

Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas



Board of Commissioners

Commission Chambers
701 N. 7th Street Trafficway, Kansas City, KS 66101

Mayor Tyrone Garner

*Commissioner At-Large Dist. 1 Melissa Bynum – Commissioner At-Large Dist. 2 Tom Burroughs –
Commissioner Dist. 1 Gayle E. Townsend – Commissioner Dist. 2 Bill Burns –
Commissioner Dist. 3 Christian Ramirez – Commissioner Dist. 4 Evelyn Hill –
Commissioner Dist. 5 Mike Kane – Commissioner Dist. 6 Phil Lopez –
Commissioner Dist. 7 Chuck Stites – Commissioner Dist. 8 Andrew Davis*

MINUTES

Thursday, August 7, 2025

7:04 PM – 10:29 PM

Attendance:

Commissioner's Present:

- Mayor Tyrone Garner
- Commissioner Lopez
- Commissioner Bynum
- Commissioner Burroughs
- Commissioner Davis
- Commissioner Kane
- Commissioner Townsend
- Commissioner Burns
- Commissioner Hill
- Commissioner Stites

Commissioner's Absent:

- Commissioner Ramirez

Staff Present:

- David Johnston (County Administrator)
- Monica L. Sparks (Unified Government Clerk)
- Angela Lawson (Interim Chief Counsel)
- Irene Caudillo (Mayor's Chief of Staff)
- Reginald Lindsey (Budget Director)
- Angel Ferrara (Parks and Recreation Director)

Call to Order:

Mayor Tyrone Garner called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The invocation was led by Chaplain Jared Altec, Wyandotte County Christian Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Revisions to Agenda: (Discussion Begins 5:21)

The Clerk reported there was an agenda update issued, adding Item No. 5.2 to the Mayor's Agenda.

Mayor's Agenda:

Item No. 1 – PRESENTATION: DOTTE PROUD RECOGNITION (Discussion Begins: 5:48)

Irene Caudillo, Chief of Staff, presented on behalf of Mayor Garner, recognizing black-owned businesses in Wyandotte County in honor of Black Business Month:

- **Heartland Black Chamber of Commerce (Discussion Begins 7:48)**
- **JLM Construction (Discussion Begins 9:56)**
- **The Jegna Klub (Discussion Begins 11:20)**
- **Mosaic Construction Company (Discussion Begins 13:32)**

This item was for information only, and no commission action was required.

Item No. 2 - UPDATE: MAYORS FROM EDWARDSVILLE AND LAKE QUIVIRA (ADDED PER AGENDA UPDATE) (Discussion Begins: 18:10)

Mayor Garner introduced mayors from cities within Wyandotte County to promote "One Wyandotte" unity.

Mayor McCullagh of Lake Quivira presented on city priorities, including:

- First municipal Bond: Spillway repair completion (\$3.2 million bond issued)
- Holiday Drive safety concerns: slower, safer and connects to I-635 and I-435
- Partnerships with Unified Government

Mayor Caiharr of Edwardsville presented requests including:

- Removal of PILOT charges from bills of residents outside Kansas City, Kansas
- Restoration of CIFI funding for infrastructure back into the county budget
- Separation of city and county business in meeting agendas

This item was for information only, and no commission action was required.

Item No. 3 – PROCLAMATION: DEPUTY ELIJAH MING MEMORIAL DAY (Discussion Begins 31:09)

A Proclamation proclaiming July 30, 2025, as Deputy Elijah Ming Memorial Day.

This item was read into the record of the meeting, and no commission action was required.

Item No. 4 – COMMUNITY INPUT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: (Comments Begin 34:15)

Multiple residents spoke during the public forum. Public comments:

- **James Bain (Comment Begins 35:10)**
- **Kathleen Holton (Comment Begins 38:52)**
- **Louise Lynch (Comment Begins 42:10)**
- **Stephanie Moss (Comment Begins 45:45)**
- **David McCullagh (Comment Begins 49:22)**
- **Brianna Vaughn (Comment Begins 49:48)**
- **Carolynn Wyatt (Comment Begins 52:22)**
- **Lisa Walker Yeager (Comment Begins 54:19)**

- Glenn Jackson (Comment Begins 57:54)
- Kori Hall (Comment Begins 1:00:22)

The public hearing was closed.

This item was for information only, and no commission action was required.

Consent Agenda: (Discussion Begins 1:36:36)

Item No. 1 - APPROVAL: TRANSIT DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY CHANGES

Item No. 2 - RESOLUTION: GRANTS POLICY THRESHOLD AND ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS

Item No. 3 - RESOLUTION: ESTABLISHING AN ANNUAL LOCAL PRIORITIES LEGISLATIVE PLAN

Item No. 4 - PLAT: 3601 FAIRBANKS AVENUE

Item No. 5 - PLAT: ROCK ISLAND BRIDGE CONDOMINIUM

Item No. 6 - PLAT: LEGACY PARK ESTATES SECOND

Item No. 7 - PLAT: BOWKERS REPLATE OF SILERS SUBDIVISION

Item No. 8 - MINUTES

Item No. 9 – WEEKLY BUSINESS

Item No. 10 - APPOINTMENTS: BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bynum.

