

Sylvan Grove City Council meets

(From the Unofficial and Unapproved minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Sylvan Grove City Council held September 8, 2025)

Attendance: Mayor Stephen Boor, Council members: Ryan Gier, Darren Ammon, Brent Pahls, and Jeremy Wacker

City Employees: Sara Gier City Clerk, Kaden Gier City Superintendent

Guests: Tyler Gier-Sylvan Lucas Unified

Mayor Stephen Boor called the City Council meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ryan Gier made a motion to approved minutes as presented. Darren Ammon seconded, and the motion carried (3-0).

Tyler Gier representing Sylvan- Lucas Unified requested councils' approval to seek grants for improvements to the softball field. Jeremy Wacker made a motion to grant the school permission to pursue a grant for refurbishing the softball field surface. Ryan Gier seconded, and motion carried (3-0).

There will be a public hearing regarding the water line project set for September 29th at 4:00 P.M. There must be a quorum present to sign paperwork.

Brent Pahls entered the meeting.

The preliminary engineering report for the water line project was received, and the south end of town had not been looped in. Looping the water lines in on the south end of town would help with chlorine residuals in that area. Council reviewed the money figures and the maps for the project. Brent Pahls made a motion to allow Schwab Eaton to add Alternate #1 Loop from Virginia to Kentucky in the amount of \$53,647.50. Darren Ammon seconded the motion, and it passed (4-0).

City Superintendent Kaden Gier gave his report. The Badboy mower is currently broken, a pulley went out and

the new pulley should be here this week. The tree pile has been mostly burned. There was a water leak on Ohio Street that has been fixed. The alarm at the water plant has been fixed by Pierce Electronics, the alarm was being caused by loose wires in the VFD cabinet. The temperature sensor at the water tower needs to be replaced. Work benches were donated to the city by Land Pride in Lucas. The trailer hitch has been installed on the work pickup. Enzymes have been added to the lift station to help with grease build up at the lagoon. Several potholes have been filled around town.

The discussion about the grapple for the loader was continued this month and has been tabled for a future meeting.

Darren Ammon made a motion to accept financials as presented. Ryan Gier seconded and carried motion (4-0).

A new computer was purchased for the office because the old computer is not compatible with Windows 11.

The conversation about alleys that started last month continued. City Clerk Sara Gier had reviewed other towns' ordinances and had found that the homeowner was responsible for cleaning to the middle of the alley. City Clerk Sara Gier will discuss our nuisance ordinance with city attorney Chantz Martin and see if we need to change the wording in the ordinance to include alleys.

Council discussed whether we should have a set fee for new sewer and water main taps. City Clerk Sara Gier will have a proposed ordinance for the October meeting.

Ryan Gier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeremy Wacker seconded and carried motion (4-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

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ADVERTISING WORKS

October Health Calendar

Oct. 13...KRSL - People In the News - 98.1 - Join Erik Stone the RRH Staff

Oct. 15...Take 30: w/Dr. Somers @ RRH Classroom 9-9:30am - Wound Care

Oct. 20...Mammo Night at 4-7 pm
Call (785) 483-3131, press 6 to schedule

Oct. 27...RRH County Board Meeting at 5:30 pm RRH Classroom

Oct. 31...Health Fair - Specialty Clinic Lobby 6:30 a, to 9:30 am by appt. Call 785-483-3131 and press 9 for appt.

Main Street Manor - Trick or Treat - 3rd Floor 3pm-5pm or until the candy is gone

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Russell County Commission meet

(From the Unofficial and Unapproved minutes of the Russell County Commission Meeting held on September 15, 2025.)

At 9:00 a.m., Duke Strobel made a motion to open the meeting and approve the minutes of the September 2, 2025, meeting. Dean Haselhorst seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Others present at the meeting were County Administrator Stephanie Grisham, County Attorney Dan Krug, and County Clerk Kristi Whitman.

The Commissioners had their review. The Commissioners discussed the upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Day on Saturday, September 20, 2025, from 8:00 am to noon. Discussion on possibly changing collection days and hours. Discussion on road and bridge conditions of the county and townships.

At 9:15 am, Duke Strobel made the motion to open the public hearing for the 2026 Gorham Fire District #1 Budget. Steve Reinhardt seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The hearing was open to public comment. Alan Kuntzsch made the motion to approve the Gorham Fire District #1 2026 Budget of \$182,907, levying \$122,822 with an estimated mill levy of 6.985. Duke Strobel seconded. The motion passed unanimously. At 9:19 am, Duke Strobel made the motion to close the public hearing. Steve Reinhardt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Justin Mermis, Public Works Director, gave an update on the Road and Bridge Department. Justin met with Fairview Township about the County helping with road maintenance. It was stated that Fairview Township would not need the county's help this year. Chip sealing on Highway 40 is complete and is now working on the road between Bunker Hill and Luray. Duke Strobel asked Justin to find out the cost of hiring out the chip sealing. The conditions of the county roads and bridge approaches were discussed. Justin stated they are still short-handed. Justin stated that two grants that were applied for were denied.

