



# The Osborne County Farmer

THURSDAY, May 15, 2025    Osborne, KS 67473    10 Pages Plus Supplements, \$1



**VALS AND SAL --** Kate Kendig, Clay Guttery and Grace William were honored as the best and brightest in their class during Saturday morning's commencement for the OHS class of 2025. (S. Baxa/OCCF)

## OCCF grant cycle open

The Osborne County Community Foundation (OCCF) is accepting grant applications through May 31, 2025, at 11:59 PM, for review in June 2025. This is a great opportunity to secure funding for projects that benefit Osborne County—apply today at [osborneccf.org](http://osborneccf.org)!

Grants will be awarded through a competitive process. Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, government and public entities, educational institutions, and churches. For more information, contact OCCF at 785-345-5130 or [osborneccf@gmail.com](mailto:osborneccf@gmail.com).

## Council approves well repairs

The Governing Body of the City of Osborne, Kansas, met in regular session Wed., April 16, 2025 at 6 p.m.

Those present were Mayor Andrew Foglesong, council members Ron Kaser, Eric Stanton, Nate Brown and Barry Curry, City Attorney Bruce Berkley, City Superintendent Danny Pfannenstiel, City Clerk Hanna Eilert, Librarians Karen Wallace and Keri Thornton. Council members Tracy Holloway and Ryan Delaney, Police Chief Matt Pasilas and Treasurer Kathy Grabast were absent.

1) Mayor Foglesong called the meeting to order and a motion was made by Brown and seconded by Curry to adopt the agenda with additions. Motion carried.

The minutes from the April 2, 2025 regular meeting were approved as written.

2) A motion was made by Curry and seconded by Kaser to approve the payment of vouchers in the amount of \$195,696.27. Motion carried.

EMC Insurance Agent Sherri Naasz presented the 2025-2026 renewal insurance package. Discussion was held.

3) A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Curry to approve the 2025-2026 EMC insurance renewal package of \$196,700 with changes. Motion carried.

Junior class OHS students Annie Kendig, Cheyenne Knoll and Ryah Bertuccelli and class sponsor Heather

Poore addressed council about plans for promenade.

4) A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Stanton to approve blocking off three parking spaces in front of the Sims Event Center for promenade on May 3, 2025. Motion carried.

Council member Brown shared an informational letter from Economic Development Director Bedient and presented an application for cleanup grant funds.

5) A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Stanton to approve OCCF property clean up grant funds to be paid to contractor for clean-up at Brenda Thornton's property at 213 N 4th St. for \$4,070. Motion carried. Council member Curry abstained.

Librarian Wallace presented her stat sheet, 'Reading with Peeps' activity, reappointments to the library board, 2026 proposed budget and that her last day will be May 16, 2025.

6) A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Stanton to reappoint Marisa Howland and Don Howland to the library board. Motion carried.

7) A motion was made by Curry and seconded by Brown to approve the proposed 2026 library budget for submittal to auditors. Motion carried.

City Clerk Eilert reported on the for ATV/golf cart permitting procedures, a reappointment to the recreation commission, the election filing deadline, the quarterly financial statement and a policy for ROZ program.

8) A motion was made by Stanton and seconded by Kaser to reappoint Katie Crossland to the recreation commission. Motion carried.

9) A motion was made by Stanton and seconded by Kaser to approve the first quarter financial statement and publish accordingly. Motion carried.

10) A motion was made by Brown and seconded by

Curry to approve a sexual harassment policy for the ROZ program. Motion carried.

City Superintendent Pfannenstiel reported on pursuing grants for resurfacing the tennis courts, invoices for approval, a proposed lifeguard hire and that he and John Roenne passed their wastewater certification exams.

11) A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Curry to approve an additional \$9,208.32 to Downey Drilling for well repairs for a total of \$43,597.97. Motion carried.

12) A motion was made by Curry and seconded by Brown to approve \$4,963.73 to Downey Drilling for well repairs on well 7-3. Motion carried.

13) A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Stanton to purchase 300T chat from Abrams for \$17,550. Motion carried.

14) A motion was made by Curry and seconded by Kaser to approve invoice to KMEA Mid-Sates for \$24,468.28 for power plant project to be paid out of electric utility reserve. Motion carried.

15) A motion was made by Curry and seconded by Brown to approve invoice to Stockwater Solutions for \$17,600 for power plant project to be paid out of electric utility reserve. Motion carried.

16) A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Curry to hire Branson Johnston as a first-year lifeguard. Motion carried.

17) A motion was made by Curry and seconded by Brown to give John Roenne a \$1 per hour raise for obtaining his wastewater certification. Motion carried.