Vote: Motion carries 9/0

- Ayes: Lopez, Bynum, Burroughs, Davis, Kane, Townsend, Burns, Hill, Stites
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez

Standing Committees' Agenda:

Item No. 1 - RESOLUTION: KANSAS FOREST SERVICE GRANT (Discussion Begins 1:37:13)

Commissioner Burroughs, in his role as chair of the Economic Development and Finance Standing Committee, explained to the full commission why the item was fast-tracked (date-sensitive, no local match required, and focused on tree removal work).

Commissioner Burroughs made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stites.

Vote: Motion carries 9/0

- Ayes: Lopez, Bynum, Burroughs, Davis, Kane, Townsend, Burns, Hill, Stites
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez

Item No. 2 - RESOLUTION: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (Discussion Begins 1:38:09)

Commissioner Davis, in his role as chair of the Neighborhoods and Community Development Standing Committee, summarized what the plan funds (small businesses, childcare, turning blight into art, and housing).

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Townsend.

Vote: Motion carries 9/0

- Ayes: Lopez, Bynum, Burroughs, Davis, Kane, Townsend, Burns, Hill, Stites
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez

Administrator's Agenda:

Item No. 1 - BUDGET PRESENTATION (Discussion Begins: 1:39:25)

County Administrator David Johnston, with Budget Director Reginald Lindsey, presented the recommended budget for commission consideration.

Key Budget Details:

- **Total Proposed Budget:** \$509 million (all funds)
- **City General Fund:** \$193 million
- **County General Fund:** \$94 million
- **Proposed Mill Increase:** 2 mills each for city and county (within 3-mill cap approved July 16)
- **PILOT Reduction:** 1% decrease (from 10.9% to 9.9%) = \$1.2 million reduction
- **Debt Strategy:** Limited to \$10 million (down from nearly \$30 million annually)

Budget Highlights:

- No layoffs, but frozen vacant positions
- Fiscal discipline implementation across departments
- Infrastructure funding including Parallel Parkway repairs using TIF balance (\$7.3 million)
- Technology improvements including body cameras, jail management, tax system
- Parks improvements and equipment
- Facilities & Planning
- Budget Personnel, away from the trend and allow year end savings
- Economic Development projects

Scheduled Budget Sessions:

- August 14 and 24: Budget workshops
- August 26: Public hearing
- August 28: Budget adoption (tentative)

This item was for information only, and no commission action was required.

Commissioner Bynum made a motion to adjourn and reconvene as the Land Bank Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis. (Discussion Begins 3:19:35)

Vote: Motion carries 9/0

- Ayes: Lopez, Bynum, Burroughs, Davis, Kane, Townsend, Burns, Hill, Stites
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez

Land Bank Board of Trustees Consent Agenda: (Discussion Begins: 3:20:18)

Item No. 1: LAND BANK EXTENSION REQUEST

Item No. 2: LAND BANK OPTIONS

Item No. 3 – LAND BANK PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hill.

Vote: Motion carries 9/0

- Ayes: Lopez, Bynum, Burroughs, Davis, Kane, Townsend, Burns, Hill, Stites
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez

Commissioner Townsend wanted to state a correction for the record “in the packet, it shows Item 12, Land Bank Options, Non-Consent. These were projected to build 15 homes. I think there are 13 lots identified, and it's shown in the packet is Land Bank Non Consent. These came to the meeting on Monday as consent items. I think the confusion came in was when I asked for a set aside, so I can merely comment on them. So for the record, I believe they should be shown as consent items. There was no opposition to them.”

Commissioner Davis and Clerk, Monica L. Sparks, clarified the non-consent item, which was a request to be fast-track and as a result, there was no opposition.

Land Bank Board of Trustees Non-Consent Agenda: (Discussion Begins: 3:25:17)

Item No. 1: LAND BANK OPTIONS

Commissioner Bynum made a motion to approve the non-consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Vote: Motion carries 9/0

- Ayes: Lopez, Bynum, Burroughs, Davis, Kane, Townsend, Burns, Hill, Stites
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez

Adjournment: (Discussion Begins 3:26:40)

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burns.

Vote: Motion carries 9/0

- Ayes: Lopez, Bynum, Burroughs, Davis, Kane, Townsend, Burns, Hill, Stites
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez

MAYOR GARNER

ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 10:29 P.M.

August 7, 2025

Monica L. Sparks, CMC

Unified Government Clerk

MLS