

Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas



Board of Commissioners

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

Mayor Christal E. Watson

*Commissioner At-Large Dist. 1 Melissa Bynum – Commissioner At-Large Dist. 2 Andrew Kump –
Commissioner Dist. 1 Jermaine Howard – Commissioner Dist. 2 Bill Burns –
Commissioner Dist. 3 Christian Ramirez – Commissioner Dist. 4 Evelyn Hill –
Commissioner Dist. 5 Carlos Pacheco – Commissioner Dist. 6 Phil Lopez –
Commissioner Dist. 7 Chuck Stites – Commissioner Dist. 8 Andrew Davis*

MINUTES

**Thursday, April 16, 2026
5:39 PM – 9:21 PM**

Attendance:

Commissioners Present:

- Mayor Pro Tem Melissa Bynum
- Commissioner Jermaine Howard
- Commissioner Bill Burns
- Commissioner Phil Lopez
- Commissioner Chuck Stites
- Commissioner Andrew Kump
- Commissioner Andrew Davis

Commissioners Absent:

- Mayor CEO Christal E. Watson
- Commissioner Christian Ramirez
- Commissioner Evelyn Hill
- Commissioner Carlos Pacheco

Staff Present:

- Monica L. Sparks, Unified Government Clerk
- Bridgette Cobbins, Assistant County Administrator
- Angela Lawson, Acting Chief Counsel
- Troy Shaw, Public Works Director
- Sarah Schaefer, Senior Engineering Manager
- Diana Miles, Solid Waste Manager
- Jeff Miles, Environmental Services Director
- Rocki Mayes, Buildings & Logistics
- Reginald Lindsey, Budget Director
- Michael Sutton, Redevelopment Coordinator and Co-Land Bank Manager

Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Bynum called the meeting to order at 5:39 P.M. The invocation was led by Chaplain Stella Ruiz from Oak Grove Christian Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Revisions to Agenda: (Discussion Begins 3:09)

The Clerk reported there was an agenda update issued, adding Item No. 7.7 to the Consent Agenda for Appointments to Boards and Commissions.

Public Announcements: (Discussion Begins 3:25)

Mayor Pro Tem Bynum announced the community emergency notification sign-up available at WYCOKCKS.org/emergency. Postcards were made available for distribution in the room.

Mayor's Agenda:**Item No. 1 – PROCLAMATION: SEVENDAYS OF KINDNESS (Discussion Begins 4:18)**

Proclamation proclaiming April 28, 2026 as SevenDays of Kindness Day in Kansas City, Kansas and Wyandotte County.

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

Item No. 2 – RESOLUTION: SISTER CITY WITH CITY OF YERBA BUENA, TUCUMAN, ARGENTINA (Discussion Begins 11:28)

A resolution was presented to establish a sister city relationship with the city of Yerba Buena Tucuman, Argentina in preparation for World Cup activities.

Commissioner Kump made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burns.

Vote: Motion carries 7/0

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Lopez, Davis
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Item No. 3 – PRESENTATION: WORLD CUP UPDATE (Discussion Begins 12:29)

County Administrator David Johnston provided opening remarks, introducing Rocki Mayes from Buildings and Logistics Department, Memorial Hall Manager, and Alan Carr, Executive Director of Visit Kansas City, Kansas Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Key Points:

- Memorial Hall Events - Memorial Hall renovations completed and planned viewing events for five World Cup matches, including:
 - A. Mexico vs South Africa (Thursday, June 11, 2:00 PM)
 - B. Czechia vs South Africa and Switzerland vs Bosnia (Thursday, June 18, 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM)
 - C. Portugal vs Uzbekistan and England vs Ghana (Tuesday, June 23)
 - D. Norway vs France and Senegal vs Iraq (Friday, June 26, 2:00 PM)
 - E. USA vs Germany (Saturday, June 6 - D Day at Soldier's Field, Chicago)
- Visit KC Kansas Update - Alan Carr: Presented "Kick it in KCK" brand and marketing campaign results showing 50% of website visitors from outside the United States since December. Outlined watch parties, visitor experience improvements, business readiness programs, and neighborhood preparation initiatives.

