



Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas

Administration and Human Services Meeting

Commission Chambers

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

Chair Christian Ramirez

Commissioner, District 1, Jermaine Howard - Commissioner At-Large, District 2, Andrew Kump

Commissioner, District 4, Evelyn Hill - Commissioner, District 6, Phil Lopez

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

6:34 PM – 7:38 PM

Attendance:

Committee Members Present:

- Commissioner Ramirez (Chair)
- Commissioner Lopez
- Commissioner Hill
- Commissioner Howard
- Commissioner Kump

Committee Members Absent:

- None

Staff Present:

- Monica L. Sparks (Unified Government Clerk)
- SueZanne Bishop (Senior Counsel, Unified Government Legal Department)
- Alan Howze (Assistant County Administrator)
- Reed Partridge, Legislative Auditor
- Shaya Lockett (Parks Department)
- Terrie Garrison (Interim Health Department Director)
- Colleen Kelly (Manager, Strategic Communications and Operations Division of the Health Department)

Call to Order:

Commissioner Ramirez called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

Revisions to Agenda:

No revisions to the agenda were reported.

Approval of Previous Minutes: (Discussion Begins: 1:34:23)

Commissioner Kump moved to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2025 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Howard.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

- Ayes: Lopez, Hill, Howard, Kump, Ramirez
- Nays: None
- Absent: None

Committee Agenda:**Item No. 4.1 - PRESENTATION: NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS' USAGE OF UNIFIED GOVERNMENT FACILITIES (Discussion Begins: 1:34:43)**

Reed Partridge, Legislative Auditor, presented an audit identifying nonprofit organizations using Unified Government facilities at no cost. The audit was requested by the county administration and consisted of surveying and visiting facilities.

Key Points:

- Three noteworthy facilities identified:
 - A. **Parkwood Center:** Houses Economic Opportunity Foundation, utilizing the entire first floor (5,400 square feet)
 - B. **Beatrice Lee Center:** Houses Groundworks Northeast Revitalization group (250 square feet)
 - C. **Memorial Hall:** Various users, including UG departments, at no cost

The Chairman opened the public hearing. No comments were received. The Chairman closed the public hearing.

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

Item No. 4.2 - PRESENTATION: HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE (Discussion Begins: 1:59:01)

Terrie Garrison, Interim Health Department Director, with Colleen Kelly, Manager, Strategic Communications and Operations of the Health Department, presented the item.

Key Points:

2025 Highlights:

- Expanded the Healthy Families Wyandotte program from 3 to 5 home visitors
- Launched PayIt platform for fee payments with waived charges for clinical services
- Expanded walk-in clinic hours to five days per week
- Updated public health emergency response plans for FIFA World Cup preparation
- Launched online WIC application process
- Investigated several communicable diseases
- Named Advocate of the Year by Grandparents for Gun Safety
- Conducted the first art contest with 87 entries, partnering with local libraries

2026 Upcoming Activities:

- FIFA World Cup preparation, including emergency response planning
- National Public Health Accreditation Board re-accreditation site visit expected
- CLIA laboratory inspection for recertification
- Monthly recurring events: Happy Bottoms diaper distribution, Be Wise Monday immunizations
- Annual community events: baby showers, back-to-school immunizations
- Second annual art contest partnering with Parks and Recreation

Notable Challenges and Needs:

- Capital improvements for 50+ year old facility (built 1972)
 - A. ADA-compliant bathroom upgrades and wayfinding signage
- Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system concerns (only remaining county using current platform)
- Staffing challenges, particularly nursing and nurse practitioner positions

Financial Overview:

- Total operating budget revenue 2025: \$13,212,298
 - A. Revenue sources: 68% federal/state grants, 25.5% local tax (98% dedicated health levy), 6.5% fees and charges, 1% foundation grants

- B. Local tax funding: 98% dedicated health levy, 2% general fund (primarily county coroner services)

The Chairman opened the public hearing. No comments were received. The Chairman closed the public hearing.

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

Adjournment: (Discussion Begins: 2:36:10)

Commissioner Kump moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hill.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

- Ayes: Lopez, Hill, Howard, Kump, Ramirez
- Nays: None
- Absent: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

ML