

Legal Notice



NOTICE OF HEARING TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of  
**Midway Extension District #15**  
Ellsworth County  
will meet on September 12, 2024 at 6:45 p.m. at Russell County 4-H Building, 702 Fairway Dr. for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied and Revenue Neutral Rate. Detailed budget information is available at and will be available at this hearing.

**SUPPORTING COUNTIES**  
Ellsworth County (home county) Russell County

**BUDGET SUMMARY**  
Proposed Budget 2025 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2024 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2025 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual 2023		Current Year Estimate for 2024		Proposed Budget Year for 2025		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2024 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	467,661	1.374	583,800	1.338	854,000	552,666	2.328
Debt Service							
Totals	467,661	1.374	583,800	1.338	854,000	552,666	2.328

		Revenue Neutral Rate**		1.322
Less: Transfers	0	0	0	
Net Expenditures	467,661	583,800	854,000	
Total Tax Levied	312,205	312,214	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
Assessed Valuation:	227,238,090	234,560,445	237,371,788	

Outstanding Indebtedness,			
Jan 1,	2022	2023	2024
G.O. Bonds	0	0	0
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Pur. Princ.	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

\*Tax rates are expressed in mills.  
\*\*Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Aug. 22

Midway Extension District

Legal Notice



NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of  
**City of Dorrance**  
will meet on September 4th, 2024 at 5:00 pm at Dorrance City Hall for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at Dorrance City Hall and will be available at this hearing.

**BUDGET SUMMARY**  
Proposed Budget 2025 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2024 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2025 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2023		Current Year Estimate for 2024		Proposed Budget for 2025		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2024 Ad Valorem Tax	Estimate Tax Rate*
General	81,381	40.001	130,854	47.570	213,442	60,000	45.992
Debt Service							
Library							
Special Highway	4,541		6,349		9,323		
Parks and Recreation	859		3,622		3,924		
Water Utility	55,394		23,619		34,000		
Sewer Utility	4,332		22,487		25,104		
Trash Utility	26,088		23,429		24,000		
Non-Budgeted Funds	10,788						
Totals	183,383	40.001	210,360	47.570	309,793	60,000	45.992

		Revenue Neutral Rate**		45.992
Less: Transfers	5,770	694	652	
Net Expenditure	177,613	209,666	309,141	
Total Tax Levied	48,388	60,000	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
Assessed Valuation	1,209,691	1,261,287	1,304,582	

Outstanding Indebtedness,			
January 1,	2022	2023	2024
G.O. Bonds	0	0	0
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Purchase Principal	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

\*Tax rates are expressed in mills  
\*\* Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Aug. 22

Legal Notice



(Published in the  
*Russell County News*  
Thursday, Aug. 22, 2024)

RESOLUTION 24- 12

RESOLUTION OPPOSING A 5 MILE WIDE EMINENT DOMAIN TRANSMISSION LINE

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Energy has determined that there is a need to transport green energy to areas outside of Kansas without any benefit to Russell County, Kansas;

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Energy mapped out a 5 mile wide swath of land across the entire State of Kansas, bypassing Kansas law requiring that these projects are to be approved by the Kansas Corporation Commission;

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Energy failed to notify any of the officials of Russell County, Kansas, nor the private property owners whose land would be taken;

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Energy failed to send a notification to publish information on the project and the fact that here was a public comment period to newspapers in all counties affected by this project.

**WHEREAS**, those studies that have been conducted concluding that high energy transmission lines and sub stations can emit toxins that are hazardous to human health;

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Energy must take a 5 mile wide swath of land to remove all living beings and agricultural activity due to the toxins;

**WHEREAS**, it is unknown what effect the toxins will have on numerous rivers, waterways, lakes and groundwater sources included in this 5 mile wide swath of land;

**WHEREAS**, removing a 5 mile wide swath of land through

Russell County will have a devastating effect on our tax base by removing farms, ranches and homesteads that would be impossible to replace without grossly over burdening other property owners;

