

Pratt County Commission Minutes

The Pratt County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, March 16, 2026, at 2:00 pm in the Commissioner Room, 1st floor of the Courthouse. The following members were present: Thomas W Jones III, Rick Shriver, Morgan Trinkle, Tyson Eisenhower, County Counselor, Cescha Hoffman, County Clerk and Mark Graber, IT Director.

Pratt Extension Office Update & Annual Report

Jodi Denton and Jenna Fitzsimmons, Pratt Extension Office presented an annual report on services and Community Impact. Jodi stated a

pending state bill could impact funding for extension offices across the state. Jodi and Jenna thanked the Commission for their continued support.

Lake – Utility Meter Proposal

Doug Freund, Road and Bridge and Lake Supervisor presented a proposal to consolidate services into a single central meter. The current setup includes approximately 10-11 individual meters, each incurring a minimum monthly charge resulting in significant ongoing cost, particularly during winter months when usage is low.

Motion to give Doug Freund authority to consolidate meters at accost of \$6,583.22 to be paid from the Lake budget made by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried

Road & Bridge Personnel Request

Motion to approve Joshua Small to transfer to Road & Bridge at \$17/Hr. made by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client Privilege

Motion to move to executive session under the Attorney-Client Privilege exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss the credit card processing contract with Brian Atteberry for 10 minutes at 2:18 p.m. made by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 2:26 p.m. with no action taken.

EMS Contract Request

Motion to authorize Brian Atteberry to execute a contract with Waystar Subscriber for EMS billing and payment processing services made by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

Motion to move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss opioid related settlements, courthouse projects, and multiple bills in the legislature for 25 minutes at 2:30 p.m. made by Commissioner Jones; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 2:55 pm with no action taken.

Opioid Settlement Authorization

Motion to authorize Tyson Eisenhower to execute opioid settlement documents related to six remaining defendants made by Commissioner Jones; motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

Motion to move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss PRMC Leases and Courthouse Projects for 10 minutes at 2:57 p.m. made by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 3:07 pm with no action taken.

Lawn Contract Discussion

Discussion was held regarding the county's current lawn care/

grounds maintenance contract. Tyson can prepare a public notice for bids once detailed specifications are provided. The current lawn contract will be sent to commissioners for review and will revisit at the next meeting.

CivicPlus Website Contract Renewal

Motion to approve renewal of the one year contract with CivicPlus for website services in the amount of \$6,955.20 made by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the minutes of March 9, 2026.

Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the vouchers for March 16, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.



Spring Cleaning and Safety

Glenn Brunkow, Pottawatomie County farmer and rancher

Spring has started for many of us already, the mild and even warm temperatures have allowed many of us to get a jump on spring activities already.

All of us are ready for warmer temperatures and new life spring brings us. The warmer

weather comes with spring field work and longer hours. Often, we are pushed to get work done before the spring rains and that means stretching ourselves thin.

Those long hours and a rush to beat the rain brings its own set of risks and dangers. We all know farming is one of the most dangerous professions and spring and fall accentuate those dangers. I know I am preaching to the choir, but the long hours coupled with large equipment can be a deadly combination.

Safety starts with

spring cleaning. Make sure your cab is free of extra tools, clutter and anything else that can get in the way. Believe me, I am the worst about cleaning up my workspace. We bring tools along and soon the cab is cluttered with them and wrappers and cans from hasty meals in the field. Trips and falls are among the most common accidents and can keep you out of the field for weeks or months. I don't know about you, but I don't have time to be laid up right now.

Fatigue is another common cause of acci-

dents. I might hazard a guess fatigue is the cause of most severe accidents. It is easy to push yourself to the limit this time of the year. Early mornings and late nights add up in a hurry. There is no shame in pulling over to the side of the field and taking a quick nap. Remember we are all in this for the long game, a few extra minutes is not going to make a difference in the long run.

Then there is the road. My closest calls have mostly been traveling up and down the road. Fewer people understand farm equip-

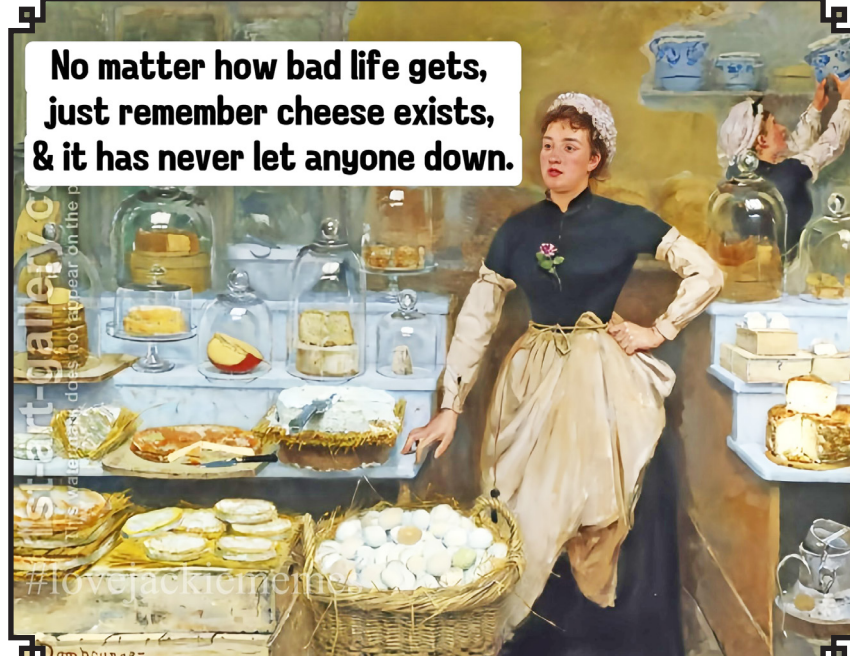
ment and what it is like to drive down the road in a slow moving, large vehicle. Add to that the frantic, rushed lives we all live and it is a deadly combination. We can mitigate some of the risks by trying to plan our trips during times with less traffic but that does not always work. Just be alert and assume that the other driver is not paying attention.

