Gove County Commissioner Meeting Minutes 8-24-2026 Approved.

The regular meeting of the Gove County Commissioners was called to order at 8:15 a.m. at the Gove County Office Building. The members present were Chuck Kuntz, Joe Schmidtberger and Steve Hirsch. Bonnie Cook was present taking minutes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Joe made a motion to approve the agenda. Chuck seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Amber Hutchison joined the meeting at 8:16 a.m.

Jim Myers joined the meeting at 8:25 a.m. Joe made a motion to open the Fire District #1 budget hearing at 8:31 a.m. Chuck seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. No members of the public were present for the hearing, and no public comments were received. Chuck made a motion to approve the 2027 Gove County Fire District #1 Budget. Joe seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. Chuck made a motion to close the Fire District budget hearing at 8:33 a.m. Joe seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. Joe made a motion to open the Gove County Budget Hearing at 8:36 a.m. Chuck seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. No members of the public were present for the hearing, and no public comments were received. Joe made a motion to approve the 2027 Gove County Budget. Chuck seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. Chuck made a motion to close the Gove County Budget Hearing at 8:39 a.m. Joe seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. Jim Myers left the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

Drew Tuttle and Erin Stoabs joined the meeting at 9:03 a.m. Drew gave the Commissioners two quotes, one for new culverts on County Road 16 between L and M. and one for a new pickup. Adam Teeter joined the meeting by phone at 9:12 a.m. Discussion was made on culverts and pickups. Chuck made a motion to approve the culverts for county road 16 between L and M roads. Joe seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. Steve left the meeting at 9:25 a.m. Chuck made a motion to approve the new pickup for the Road and Bridge Department. Adam seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. Drew and Erin left the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

The Commissioners received an email from the KNRC (Kansas Natural Resource Coalition) requesting that each member county consider two separate ballots regarding KNRC's proposed participation in federal litigation involving recent Endangered Species Act regulatory changes. The Commissioners took a vote. Adam made a motion to vote yes on both questions (Yes vote gives KNRC authorization to participate) Joe seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. Adam's phone call ended at 9:45 a.m. Chuck made a motion to approve Ad and Abates 2026000774, 2026000775,

2026000506 and 2026000507. Joe seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Larry Manhart (Gove County Medical Center Board member) joined the meeting at 9:43 a.m. Terry Ostmeyer (Gove County Medical Center Board member) joined the meeting at 9:54 a.m. Rob LaPierre (CFO for the Gove County Medical Center) joined the meeting at 9:58 a.m. Discussion was made on the mill levy for the Medical Center. Larry, Terry and Rob left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Brenda Orr joined the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Taylor Hargitt will be a breastfeeding peer counselor through the WIC program at the Health Department.

Brenda talked with the Commissioners about the new breastfeeding program BFPC (Breastfeeding Peer Counselor) that the Health Department will be offering. Brenda also said that she has got a grant to pay Stephanie to be trained to become a tobacco coach. Stephanie and Brenda will start training for the Medicaid Presumptive Eligibility Program on September 15th. Brenda left the meeting at 10:50 a.m. Joe made a motion to approve the amended minutes. Chuck seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chuck made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Checks from 75196 through 75240. Joe seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Matt Wolf called in at 11:17 a.m. Matt asked for an executive session for non-elected personnel for 10 minutes. Chuck made a motion to go into executive session for non-elected personnel from 11:17 a.m. until 11:27 a.m. Joe seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote The Commissioners returned to open meeting at 11:27 a.m. Matt asks if the Landfill could be closed on Saturday 5th 2026 for Labor Day. The Commissioners agreed to have the Landfill closed on Saturday 5th 2026. Chuck made a motion to adjourn at 11:30 a.m. Joe seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Bonnie Cook Gove County Clerk

Adam Teeter, Chairman

Charles Kuntz, Member

Joe Schmidtberger, Member