**WHEREAS**, the loss of tax revenue would make it impossible to continue maintaining our roads, to keep rural hospitals and health departments funded, school districts supplied with teachers, school busses, building maintained and other such needs of our public funded community necessities;

**WHEREAS**, removing a 5 mile wide swath of land will destroy citizen's ability to produce food, fiber and natural resources such as gas and oil and transmission of those natural resources;

**WHEREAS**, no plans have been disclosed or discussed for the roads that will be affected by not allowing any living habitation of the 5 mile wide swath of private property and it is common sense that if no one is able to live there, they should not be traversing through the area every day for work shopping, school or other necessary travel; and

**WHEREAS**, removing a 5 mile wide swath of land from agricultural production, where such production is the basic commodity of our community, would devastate other businesses dependent upon the production of agricultural commodities, thus driving more residents to leave, further destroying businesses and communities;  
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that:**

1. The U.S. Department of Energy issue a published notice of intent to build a high-power transmission line in Russell County, with an open public comment period;

2. The U.S. Department of Energy notify officials of the State and Russell County of their in-

tent to take by eminent domain if necessary private land;

3. The U.S. Department of Energy, as required by Kansas law, notify the Kansas Corporation Commission of their intent to build a high-power transmission line from state line to state line, cutting the state in half;

4. Russell County places a moratorium on this project until such a period of time as the U.S. Department of Energy provides county officials with three studies, one selected by the county, one selected by the Department of Energy and one that both parties agree on proving that no health hazards exist to numerous rivers, waterways, lakes and groundwater sources in the county;

5. Russell County places a moratorium on this project until such a period of time as the U.S. Department of Energy assumes all liability for all hazards associated with this project;

6. Russell County places a moratorium on this project until such a period of time that the Department of Energy resolves how they will permanently and on a yearly basis, compensate the county for the loss of tax revenue;

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
RUSSELL COUNTY, KANSAS

By: s/ Duke Strobel  
Duke Strobel, Chairperson

By: s/ Steve Reinhardt  
Steve Reinhardt, Commissioner

By: s/ Daron Woelk  
Daron Woelk, Commissioner

(seal)  
ATTEST:  
s/ Kristi A. Whitman  
County Clerk

Aug. 22



Obituaries

Glenn Leon Mermis



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Glenn L. Mermis, who left us peacefully on August 7, 2024, in Buckeye, Arizona. Born on December 12, 1963, in Salina, Kansas, Glenn was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Glenn played dulcimer with the Polka Kings Band until his family moved to Arizona in 1994.

Glenn is survived by his daughter Alyssa (Tony); and his son Brandon (Shaina); his

sister Karen Ulrich (Dale), his sister Donna Vlcek (Jim) and his sister Mary Nuss (Monte). He is also survived by seven grandchildren.

Glenn was preceded in death by his wife Stacy Mermis; his son Bryan Mermis and his son Timothy Mermis; his brother Robert Mermis, his father Elmer Mermis and his mother Dolores Mermis (Hammer Schmidt).

(Published in the August 22, 2024 issue of the Russell County News)

Vernon Vail McClintock



Vernon Vail McClintock

Vernon Vail McClintock, Jr., 71, of Lyndon, Kansas, died on August 11, 2024, at his home in Lyndon.

Vernon was born on April 16, 1953, in Beloit, Kansas, the son of Vernon Vail, Sr. and Betty (Campbell) McClintock. He grew up in Beloit and graduated from Beloit High School and Ft. Hays State University with a bachelor's degree. He met, fell in love and was united in marriage to Jennifer J. Klusener on January 15, 1977, in Bunker Hill, Kansas. From this union Vernon and Jennifer were blessed with a daughter Lindsey. He worked for the Kansas Department of Transportation as an engineer for many years.

He is survived by his wife Jennifer of the home; daughter Lindsey McClintock of

Alta Vista, Kansas; grandchildren Emily and Harrison and sister Natalie Thompson. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A gathering service to celebrate Vernon's life will be held at noon on Saturday, August 24, 2024, at the Bunker Hill Community Center in Bunker Hill, Kansas. The family will have food and fellowship and will be greeting guests and sharing stories about Vernon. Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary of Russell, Kansas, is in charge of the funeral service arrangements.