Paradise Waldo Natoma District #3 Fire Chief Dustin Finkenbinder and Paradise Fire District #3 member Todd Schneider presented an estimate for bunker gear in the amount of \$27,787.00. Dustin said he is applying for a grant to cover some of the cost. Alan Kuntzsch made the motion to purchase the bunker gear in the amount of \$27,787.00 for Natoma Paradise Waldo Fire District #3 to be paid out of the General Fund. Duke Strobel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

County Clerk Kristi Whitman stated Economic Development/CVB Director Mike Parsons requested the Commission issue a credit card in ED/CVB Assistant Director Ryleigh Wagner's name with a \$5,000.00 credit limit. Duke Strobel made a motion to issue a credit card in ED/CVB Assistant Director Ryleigh Wagner's name with a \$5,000.00 credit limit. Dean Haselhorst seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chris Brown, Zoning Director, presented Resolution 2025-11 requesting a zoning book change From: 49. Dog Kennel: Any place where more than three dogs are kept, maintained, boarded, bred for a fee or offered for sale. A-dog is defined as any member of any canine species over six months of age. This definition includes dogs which are kept or maintained as pets. To: 49. Dog Kennel: Any place where more than five dogs are kept, maintained, boarded, bred for a fee or offered for sale. This definition includes dogs which are kept or maintained as pets. Not for profit efforts, including temporary housing or rehoming efforts shall not be considered a Dog Kennel. A dog is defined as any member of any canine species over six months of age. Duke Strobel made a motion to pass Resolution 2025-11. Dean Haselhorst seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chris Brown presented Resolution 2025-12, requesting a zoning change for a tract of land in the Southeast Quarter (SE/4) of Section 6, Township 14 South, Range 11 West of the 6th Principal Meridian, Russell County, Kansas. MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS: A Tract beginning at a point on the existing Highway Right-of-Way which is 633.42 feet North and 160.30 feet East of the Southwest corner of said quarter section; thence East 200 feet; thence North 393.66 feet parallel to the West line of said quarter section; thence West 354.32 feet to a point on the existing

Highway Right-of-Way; thence on the Highway Right-of-Way Southeasterly 398.27 feet; thence continuing on the Highway Right-of-Way South 100 feet to the place of beginning.. This property is also known as 4115 200th Blvd, Dorrance, KS. from an A-1 General Agricultural District classification as specified in Article XVI of the Russell County Zoning Regulations to a B-4 General Business District classification. Duke Strobel made a motion to pass Resolution 2025-12. Alan Kuntzsch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chris Brown stated Post Rock Rural Water does not allow new meters yet, but they will be meeting tomorrow, and that may change.

Mike Parsons, Economic Development and CVB Director, led a discussion on the renewal of the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan tax abatement that needs to be renewed this year. It was the consensus of the Commission to extend the plan from a three-year renewal to a five-year renewal and have Mike meet with the townships, school districts, and County for their approval, prepare public notices for public hearings, collect signatures, and send the plan to the Attorney General's Office for their approval.

Neil Unrein, Gorham City Mayor, gave an update on what is going on in Gorham. The city-wide cleanup was successful, meter reading went electronic, the waterpark project, the street dance, increased property valuation, and the Gorham Fire District #1 2026 Budget was discussed. Commissioner Dean Haselhorst was thanked for attending the City of Gorham Council meetings and for all his help in the community.

County Attorney Dan Krug presented Resolution 2025-13 to start the process to conduct a tax sale on delinquent properties. Duke Strobel made a motion to pass Resolution 2025-13. Alan Kuntzsch seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Treasurer Trisha Strobel stated she received the first bill from Security 1st for abstracts on the delinquent properties in the amount of \$7,875.00.

Sheriff Andrew Van Der Wege and Undersheriff Scott Axtell discussed a grant received from the Attorney General Law Enforcement Grants in the amount of \$16,142.00 for body-worn cameras worn by road officers, part-time lake officer, and jail staff. The grant funds cover hardware, training, and setup fees. There will be an additional cloud storage fee of \$11,000.00 after the second year of use.

At 11:03 am, Duke Strobel made the motion to enter into a 15-minute executive session for attorney-client privilege to discuss a leasing contract with County Attorney Dan Krug and Administrator Stephanie Grisham in attendance. Steve Reinhardt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. At 11:16 am, the meeting resumed with no action taken.

Duke Strobel made a motion to send a letter to Midway Extension District #15 stating termination of the current lease contract and presenting a new lease contract. Jason Krug seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

100 GENERAL	\$127,993.43
110 ROAD & BRIDGE	\$8,605.63
130 NOXIOUS WEED	\$6,914.60
140 4-H	\$928.36
150 CVB	\$4,903.09
155 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$3,772.91
180 ELECTION	\$168.30
190 AMBULANCE	\$10,022.46
210 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	\$52,853.20
260 COUNTY HEALTH	\$2,821.24
290 GORHAM FIRE #1	\$3,019.67
300 LUCAS FIRE #2	\$1,292.71
310 WAL-PAR-NAT FIRE #3	\$342.63
320 DORRANCE FIRE #4	\$9,575.57
328 RUSSELL CO FIRE #5	\$340.84
330 APPRAISER	\$1,424.34
340 SPECIAL R&B	\$1,595.50
360 SOLID WASTE	\$5,017.26
370 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$18.76
380 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE	\$176,354.82
435 REG OF DEEDS TECH FUND	\$300.54
718 CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD	\$1,104.00

At 11:18 am, Duke Strobel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dean Haselhorst seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ages 4 -12 - \$ 5 (3D-\$ 6)

Adults - \$ 6 (3D - \$ 7)

PG-13

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