

Worship With Us

THIS SUNDAY



County Commissioners meeting

Chairman Marvin Matchett called the meeting of the Norton County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. on May 19, 2025, in the Commission Room. Those in attendance included: Chairman Marvin Matchett, Commissioner Garrett Beydler, Commissioner Richard Thompson, EMS Director Craig Sowards and County Clerk Craig Renner.

General Discussion
Weekly correspondence, past minutes, letter of appreciation, 2026 funding requests and an invoice were distributed to the commissioners. Commissioner Matchett reported on the federal requirement that all websites be ADA compliant by January 1, 2026. The commissioners requested that the budgets be distributed to all department heads for review.

EMS
Director Sowards wanted clarification on how the new sales tax revenue was being categorized and how it is to be spent. The commissioner's reinforced that the tax was to be used for equipment purchases for the department and to offset any shortfalls in the operating budget. Director Sowards presented a list of purchases that the department felt it had immediate needs for. The list totaled around \$48,000.00 in the discussion, Director Sowards let the commission know that a new ambulance, if ordered today would not be delivered until 2029, but that the price could be locked in with only a verbal commitment. The commission advised him to lock in the price. Director Sowards left at 9:21 a.m.

County Health
Leslie Pfannenstiel, County Health Director, joined the meeting at 9:29 a.m. Ted White, Landfill Supervisor, joined the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Leslie was in to talk about the roof on her facility. There are several limbs down and a couple of limbs on the roof. In her research she found that the roof was new in 2010. The commissioner's advised Leslie to reach out to a couple of contractors to check on the condition of the roof. The commission informed her they would reach out to Terry Laughlin to schedule a time for the prison crew to come and clean up the limbs and branches. Leslie left the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

Landfill
Ted presented a change order for the landfill project. Commissioner Beydler was aware of the change as it was presented at the pre-construction meeting. The change was for an increased cost of \$11,139.25. The change extends the size of the pit to accommodate large rain events.

Commissioner Beydler moved to pay the increased cost of \$11,139.25 to extend the pit on the phase 2 project at the landfill to mitigate the effects of a large rain event. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Ted inquired about getting help from the Road and Bridge Department to cross train on operating equipment in the event that his department runs short of help. The commission was in support and requested that he and Road and Bridge Supervisor Terry Laughlin work out the schedule. Ted reported that Big Iron sale representative never followed up for his items to put up for auction. Ted left the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Road and Bridge
Terry Laughlin, Road and Bridge Supervisor, joined the meeting at 9:59 a.m. He reported that he met with Penco and was quoted a price of \$15,000.00 to perform a survey to design a plan to stop the flooding in Alma. Terry is still meeting and progressing with the City of Alma. He has identified the county's role and work that needs to be done. He reported on the results of the items that sold last week on Big Iron. Terry Laughlin left the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

Chamber of Commerce
Dru Kasson and Natalie Eveleigh joined the meeting at 10:26 a.m. Dru presented the commission prices and brochures for the walk-through Christmas display to be held at Elmwood Park this coming December. After the presentation and discussion, Commissioner Beydler moved that the County purchase the Snowy Tree and Waving Santa displays totaling \$1,690.00 as the County's contribution to the event. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Dru and Natalie left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Appraiser's Office
Mindy Harting joined the

meeting at 10:54 a.m. She reported on the retirement party for Alan Hale. The commission thanked her and her staff for their efforts. She clarified the recent event with her office and a patron. She explained that the appraisal process is basically two phases. The first phase is called Data Collection. The State Statute requires that each property be physically measured once every six years. Basically, 17% of the county is being physically inspected and measured each year. The other phase is called Final Review. Each year in the fall, the appraisal office inspects all the properties in Norton County to confirm any changes from the previous year. This process is a basic drive by inspection with limited interaction with patrons unless there was new construction. Mindy presented her proposed appraisers contract for the commissioners to review. Mindy left the meeting at 11:23 a.m. The EMS crew joined the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

EMS
The EMS crew joined the meeting at 11:24 a.m. The EMS crew was represented by: Craig Sowards, Sandra Sowards, Matt Rushton, David Porter, Natalie Scofield, Gary Flannigan, and Valerie Geringer. Those not able to attend were Jessica Horton, Samantha Keenan, Kristina Herl, Haley Redeker, Jill Edgett, Melissa McClain, Bruce Rushton, Sierra Wahlmeier, Faith Smith and Tanya Guthrie. Bud Posson previous Norton County Commissioner was also in attendance. The EMS department asked that the Norton County Commission sign the EMS proclamation stating:

EMS Week Proclamation
To designate the Week of May 18-24, 2025, as Emergency Medical Services Week (EMS Week).

