

For Rent

OFFICE BUILDING AVAILABLE for rent in New Strawn. (620) 343-0506. 47-4tp

THREE BEDROOM HOUSE for rent. Fresh paint throughout, new flooring in kitchen and bath. Available now. (913) 634-4085. 41-8tc

BAHR STORAGE: MINI storage RV storage for rent, (620) 364-5641. 27-tfn

Meetings

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, AL-ANON, (620) 364-6761, (620) 203-8294, 364-6534, (580) 235-6254. Tuesdays 7:30 p.m., 207 S. Sixth, Burlington. tfn/nc

CELEBRATE RECOVERY, SUNDAYS, 6 p.m. Waverly Community Building. tfn/nc

Help Wanted

COFFEY COUNTY is accepting applications for a full-time custodian. Applications and job descriptions may be picked up from and returned to the Coffey County Attorney's Office. Job duties include but are not limited to independently performing detailed daily and periodic general cleaning and light maintenance duties of county facilities in order to provide a clean and safe facility for the general public and county employees. This position also requires the ability to work a split shifts which may consist of early mornings and early to late evenings. If a conditional offer of employment is made, the successful applicant will be required to pass a pre-employment drug screen and may be subject to a background check as a condition of employment. A competitive benefits package is provided through the county. Coffey County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Veteran's Preference Employer. Coffey County is an EOE. Coffey County considers applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, the presence of non-job-related medical condition or disability, or any other legally protected status. Coffey County will not refuse

to hire a disabled applicant who is qualified to perform requirements of the job with reasonable accommodation. Applicants must request reasonable accommodations. Applications and a job description may be picked up from and returned to the Coffey County Attorney's Office, Coffey County Courthouse, Room 204, 110 S. 6th St., Burlington, KS 66839, 620-364-5111. The deadline for the initial review of applications is Friday, December 20, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. This position is open until filled. 47-4tc

COFFEY COUNTY, KANSAS is seeking a proven economic development director. We are home to Wolf Creek Nuclear Generating Station, the only nuclear power plant in Kansas. The Director will be responsible for retention and expansion of our existing businesses, attracting new businesses that complement existing businesses, along with furthering development of infrastructure, tourism and leadership. The Director reports to the Board of County Commissioners. A Bachelor's degree in Economic Development, Public or Business Administration, Marketing, Finance is preferred. Certified Economic Developer (CECd) is desired. For more information contact Ronda Truelove at (620) 364-8780. Job description and applications are available at: <https://www.coffey-countyks.org/county-services/employment-opportunities>. Send applications and resumes to rtruelove@coffeycountyks.org. Applications accepted until position is filled. First round of applications to be reviewed on Monday, September 30, 2024. Coffey County is an EOE. 35-tfn

Services

Farm Bureau Financial Services



Larry R. Gleue
LUTCF
(620) 364-5341



LOOKING FOR A FEEL-GOOD JOB? LOVE TO DRIVE?

Coffey County Transportation has a part-time Driver position open. Must apply in person. Applications can be picked up at 520 Cross St. Applicants must be 21 years old or older, have a valid Kansas DL, and pass a pre-employment drug screening upon conditional offer of employment. EEOC.



FOR LEASE

Retail Lease Opportunities at the Market St. Marketplace Downtown Osage City, KS Excellent Traffic Volume

- 2000 SF professional office, 4 private offices, 2 restrooms **LEASED**
- 2000 SF retail or open office, 1 private office, 1 restroom **AVAILABLE**
- 500 - 2000 SF retail or office, drive-up window, 1 restroom, kitchen, overhead drive-in door **AVAILABLE SOON**
- 4000 SF open office/event space, second story, 1-2 restrooms **LEASED**

Great parking. All utilities & wifi included.

Business signage available.

Join great neighboring businesses and thrive together!

Radio Shack-Shirt Shop-Hair Salon
Hardware Store-Bank-Dining

Short Term, Long Term & Month to Month Options

Call for details and schedule a tour
785-219-6002

Canvass

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The board accepted the recommendation to accept 54 provisional ballots and reject 37, according to state statutes. Three ballots were also accepted with partial votes (township races were not counted).

Later in the meeting, Kirchner presented updated results after adding the 57 provisional ballots. The provisional ballots did not affect the outcome of any race.

