jason Krug voted yes. Duke Strobel voted yes. The motion passed.

Justin Mermis, Interim Public Works Co-Director, stated they will put the Metal Pile bid advertisement in the newspapers, KRSL, and on the website. Rural Water District #3 had a water leak. The water district had to dig a hole in a county road that will need to be repaired and billed back to the water district.

At 9:30 am Duke Strobel made the

motion to open the haying bids. Steve Reinhardt seconded. Dean Haselhorst voted yes, and Jason Krug voted yes. The motion passed.

Duke Strobel made the motion to accept the high bids for haying. Steve Reinhardt seconded. Jason Krug voted yes. The motion passed.

Given to Dean Haselhorst for \$275.00 for Lot #1 Beginning at 175th Street - 4 miles East to 179th Street

North and South sides of Highway 40 ALSO, on 176th Street, from Gorham city limits South 1 mile to I-70

East and West sides of 176 th Street
Given to Sandra Krug for \$250.00 for Lot #2 Beginning at 179th Street - 5 miles East to 184th Street

North side only of Highway 40

Given to Sandra Krug for \$250.00 for Lot #3 Beginning at 179th Street - 5 miles East to 184th Street

South side only of Highway 40

There were no bids for Lot #4 Beginning at 187th Street - 2 miles East to 189th Street

North and South sides of Highway 40

There were no bids for Lot #5 Beginning at 189th Street - 4 miles East to 193rd Street

North and South sides of Highway 40

There were no bids for Lot #6 Beginning at 193rd Street - 6.5 miles East to 200th Boulevard

North and South sides of Highway 40

There were no bids for Lot #7 Beginning at 200th Boulevard - 4.5 miles East to 204th Street

North and South sides of Highway 40

ALSO, on 200th Blvd, from Dorrance city limits North to I-70

¾ mile

East and West sides of 200th Blvd

Justin Mermis, Interim Public Works Co-Director, said three employees will be going to distributor training in Wichita on April 16th. There are eleven windows damaged in last years storm that need to be replaced. Justin had a price of \$19,000.00. County Administrator Stephanie Grisham will check to see if they were covered by insurance. Notification was received from Ellis County of a public hearing on April 23, 2025, for a plat application from Charlotte David-Pierson and Jessica Dockendorf. The land

is located in Ellis County, but Russell County maintains the road. The Commission will revisit the landfill hours at the next Commission meeting.

Midway Extension District #15 representatives Clint Laflin, Karrie Van Winkle, Craig Dinkel, and Jessica Kootz gave an update on what's been happening in Russell County Midway Extension District #15. Updates include getting ready for the county fair, hiring livestock judges, 4H club members are increasing, soil fertility and gardening clinics, water conservation, daycare assessment needs, increasing marketing efforts, and town hall meetings.

Representatives from Russell Regional Hospital gave a review of the County Board Financials and Operating Board Financials. Discussion on bad debt recovery, critical access support, and the part the Commissioners play in the hospital. Russell Regional Hospital is not pursuing daycare anymore. Duke Strobel asked about donations from the Hospital. David Caudill stated that to keep the 501c3 they are required to donate to the community.

LaDana Seirer, Luray Senior Center, did not attend.

Mike Parsons, Economic Development Director asked the Commission to extend the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan ninety days for Nathan Birney. Duke Strobel made a motion to grant the 90-day extension to July 23, 2025, for Nathan Birney to complete his project. Dean Haselhorst seconded. Steve Reinhardt voted yes, and Jason Krug voted yes. The motion passed. Mike stated the current Neighborhood Revitalization Plan will expire January 1, 2026. A new contract will need to be passed this year if entities want the Neighborhood Revitalization Program to continue. A discussion on housing was held.

Sheriff Andrew Van Der Wege stated the Reno County Youth Services Contract included a daily rate increase change. The contract needed to be reviewed and signed. Duke Strobel made a motion to approve the contract with Reno County Youth Services with the daily rate increase to \$165.00 per day from \$150.00 per day. Steve Reinhardt seconded the motion. Jason Krug voted yes. Dean Haselhorst voted yes. Motion passed. Sheriff Van Der Wege stated there is an inmate with special medical needs that the Sheriff's Office will be seeking medical action in Great Bend.

Dan Krug, County Attorney, stated he is purchasing a new copier for \$5,320.00 from OPI to be paid out of the Diversion Fund. Additional costs will include a surge protector and a service agreement.

At 11:46 am Duke Strobel made the motion to enter into a 5-minute executive session for attorney-client privilege with County Attorney Dan Krug and Administrator Stephanie Grisham in attendance. Jason Krug seconded the motion. Steve Reinhardt voted yes. Dean Haselhorst voted yes. Motion passed. At 11:51 am the meeting resumed with no action taken.

Trisha Strobel needed a couple signatures for the signature cards at the bank. Trisha stated there are sixty-six properties scheduled for the tax sale. The list was given to County Attorney Dan Krug and Security 1 st to start the process. No date has been set.

