Cowley College March Board Meeting Highlights

The Cowley College Board of Trustees gathered for their March 16th meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the President's Dining Room inside the McAtee Dining Center on the Ark City Main Campus. Trustee Stanley Cochran provided the invocation, and Chair Dr. Alan Marcotte recited the College Mission Statement.

Under Awards and Reports, Cowley President Dr. Michelle Schoon shared that the Quiz Bowl team placed 8th in the Nation at the NAQT community college championship. Cowley hosted the JAG-K Region 4 conference with over 200 students in attendance, and hosted the Spring Job and Transfer fair.

In addition, Schoon honored Trustee McGregor as the Board of Trustees outgoing chairmen with a plaque, and introduced the March Student of the Month, Nathan Curran.

Government Affairs Liaison Jessica Lucas provided a legislative update.

Under Administrative Reports, ACES hosted the annual food packaging event this month where volunteers packaged 20,000 meals that will be distributed through Cowley County food pantries and blessing boxes. Cowley College wrestling program achieved its highest-ever national finish, placing seventh at the NJCAA Division 1 Men's Wrestling Championships. The Cowley College women's track and field team placed ninth at the NJCAA Indoor National Track and Field Championships.

No Public Comment.

Under Standing Committee Reports, Trustee Joe Shriver provided a recap of the March 9th, 2026 Trustee Finance Subcommittee meeting, where members discussed 2026-2027 Tuition, Fees, and Housing Rates and Procurement of 20 replacement Automated External Defibrillator (AED) units and 10 new AED units across Cowley College campus locations (Capital Outlay Funds). Administration and the Finance Subcommittee requested approval to purchase the AED Units from First Responders KS for a total of $49,890 (approved 7-0). Tuition, Fees, and Housing Rates for 2026 were presented to the board with a recommendation to delay approval and hold a special meeting after the state budget is passed (approved 7-0).

Trustee Stan Cochran provided a recap of the March 10th, 2026 Trustee Academic Subcommittee meeting, where members discussed Business & Social Science course procedure edits, new course approval – CRJ 5425 Student Patrol Practicum I (approved 7-0), and Academic Affairs updates.

Chair Gary Wilson provided a recap of the March 12th, 2026 Trustee Policy Subcommittee meeting, where members reviewed policies 300.00 – At-Will Employment (revised), 306.00 – Personnel Classification & Employment Status (revised), 416.00 – Veteran Affairs (review only), and 417.00 – Academic Advising System (revised), which were presented for a first review. Final approval will be requested at the April meeting.

The Board approved the Consent Agenda, including the Minutes from the February 16th, 2026 regular meeting, Financial Reports, Bills and Claims, Personnel Transactions, and Board Policy Approval of 152.00 - Insurance: Property & Liability (revised), and 157.00 – Student Account Bad Debt Write-off (revised), by a vote of 7-0.

Under Discussion Agenda, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration, Holly Harper, provided an insurance update in reference to the damage caused by the summer hail storm.

With no other business to discuss, Chair Marcotte declared the meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Legal Notice
(Published in the Belle Plaine News / Oxford Register on Thursday March 19, 2026)

SUMNER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA
April 8, 2026, 7:00 P.M
Raymond Frye Complex
320 N Jefferson, Wellington, Kansas
A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.
B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
C. ROLL CALL OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS.
D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.
E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.
· December 10, 2025
F. PRESENTATION OF REQUESTS AND PETITIONS.
·Case #04PC26 – Leddy – Short Form Plat
·Case #05PC26 – Russell – Zone Change AC to G1
·Case #06PC26 – Russell – Conditional Use - Venue
G. REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES.
H. REPORTS OF COMMISSION OFFICERS AND RELATED PERSONNEL.
I. NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS.
J. OLD BUSINESS
K. NEW BUSINESS.
·Work Session with Staff {30 mins or less, if needed}.
·Comprehensive Plan Review
·Bylaw Review
·Regulation Review
·Election of Officers
L. ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON NEXT AGENDA.
M. ADJOURNMENT.
The South door will be unlocked fifteen (15) minutes prior to the meeting.
Date: March 12, 2026
Prepared By: M. Templeton
Approved By: B. Fleming /S/

Legal Notice
(Published in the Belle Plaine News / Oxford Register on Thursday March 19, 2026 and Thursday March 26, 2026)

NOTICE OF HEARING

State of Kansas, Sumner County, ss:

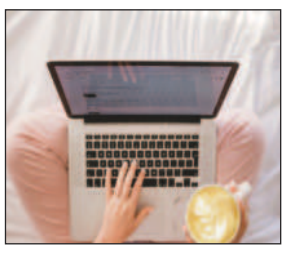
To Whom It May Concern:

TAKE NOTICE, that the Board of Sumner County Commissioners, pursuant to K.S.A. 68-102, at a regular meeting on the 7th day of April 2026 will hold a Public Hearing at 9:30 o'clock A.M. concerning the vacating of the following described road:

That portion of W. 140th St S (originally platted as Road No. 301), beginning at the Northeast corner of the West Half of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (W/2-NW/4-NW/4) of Section 21, thence running West along the section line between Sections 21 and 16, Township 34 South, Range 2 West of the 6th P.M., (Falls Township), Sumner County, Kansas to the Northwest corner of said Northwest Quarter. Said section line being the North boundary line of Section 21 and the center line of said road having a right of way of 50 feet.

ALL PERSONS desiring not to vacate said road and can show cause, have need to be present.

Debra A. Norris, Sumner County Clerk



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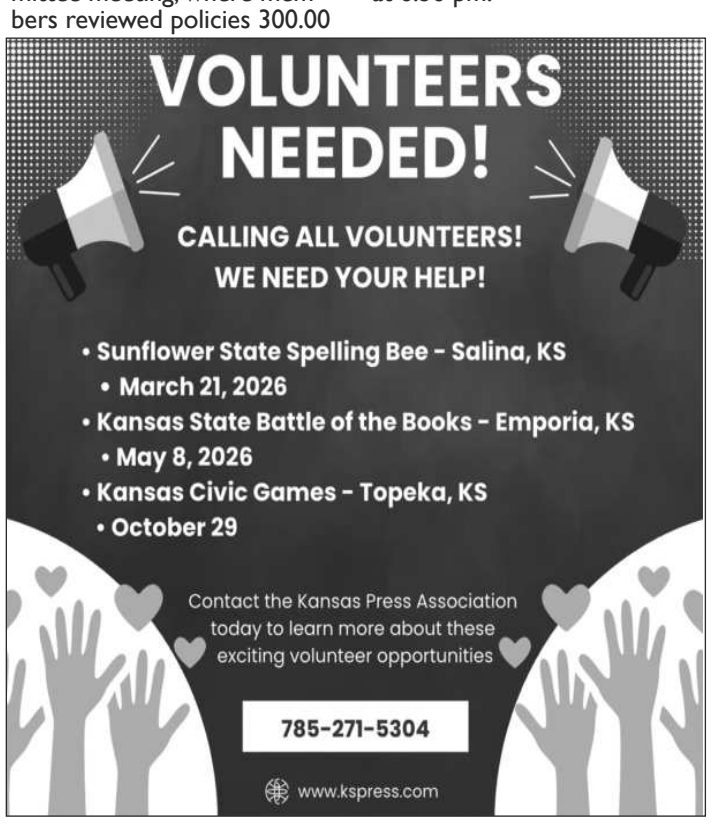

NASA Administrator Jared Isaacman to Visit Cosmosphere

HUTCHINSON, Kan. — The Cosmosphere is excited to welcome Kansas State Senator Jerry Moran who will be joined by current NASA Administrator Jared Isaacman and Gerry Griffin. On April 6, 2026, Senator Moran and Isaacman will take a private tour of the campus, followed by a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10AM, officially unveiling the newly renovated Hall of Space Museum.

During his visit, Isaacman will tour the Cosmosphere's world-class collection of historic space artifacts and exhibits, and experience the nationally-renowned educational programs first-hand, before participating in the morning's ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the reopening of the Hall of Space Museum. The updated gallery features revitalized displays, interactive exhibits, and enhanced story-telling designed to tell the story of human space exploration while inspiring future generations of scientists, engineers, and explorers.

The reopening of the Hall of Space Museum represents a major milestone for the Cosmosphere as it continues its mission to preserve the history of space exploration and create engaging learning experiences for visitors of all ages.

The date of the event is subject to change in accordance with Isaacman's required attendance of the Artemis II Mission launch.

Above: Jared Isaacman after returning home in Crew Dragon on the Polaris Dawn mission. Credit: Polaris Program

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Answer to Puzzle on page 9

Answer to Sudoku Puzzle on page 9

9	5	8	7	4	1	3	2	6
3	1	4	6	5	2	8	7	9
5	4	3	8	1	6	7	9	2
7	8	6	5	2	9	1	4	3
1	2	9	3	7	4	5	6	8
4	9	5	1	6	8	2	3	7
8	6	1	2	3	7	9	5	4
2	3	7	4	9	5	6	8	1

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