The board determined the winners of five offices in four townships, which had tie write-in votes. In each race,

the names of candidates were on a slip of paper and Huginin drew a slip of paper in each of the following tied race:

- Key West Township: (2-way tie for trustee) - Janie Baker.
- Liberty Township: (7-way tie for treasurer) - Craig Metzger.
- Ottumwa Township: (2-way tie for trustee) - Sean Downey.
- Ottumwa Township: (3-way tie for treasurer) - Sean Downey.
- Spring Creek Township: (3-way tie for trustee) - Gail Harvey.

The board of canvassers certified the results of the Nov. 5 general election, then commissioners reconvened as a board of county commissioners.

COFFEY COUNTY COMMISSION

Board takes care of miscellaneous business

Mark Petterson
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — On Nov. 12, Coffey County Commissioners took care of miscellaneous business and met in three executive sessions totaling 45 minutes. The meeting was held on Tuesday, due to the courthouse being closed Monday in observance of Veterans Day.

Present for the regular weekly meeting were Commissioners Jesse Knight, chairman, Wayne Thomsen, Don Meats and Steve McCurry, County Clerk Angie Kirchner and County Counselor Wade H. Bowie II. Commissioner Tom Huginin was absent.

Commissioners changed the fund where the \$1,000 donation to the LeRoy Christmas Celebration will come from. The fund was changed from the economic development loan fund to the general fund - community improvement line.

Legal holidays were established for Coffey County employees for 2025: New Years Day (Wednesday, Jan. 1), Martin Luther King Day (Monday, Jan. 20), Presidents Day (Monday, Feb. 17), Memorial Day (Monday, May 26), Independence Day (Friday, July 4), Labor Day (Monday, Sept. 1), Veterans Day (Tuesday, Nov. 11), Thanksgiving Day (Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27 and 28), Christmas (Thursday, Dec. 25), New Years Day (Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026).

Commissioners passed a

motion to designate the pay periods for county employees and elected officials with paychecks issued the last working day of the month.

Since calendar year 2025 has 2,088 working hours, eight hours more than a regular calendar year, commissioners approved a memorandum designating one personal day for the 2025 calendar year.

Commissioners approved a request from Burlington Mayor Stan Luke to waive landfill fees for a mobile home located at 1120 Penobscot, Burlington.

They also approved a request from Noxious Weed Director Todd Bemis to sign a notice of public hearing concerning the Lake Region Solid Waste Authority Plan. He said that earlier this year, Shawnee County was accepted as a new member.

LeRoy Housing

Bryson Meats discussed a possible housing development on the west end of LeRoy, just south of K-58 Hwy. It is the same 8.81-acre tract previously discussed with commissioners on Dec. 7, 2022.

At that time, Meats presented a preliminary plat consisting of 12 building lots that estimated it would cost \$1.5 million for street, water and sewer infrastructure. The cost included an expensive sewer lift station.

The LeRoy City Council passed an ordinance to annex the 8.81-acre tract into the city at its Oct. 7 meeting. One month later, at its Nov. 4

meeting, the LeRoy City Council voted to deannex the same property; however, the process will require a hearing. Meats, who serves on the city council, was unaware council members planned to deannex the property.

Meats said local builder, Michael Abendroth, expressed interest in building homes on the property. They are now co-owners of lots 2 through 14.

"As a property owner, I believe this would be a good project for the county to partner with to promote housing," Meats said.

Commissioners agreed all of Coffey County needs new housing; however, all they were willing to do was listen.

"I am not sure what the county's place would be," McCurry said.

"I guess to help with infrastructure," Meats said.

"That (request) would have to come from the city," McCurry said.

"We provide infrastructure money to (all of) the cities," Knight said.

Meats believes LeRoy receives \$113,000 in infrastructure annually. "It is frustrating, to me, that LeRoy has about \$878,000 in infrastructure money and we haven't done our roads in about eight years," he said.

Commissioner Meats stated that rather than increase the amount of infrastructure grants to cities, as proposed several years ago, if a city had a priority project requiring additional funds, then com-

missioners would review a city's request.

"If the city wants to have a project, they should come to the commission, not the commission going to the city," McCurry said.

Executive Sessions

Commissioners entered into three executive session prior to adjourning:

► 10 minutes with Road and Bridge Superintendent Ryan Durst and Bowie to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, regarding medical.