At 12:06 pm Duke Strobel made the motion to enter into a 5-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with Treasurer Trisha Strobel and Administrator Stephanie Grisham in attendance. Dean Haselhorst seconded. Steve Reinhardt voted yes. Jason Krug voted yes. Motion passed. At 12:11 pm the executive session was extended an additional 5 minutes. At 12:16 pm the executive session was extended an additional 5 minutes. At 12:21 pm the meeting resumed with no action taken. At 12:23 pm Duke Strobel made the motion to enter into a 5-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with Treasurer Trisha Strobel, Administrator Stephanie Grisham, and County Attorney Dan Krug in attendance. At 12:28 pm the meeting resumed with no action taken.

At 12:28 pm Duke Strobel made the motion to enter into a 5-minute executive session for attorney-client privilege with County Attorney Dan Krug and Administrator Stephanie Grisham in attendance. Jason Krug seconded the motion. Steve Reinhardt voted yes. Dean Haselhorst voted yes. Motion passed. At 12:31 pm the meeting resumed with no action taken.

Russell City Manager Kayla Schnieder and 911 Director Alese Hageman brought in an updated quote for the 911 Communications software from First Wireless, Inc in the amount of \$229,647.62. Discussion was held to take the cost out of 911 and Capital Improvement funds, to not deplete the 911 fund per the 911 Coordinating Council. Duke Strobel made a motion to purchase software from First Wireless, Inc in the amount of \$229,647.62. Dean Haselhorst seconded the motion. Steve Reinhardt voted yes. Jason Krug voted no. Motion passed. Alese and Kayla will figure up how much money to leave in the 911 fund and if the quote changes in price, they will let the commission know. There were concerns tariffs could raise the cost.

At 12:51 pm Duke Strobel made the motion to enter into a 10-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with Administrator Stephanie Grisham in attendance. Jason Krug seconded. Steve Reinhardt voted yes. Dean Haselhorst voted yes. Motion passed. At 1:01 pm the executive session was extended an additional 5 minutes. At 1:06 pm the executive session was extended an additional 5 minutes. At 1:11 pm the meeting resumed with no action taken.

At 1:12 pm Duke Strobel made the motion to enter into a 10-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with Justin Mermis and Administrator Stephanie Grisham in attendance. Dean Haselhorst seconded. Steve Reinhardt voted yes. Jason Krug voted yes. Motion passed. At 1:22 pm the meeting resumed with no action taken.

At 1:23 pm Duke Strobel made the motion to enter into a 5-minute executive session for non-elected personnel with Administrator Stephanie Grisham in attendance. Dean Haselhorst seconded. Steve Reinhardt voted yes. Jason Krug voted yes. Motion passed. At 1:29 pm the executive session was extended and additional 5 minutes. At 1:34 pm the meeting resumed with no action taken.

Duke Strobel made a motion to hire Justin Mermis as Public Works Director with a ninety-day probation period. Steve Reinhardt seconded the motion. Dean Haselhorst voted yes. Jason Krug voted no. Motion passed.

Checks were approved and signed to be deducted from the following funds:

100 General.....	\$22,938.67
110 Road & Bridge.....	\$27,327.27
120 Special Bridge.....	\$58.89
130 Noxious Weed.....	\$415.50
140 4-H.....	\$528.49
150 CVB.....	\$4,710.35
155 Economic Development.....	\$1,252.34
180 Election.....	\$272.82
190 Ambulance.....	\$1,312.35
210 Capital Improvement.....	\$7,493.60
260 County Health.....	\$223.68
290 Gorham Fire #1.....	\$8,251.31
300 Lucas Fire #2.....	\$261.48
310 Wal-Par-Nat Fire #3.....	\$1,067.80
320 Dorrance Fire #4.....	\$32.40
328 Russell Co Fire #5.....	\$961.51
330 Appraiser.....	\$352.90
340 Special R & B.....	\$1,258.18
360 Solid Waste.....	\$12,917.91
380 Emergency Telephone.....	\$3,412.99

Tax corrections 2025000023 through 2025000026 were signed with a tax decrease of \$14,001.86.

At 1:37 pm Duke Strobel made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jason Krug seconded. Dean Haselhorst voted yes. Steve Reinhardt voted yes. Motion passed.

The next meeting for the Russell County Commissioners will be Monday, April 21, 2025, beginning at 9:00 am in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse.

Remember to SHOP at HOME!

Advertise in the Lucas-Sylvan News
1-800-286-7571

RS CO Treasurer's Office new hours

The Russell County Treasurer's Office is changing their office hours, effective May 2.

The new hours of operation will be Monday through Thursday from 7:30 AM to 5 PM and on Friday from 7:30 AM to 1 PM.

This change will still allow residents the convenience of accessing all services before the workday starts. In addition, the office will continue to operate with a small staff, due to budget cuts, while allowing employees more flexibility.

"I am committed to providing excellent customer service while maintaining

a positive work environment," said Russell County Treasurer Trisha Strobel. "By retaining experienced staff, reducing turnover and responding to employee needs, I feel the organization strengthens and provides the best value and service to our taxpayers."

All employees will continue to work a minimum of 40 hours each week. Employees will work until 1:30 PM on Fridays to finish helping customers and other office duties.

If you have any questions, call the Russell County Treasurer's Office at 785-483-2251.

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