18) A motion was made by Kaser and seconded by Stanton to approve animal special use permits for Leo Gier, Patricia Bernard, Hanna Eilert, Sherrill Lund, Danny Pfannenstiel, Victoria Hillman and Rex Schultze.

Shana Guttery, President, presided and opened the meeting at 6 p.m.

Members attending: Guttery, Jackie Gourley, April Mick, Larry Bales, Josh Worley and Craig

Motion carried.

19) A motion was made by Stanton and seconded by Kaser to approve renewal ATV/golf cart special use permits for Stephen Kaser, Ronald Gilbert and Troy Roadhouse. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding street and alley repairs.

20) At 7:47 p.m. with business completed a motion was made by Kaser and seconded by Stanton to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Poore. Cullen Riner was absent.

Others attending: Ron Orsak, Superintendent; Kathy Grabast, Clerk; Jason Wilson, Principal; Anthony Blair, AD; Beth Schultze, TD/Food Svc; Ailysa Blair, Counselor; Dawson Lantz, Lincoln Koehn, Kane Fry, Peyton Bales, and Wyatt Wilson, students; Christina Byler, Kevin Veatch, Kathy Conway, and Rikki Oliver, teachers; Bethany Remus, Counselor and Mindy Miller, OCCF Director

Moved by Bales, seconded by Guttery, to approve the Consent Calendar. Carried 6-0

Moved by Guttery, seconded by Poore, to approve KASB board policy as presented. Carried 6-0

Discussion was held on

LETRS training.

Moved by Guttery, seconded by Mick, to pay HMH \$26, 265.91 for math curriculum. Carried 6-0

Discussion was held on Nex-Tech telephones/intercoms system and K-12itc technology.

Beth Schultze updates the board on transportation purchases.

Discussion on JD Tractor with mowing deck.

Orsak presented changing our accounting system to Software Unlimited.

Wilson gave his principal report.

Bales, Guttery, and Poore will hand out diplomas at graduation.

Elementary summer school will be the last week of July.

• See BOE page 2



**CLASS OF 2025 --** The graduation class of 2025 posed for one last class photo before commencement ceremonies Saturday morning, May 10th. Back row: Wyatt Wilson, Javier Cervantes, Gage Seifried, Dawson Lantz, Lincoln Koehn, Clay Guttery; Hunter Howell, Dalton Bailey, Kaiden Schultze, Kane Fry, Dalton Garman, Tristin Anson, Payton Bales; Addison Poore, Hannah Coop, Kate Kendig, Kassi Kaser, Cale Hartsock, Grace William; Krystel Graf, Violet Vines, Macy Fields, Kaylee Hooper and Isiac Turner (Stephanie Baxa/OCCF)

## BOE spends time in executive session

## Mini-park gets makeover thanks to OCCF grant

The Osborne County Community Foundation (OCCF) has awarded a grant to the City of Osborne to support a series of improvements to the Osborne Mini Park, a cherished green space in the heart of downtown.

Planned upgrades include a redesigned flowerbed, reshaped shade trees, new lighting for enhanced visibility and ambiance, a replacement pump for the park's waterfall, and the addition of a vibrant mural on a metal billboard. These enhancements aim to beautify the space and make it more inviting for residents and visitors alike.

Joan Smith and Shirley Thompson will lead the revitalization effort, working in partnership with city staff.

Their shared vision is to create a welcoming and inspiring place for all ages to enjoy. The Mini Park Volunteer Committee embraces the philosophy of urban revitalization advocate Jeff Seigler, who once said, "No one should have to travel to visit beautiful places. We must invest in making our own towns livable and lovable." With the help of the OCCF grant, the committee is doing just that—investing in Osborne's future one flower, tree, and brushstroke at a time.

This grant was made possible by the generous donors

of Osborne County. For more information on OCCF or to make a donation go to [osborneccf.org](http://osborneccf.org) or find them on Facebook at Osborne County Community Foundation – Kansas. They can be contacted by emailing [osborneccf@gmail.com](mailto:osborneccf@gmail.com) or by calling 785-345-5130.

The OCCF grant portal is now open year-round. Grant applications submitted by May 31, 2025, will be reviewed at the June OCCF board meeting. Nonprofit organizations with 501c3 status, government and public entities, educational institutions, and churches are encouraged to apply at [osborneccf.org](http://osborneccf.org).



Pictured: Nadine Sigle, OCCF, Shirley Thompson, Joan Smith, and Kristal Stanton, OCCF

## Market

May 12, 2025

Wheat.....	4.26
Milo.....	3.19
Corn.....	3.79
Soybeans.....	9.74

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