► 20 minutes with Bowie and Joe Serrano (by phone) of Kutak Rock, to discuss matters deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship regarding legal issues and legal advice surrounding the BETO Junction CID.

► 15 minutes with Bowie to discuss matters deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, regarding the Marie Belle's buildings and legal advice that the county will need to take to protect its interest in that property.

No action was taken following the executive sessions; however, Bowie said action is possible in the future regarding the BETO Junction CID. Bowie also said he had been contacted about someone interested in using the Marie Belle's buildings.

Prior to adjourning, Thomsen stated that he believes the county has two viable candidates for the economic development position.

Holiday

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beautifully decorated backdrop. But the magic doesn't end there. Live reindeer will be on hand for visitors to get a close-up look at the majestic animals, making this a memorable experience for all ages.

Santa will be in the park from 3 to 5 p.m. The reindeer will be available from 7 to 9 p.m. Santa's mailbox will be located in the park for children to leave their letters to Santa.

Tree Lighting Ceremony.

As the sun sets, the heart of the celebration will be the Tree Lighting Ceremony at 5:30 p.m. Take a walk around the park and look at all of the Christmas trees decorated by the different community groups and members.

A Celebration for the Whole Family. Whether you're a long-time resident or visiting for the first time, LeRoy's Hometown Hallmark Christmas offers something for everyone. It's a celebration of community, tradition, and the joy of the season, bringing people together in the spirit of giving and togetherness.

Don't miss out on the chance to experience the magic of LeRoy this holiday season. Mark your calendars for Nov. 30, and get ready to create lasting memories at this heartwarming celebration.

A complete list of activities includes: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Holiday Gift Annex and Craft Fair; 11 a.m. Sloppy Joes; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Walk-Through Inflatable Village; 3 to 5 p.m. Sit on Santa's Lap; 3 p.m. Kids Christmas Craft; 3 p.m. Wreath Making; 4 p.m. Gingerbread House Competition judging; 4:30 p.m. Stories Dance Company perform-

mance; 5 to 7 p.m. Carriage Rides; 5 to 7 p.m. Live Music and Christmas Karaoke; 5 to 7 p.m. Soup and Hot Cocoa; 5:30 p.m. Christmas Tree Lighting; 6 p.m. Lighted Bike Parade; 6:30 p.m. Peppermint Pedal Bike Race; 7 to 9 p.m. Meet a Live Reindeer; 7:30 p.m. Reading of the Christmas Story; 9 p.m. Showing of a Christmas movie.

Watch the LeRoy's Hometown Hallmark Christmas Facebook page for more details.

—Vanessa Dauber is the library director at the LeRoy Branch of the Coffey County Library.

County

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Act. No action occurred upon return to regular session.

Later in the meeting commissioners entered into a 15-minute executive session with Bowie to discuss the economic development candidates, under the nonelected personnel exception to KOMA. No action was taken. Bowie said there will be a request for one of the applicants return for a second interview.

Construction

Bowie presented a detailed accounting, including invoices and photos, supporting a payment application for the law enforcement center construction project.

Commissioners approved the application and certificate for payment, Application No. 11, for period ending Oct. 31, submitted by River City Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$2,476,485.27 for work completed on the Coffey County Law Enforcement Center project.

Commissioners also approved Change Order No. 23 with costs associated with Potential Change Order (PCO) #032 in the kitchen area including adding a coiling door; wiring for power controls, filing the original door location for door 173 with EFIS, remov-

ing stainless steel shelving wall panels related to the door, and adding stainless steel wall panels on the wall between sinks. The change order deducts \$17,703 from the project construction contingency, but it does not change the project's guaranteed maximum price of \$25,712,885.

Related to the health department remodel, commissioners approved Change Order No. 1: relocate existing VAV in conflict with new work; install 10-inch spiral pipe and fittings from VAV to west restrooms; reroute water lines and vent pipe, which deviate from connection locations shown on original building plans; adjust performance and payment bond for associated work. The change order adds \$4,893.25 to the cost of the project, which now totals \$393,893.25. Commissioners earlier approved a \$39,000 contingency fund for the project, which is in addition to the \$389,000 original contract.

Miscellaneous

Coffey County Housing Authority Director Ronda Gilbert presented two requests to waive landfill fees, which commissioners approved. The first request, by the City of Gridley is for a nuisance structure owned by Susan Everett, 217 First Street. The second request is for a garage at 902 N. Fourth St., owned by Alan and Cindy Novinger.