There is a myriad of other dangers like the clothes and footwear you choose, staying hydrated and being aware of where others are, especially children. Yes,

farming and ranching are among the top five most dangerous occupations, it is a risk we all accept for the way of life we have chosen. Just be aware, take the necessary precautions and lessen the risks. After all, we are less than 2 percent of the population, we cannot afford to lose anyone to an accident.

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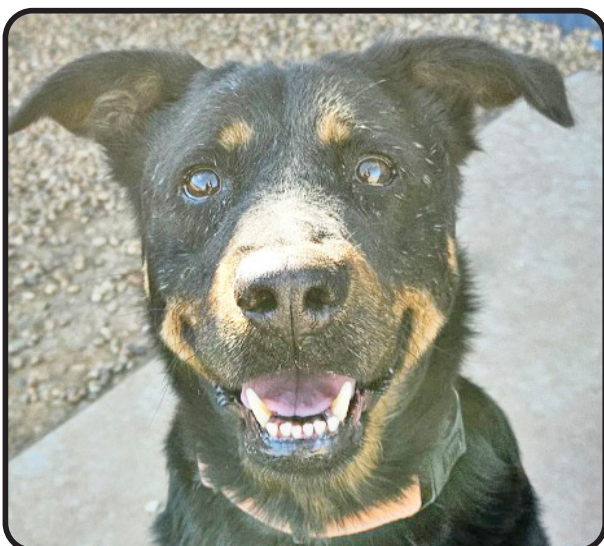
News from Kansas Farm Bureau



KCHS Pets Ready for Adoption

Raven

Sponsored by Kathy and Alan Albers



This girl is longing for a home. A home where her only job is being queen. No other royal pets, she says. She wants undivided attention as only a queen should get.

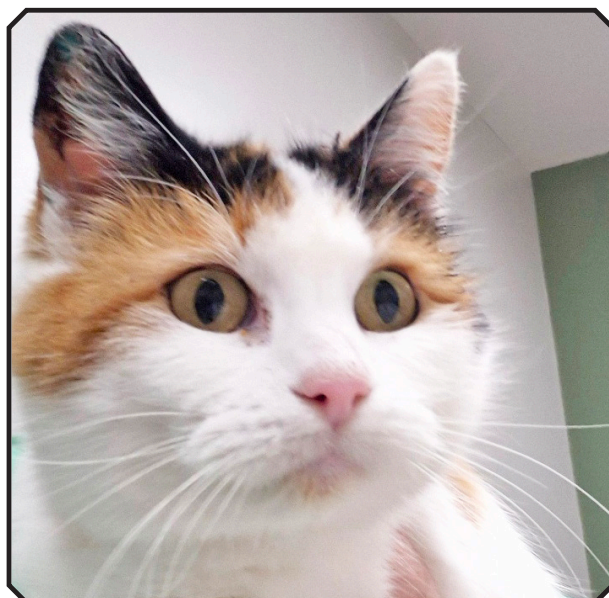
Raven is about 3 1/2 years old, weighs in the neighborhood of 48 pounds and likes her people.

She's been at the shelter since December 3rd, and she can be adopted to be the queen of your home for \$180.00. A royal bargain for this lady.

This is what she has to say, "Let me introduce myself. My name is Raven and I'm applying for a job as your dog. You should hire me because I am loyal, protective, courageous, strong, very active, and highly intelligent. I admit, I can also be a little stubborn and willful and I do snore just a tiny bit but if you're honest, you probably do too....am I right? I know Rottweilers aren't for everyone, but I can just tell we are going to be great together. So, tell me....do I get the job?"

Pip

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



This pretty little calico is Pip. She's a cutie-patootie, for sure. She is about 10 years old, so her destructive kitten and teen-kitten days are over. She'd like to live out for years in a quiet home, no stress, a nice lap or soft cushion. Plenty of pate and other delicacies only cats with good taste appreciate.

Pip has been at the shelter since February 6. Her adoption fee is \$40.00.



Swaney Veterinary Clinic
Stacie Swaney DVM
620-532-5544

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(except during lunch 12-1)
on Wed., from 8:00 - 12:00
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