(Published in the August 22, 2024 issue of the Russell County News)

Danny Lee Studebaker



Danny Lee Studebaker

Danny Lee Studebaker, 75, of Russell, Kansas, died on Monday, August 19, 2024, at his home surrounded by his loving wife and daughter.

Danny was born on October 18, 1948, in Garden City, Kansas, the son of Carl and Berniece L. (Selby) Studebaker. He grew up in Pratt,

Kansas and Pryor, Oklahoma, and graduated from Pryor High School in the class of 1966. After high school he served his country and joined the United States Army. He met, fell in love and was united in marriage to Phyllis Jane Sidebottom on August 27, 1978, in Cape, Colorado. From this union, Danny and Phyllis were blessed with their daughter Carlee. Danny worked as a Territorial Sales Manager for Cards N' Such for 19 years. They moved to Russell, Kansas in 2008, and attended Bible Baptist Church. He loved to play golf and was a member of the Russell Golf Course. He also enjoyed fishing, reading and watching Dallas Cowboys football. Most of all he enjoyed spending time with his family.

Surviving family include his wife Phyllis of the home, daughter Carlee Johnson and

husband Josh of Topeka, Kansas; sisters Linda Meier and husband Mike of Litchfield, Ohio and Pam Hunlock of Fenton, Michigan and four grandchildren Adam Johnson, Noah Johnson, Jax Johnson and Ashlyn Johnson.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Gary Studebaker.

A memorial service to celebrate Danny's life will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Friday, August 30, 2024, at the Bible Baptist Church in Russell, Kansas. Family will greet guests the day of the service at the church. Memorials can be given to the Bible Baptist Church and sent in care of the mortuary. Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary of Russell, Kansas, are in charge of the funeral service arrangements.

(Published in the August 22, 2024 issue of the Russell County News)

Jerry Ray Praytor



Jerry Ray Praytor

Jerry Ray Praytor, 74, of Russell, Kansas, died on Saturday, August 17, 2024, in Newton, Kansas, with his family at his side.

Jerry was born on November 11, 1949, in Great Bend, Kansas, the son of Doil M. and Loretta E. (Lindell) Praytor. He grew up in Russell, Kansas, and graduated from Russell High School in the class of 1967. Jerry attended Hutchinson Community College and Pittsburg State University before being drafted into the United States Army. While he was stationed in Aberdeen, Maryland, he met Donna June Harvey. They fell in love and were united in marriage on July 30, 1971. After serving 8 years in the military, he returned to Russell to work for his dad's pipeline business, Praytor Construction. He and his brother continued with the family business for many years. After relocating to Inman, Jerry started a new

venture, JP Pipeline Construction, Inc. He was a longtime member of the V.F.W. Post #6240 and American Legion Post #99 both in Russell. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and the countless hours spent at roping events with his boys. Jerry loved nothing more than to "clown around" with his grandkids.

Surviving family include his wife Donna June Harvey Praytor of Hutchinson, Kansas; sons Jeremy Praytor and wife Sara of Salina, Kansas, and Jason Praytor of Wichita, Kansas; brother Gary Praytor of Austin, Texas; grandchildren Britton Praytor and Addison Praytor; great-grandson Riggins Col-

lett. He was preceded in death by his parents and infant brother.

A memorial service to celebrate Jerry's life will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at the Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary in Russell, Kansas. Family will greet guests the day of the service. Memorials may be given to the Alzheimer's Association or the Special Olympics Kansas and sent in care of the mortuary. Pohlman-Varner-Peeler Mortuary of Russell, Kansas, are in charge of the funeral service arrangements.

(Published in the August 22, 2024 issue of the Russell County News)

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**Pohlman-Varner-Peeler**  
*Mortuary you get ...*

- A fully licensed staff of Funeral Directors and Embalmers with over 75 years of experience.
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