Commissioners also took

the following action:

► Waive the purchasing policy as to competitive bidding, due to a single source supplier contract, and approve Annual PeopleWare Agreement and Support for calendar year 2025 from Computer Information Concepts, Inc., (CIC), Greeley, Colo., in the total amount of \$46,030.

► Dissolve a contract with Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission (SEKRPC) for administrative consulting services for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) and to authorize the county counselor to work with the SEKRPC attorney to mutually end the contract.

► Met in a 10-minute executive session with Bowie to discuss a legal issue surrounding the Marie Belle property, which the county has an interest in, related to the roof, under attorney-client exception to KOMA.

Commissioners will meet at 9 a.m. Monday in Room 201 of the Coffey County Courthouse. At press time, the agenda includes (9:05) River City Construction - weekly update on jail construction, (9:10) Emergency Management Director Amber Presley - department update, (10) TrustPoint Representatives Angela Trimble and Bobbi Gellhaus - 2025 insurance renewal, (11) law enforcement center construction walk through.

Jail

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Melinda Marie Fischer, 52, LeRoy (Nov. 13) - Arrested by CCSO for probation violation. Released on a \$3,000 cash/surety bond.

Timothy J. Hertlein, 51, Emporia (Nov. 14) - Arrested by CCSO for interference with law enforcement officer, parking, standing, or stopping in prohibited area. Released on a \$100 cash bond.

Isaiah W. Betts, 32, Kansas City, Mo. (Nov. 15-18) - Arrested by CCSO for failure to appear. Held in lieu of a \$1,500 cash/surety bond.

Robert Lee Stuart Brady, 31, Lee Summit, Mo. (Nov. 15-18) - Arrested Nov. 15 by CCSO for aggravated violate offender registration act, violate offender registration act, first conviction. Held in lieu of a \$50,000 cash/surety bond.

Alonso Perez Mateo, 19, Burlington (Nov. 15) - Arrested by CCSO for failure to appear. Released on a \$150 cash bond.

William Derik Foster, 38, (Nov. 15-18) - Arrested Nov. 15 by CCSO for probation violation. Held in lieu of a \$10,000 cash/surety bond.

Melvin John Fisher, 26, Gap, Pa. (Nov. 16) - Arrested by BPD for operate vehicle without registration or expired tag, vehicle liability insurance required. Released on a \$475 cash bond.

Dean Lee Baker, 26, Lebo (Nov. 16-18) - Arrested by CCSO for aggravated domestic battery, choke in rude manner. Held in lieu of a \$5,000 cash/surety bond.

Bryan Joseph Herde, 39, Council Grove (Nov. 16-18) - Arrested by CCSO for outstanding warrant. Held in lieu of a \$50,000 cash/surety bond.

Kansas Cold Weather Rule takes effect

TOPEKA — The Cold Weather Rule, designed to help Kansans who are behind on their utility payments avoid disconnection during the winter months, began Nov. 1 and will remain in effect through March 31.

While the Cold Weather Rule is in effect, utility companies cannot disconnect a customer's service when the local temperatures are forecast to drop below 35 degrees within the following 48-hour period. The Kansas Corporation Commission, the agency that regulates public utilities in the state, implemented the rule in 1983 to prevent utility companies from disconnecting a customer's natural gas or

electric service during periods of extreme cold.

The Cold Weather Rule also requires utility companies to offer a 12-month payment plan to allow consumers to maintain or re-establish service. Any residential customer with a past due balance will qualify for payment arrangements; however, it is the customer's responsibility to contact their gas or electric company to make those arrangements.

Payment plan terms to maintain or restore service require that customers agree to pay 1/12th of the total amount owed, 1/12th of the current bill, the full amount of any disconnection or reconnection fee,

plus any applicable deposit to the utility. The remaining balance must be paid in equal payments over the next 11 months, in addition to the current monthly bill.

The Cold Weather Rule applies only to residential customers of electric and natural gas utility companies under the KCC's jurisdiction, however many municipal utilities and cooperatives have similar winter weather policies.

Information about the Cold Weather Rule is available on the Commission's website. Kansans may also contact their local utility company or the KCC's Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at (800) 662-0027 or (785) 271-3140.