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services fills healthcare gaps by providing important out-of-hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating the Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, We, the Norton County Commissioners in Norton, KS in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 18-24, 2025, as
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

The 51st anniversary of EMS Week theme is EMS WEEK: We Care. For Everyone. We encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities in honor of the EMS profession and the essential service it provides.

The commissioner signed the proclamation as presented. The EMS crew left at 11:30 a.m.

Patron Call
At 11:35 a.m. on the speaker phone, Chairman Matchett called Craig Knapp to relay his finding regarding the recent visit from the Appraisers office and his concerns about being singled out. Marvin explained how the process works, the yearly final review, the data collection once every 6 years, the appraisers office wear identifying clothing and name tags, the vehicle is marked and a letter was sent 30 days prior to each property owner in the section to be collected on. It was simply an anomaly that they were at his property in such a short time frame between inspections.

Budget
The commission requested that County Clerk Renner schedule all of the department heads to come before the commission with their proposed 2026 budgets.

Minutes
Commissioner Thompson moved to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2025, commissioners meeting. Commissioner Beydler seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjournment
Commissioner Beydler moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. With no further business, Chairman Matchett adjourned the meeting.

Friday - 10:00 a.m. Prayer Warriors
Crossroads Messages
Preacher/Teacher
Terry Laughlin
603 Sunset Dr., Norton, KS 67654
Phone (785) 877-7279
e-mail -crossroads@ruraltel.net
www.standatthecrossroads.com



First Church of God
Pastor Chris Murphy
christopherjmurphy1@gmail.com
Phone 785-202-1119
1010 Churchill Dr./877-2181
cog@ruraltel.net
www.firstchurchofgods.com
Wednesday - 10:00 a.m., Adult Bible Study
Sunday - 9:00 a.m. Morning Worship; 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship; 10:30 a.m. Orange Kids
Monday - 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Men's Small Group; 7:00 p.m., Ladies Small Group

First United Methodist
Methodist Church,
Reverend Darlene Sheffer
Phone 785-874-8811
805 W. Wilberforce, Norton
Church Email:
nfumc@ruraltel.net
Church Office Phone
785-877-2196

Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School in Parlor; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Youth Sunday School
Monday, June 239 - 12:15-12:45 p.m., Kid's Cafe.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
14715 W. Washington Road
Phone 785-877-2430
Pastor Matthew Goehring
Sunday - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service; After School Midweek Program for Grades K-6; Wednesdays at 3:45 p.m.; Bible Studies on Sundays at both 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Our free after-school midweek program for elementary age kids is held on Wednesdays. Snacks, Bible stories, and fun. New students are welcome anytime! Contact the Church to Register

Living Hope Fellowship

One mile south of Norton
at corner of PDRA Road
Pastor Jerry Cummings
Phone 785-877-2426
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship and Praise Service

Norton Christian Church
Nate Hagen, Minister
Justin Brodie, Youth Minister
Garret Roland, Connections
and Family Coordinator
HYPERLINK
"http://www.nortoncc.com"
www.nortoncc.com
208 N. Kansas, 877-2871
Tuesday - 6:00 p.m., CR Step Study
Wednesday - 6:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting
Thursday - 7:00 p.m., Celebrate Recovery
Sunday - 8:30 a.m., First Worship; 9:45 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 a.m., Second Service
Monday - 6:00 p.m., Prayer Hour

Norton Ministerial Alliance
Andbe Home Services, 2 p.m.

St. Francis of Assisi
Catholic Church
Rev. Joshua Werth, Pastor
Phone 785-877-2234
stfranci@ruraltel.net
website:
http://stfrancisassisi.org
108 S. Wabash, Norton
Saturday Mass, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass, 10:30 a.m.
Monday, No Mass
Tuesday Mass, 12:05 p.m. at New Almelo
Wednesday Mass, 12:05 p.m.
Thursday, No Mass
Friday Mass, 12:05 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church
Corner State and Waverly, Norton
Senior Warden, Georgia Briery
102 E. Waverly, Norton
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
3:00-4:00 p.m. God's Pantry

Redeemer Evangelical
Lutheran (WELS)
805 West Holme Street
West Hwy. 36, Norton
Pastor Brian Weinkauff
3:00 p.m. Sunday Worship Service
Bible Study and Fellowship Following
Third Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m.
is Video Services

Maple Grove Church
Of the Brethren
9 miles west 4 1/2 miles north
of Norton/Guest Minister
Sunday - 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

The Rock
Friday - 7:00-10:00 p.m. Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Graders
First Sunday Night of the Month Quarry, 6:30 p.m. Junior and Senior High Worship Event

The Almena Bible Church
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

Clayton United
Methodist Church
Pastor Gordon Pettibone
Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Worship Service

Jennings United
Methodist Church
Pastor Gordon Pettibone
Sunday - 8:00 a.m. Sunday Worship; 9:00 a.m. Church School

Lenora Church of God
Guest Minister/785-567-4459
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Church Services

United Parish of Lenora
140 E. Iowa, 785-567-4420
Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Rolls and Coffee; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Long Island
Community Church
Pastor Ted Stapleton
554 Washington, 620-770-6279
Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Fellowship Coffee
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship/Communion
Children's Sunday School during Worship Service
Women's Prayer and Share first Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m.
Communion held every Sunday, Everyone Welcome

Norcatour Community Church
Sunday - 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

St. Joseph Catholic
Church, New Almelo
stjosephcc@ruraltel.net
Rev. Joshua Werth, Pastor
Phone 785-567-4875
Sunday - 8:00 a.m. Mass
Tuesday - 12:05 p.m. Mass

Prairie View
Reformed Church
Pastor Lew VanDerWege
410 Holland, Prairie View
Phone 785-973-2794
Sunday - 9:00 a.m. Service Begins and Sunday School is at 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. Bible Class

Luctor Christian
Reformed Church
2 miles east and 3 miles
north of Prairie View
Pastor Shawn Richardson
Sunday - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. Evening Service

Cornerstone Church
Pastor Damen Andrew
313 West Lincoln Street
Phone 785-877-2416
Sunday - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School; 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. Bible Study

Nelson Bros.
Construction, Inc.
General Contractors
Equipment Rental
12862 Lower Dam Road - Norton, Kansas
Phone (785) 877-2554

Whitney Construction
and Farms
• Terracing
• Dozer Work
• Ponds
9499 Rd E3 - Norton - Phone 785-877-3745

Don's Floor Covering
Residential and Commercial
• Carpet • Sheet Vinyl • Tile
Levoler Blinds - Panasonic Vacuums
113 W. Washington - Norton, Kansas
877-3002 - Don Kaus - FREE ESTIMATES

Town and Country Kitchen
Daily Lunch Buffet and Evening Specials
Party and Banquet Facilities Available
Open 6:00 a.m.-8:30 p.m.
BJ and Candice - Owners
East Hwy 36 - 785-877-3511 - Norton, KS

Moffet Drug Store
"Prescription Specialists"
Hallmark Cards and
Russell Stover Candies
102 S. State - Norton, Kansas
Phone 785-877-2721

Norton Animal Health Center
Complete Large and Small Animal Service
801 W. Holme - Norton - Phone 877-2411
Aaron R. White, DVM
Sarah Ketterl White, DVM
Monday thru Friday: 8-5; Saturday: 9-11 a.m.

First State Bank
"Your Progressive
Community Bank"
MEMBER FDIC
105 W. Main - Norton, Kansas
Phone 785-877-3341

Security Abstract Company
Abstracters Title Insurance Agents
Prompt - Efficient - Confidential
214 E. Washington - Norton - PH 785-877-2141
Jolene L. Weiser, Owner
Amy Vacura, Office Assistant

Engel's Sales and Service
Complete Auto Repair
Small Engines and
Lawn Care Equipment
• Toro • Lawnboy • Stihl Chain Saws
209 W. Lincoln - Norton - Phone 877-3391

American Family Insurance
Curt Wahlmeier, Agent
• Auto • Home • Health • Life • Commercial
"All Your Protection Under One Roof"
111 W. Washington, Norton, Kansas
Phone 785-877-5802

Pizza Hut
Come Join Us!
Pizza, Pasta,
Salads and Desserts
W. Hwy. 36 - Norton, Kansas
Phone 877-3359

CELEBRATE RECOVERY is a Christ-based ministry for anyone struggling with past or current hurts, habits or hang-ups! We welcome everyone at the First Baptist Church, 720 W. Walnut, Hill City, KS 67642. Join us for praise, worship, healing lessons and testimonies. Starting May 31, 2025 at 7 p.m. and every Saturday after. Contact 785-821-8136 with questions.

LODGE NOTICES

American Legion
Auxiliary Unit No. 63
Harmonson Redd
Third Monday
7:00 p.m.
Sarah Durham, President
Wanda Braun, Treasurer

American Legion
Harmonson Redd
Post No. 63
Second Monday
7:30 p.m.
Steve Herredsberg, Commander
Bruce Anderson, Adjutant

Eagles
Aerie 3288
First and Third
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Jeremy Harding, President
John Milnes, Secretary

Veterans of
Foreign Wars
Post #9043
VFW
Contact Ted Sanko

Eagles
Auxiliary 3288
Second and Fourth Wednesday
Each Month at 6:30 p.m.
Lee Ann Shearer, President

The American
Legion Riders
Post 63
Meet at 5:00 p.m.
on the Second Sunday
of Every Month
website: www.alr63.org

Sons of
American Legion
Post 63
Meet at 4:00 p.m.
on the Second Sunday
of Every Month
Jimmy Railsback, Commander