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

Consent Agenda: (Discussion Begins 48:16)

Item No. 1 – RESOLUTION: MASTER EQUIPMENT LEASE AMENDMENT

Item No. 2 – RESOLUTION: FISCAL YEAR 25 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT - LOCAL FORMULA

Item No. 3 – ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION: VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN ADOPTION

Item No. 4 – RESOLUTION: VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN GRANTS

Item No. 5 – MINUTES

Item No. 6 – WEEKLY BUSINESS

Item No. 7 – APPOINTMENT: BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda except Item No. 7.2. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kump.

Vote: Motion carries 7/0

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Lopez, Davis
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Set Aside:

Item No. 2 – RESOLUTION: FISCAL YEAR 25 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT - LOCAL FORMULA (Discussion Begins 49:45)

A request was made by Commissioner Lopez to set aside Item No. 7.2.

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

Vote: Motion carries 7/0

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Lopez, Davis
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Public Hearing Agenda:(Discussion Begins 50:59)

Item No. 1 – PUBLIC HEARING/RESOLUTION: AMENDMENT TO THE INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS (IRBS) AGREEMENT FOR NORTHPOINT DEVELOPMENT, LOCATED AT I-70 AND TURNER DIAGONAL

Administrator David Johnston and CFO Dr. Shelley Kneuvean presented an amendment to increase the dollar amount covered by industrial revenue bonds for North Point development from \$155 million to \$250 million due to increased construction costs.

Mayor Pro Tem Bynum opened the public hearing. Comments were received from the following:

- **Greg Kindle (WEDC) (Comment Begins 57:13)**

The public hearing was closed.

The Developer was present to answer questions.

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

Vote: Motion carries 6/1

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Davis
- Nays: Lopez
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Standing Committee's Agenda:

Item No. 1 – PRESENTATION: STORMWATER UTILITY RATES (Discussion Begins 1:22:23)

Commissioner Kump noted these three items (stormwater, sanitary sewer, and solid waste utility rates) were forwarded from the Public Works and Safety Committee without recommendation for full commission discussion. The three items are in one presentation presented by Public Works staff.

Key Points:

Three-Tiered Service Levels Explained:

- **Required:** Baseline service, minimum expectations, legal requirements
- **Responsible:** Industry standard, preventative maintenance, future planning
- **Resilient:** Above and beyond, future readiness, sustainability

Sanitary Sewer Rate Options:

- Scenario A: 4% increase (current) - not compliance-ready
- Scenario B: Additional 1% (May) + 7% (2027) - meets consent decree requirements
- Scenario C: Additional 2% (May) + 8% (2027) - includes \$4M system-wide study

Stormwater Rate Options:

- Scenario A: No change - maintains current service
- Scenario B: \$0.20/month (2026), \$0.96/month (2027) - responsible service level
- Scenario C: Additional \$0.20 (May), \$2.21 (2027) - includes Watershed Planning & Deficiencies Study

Solid Waste Rate Options:

- Scenario A: Rate increase to \$21.46 (2027) - KCK residents continue funding all services
- Scenario B: Rate stays \$20.15 - excludes additional services, general fund covers costs
- Scenario C: Rate to \$21.35 - excludes Bonner/Edwardsville subsidy

Commissioner Davis made a motion to table Item Nos. 9.1, 9.2, and 9.3 to the next Board of Commission meeting on May 7. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez.

Vote: Motion carries 7/0

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Lopez, Davis
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Item No. 2 – PRESENTATION: SANITARY SEWER UTILITY RATES (Discussion Begins 1:22:23)

This item was discussed along with Item No. 1 - PRESENTATION: STORMWATER UTILITY RATES.

Item No. 3 – PRESENTATION: SOLID WASTE UTILITY RATES (Discussion Begins 1:22:23)

This item was discussed along with Item No. 1 - PRESENTATION: STORMWATER UTILITY RATES.

Administrator's Agenda:

Item No. 1 – ORDINANCE: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES WATER AND ELECTRIC LINES CENTRAL AVENUE TO STATE LINE PROJECT (Discussion Begins 2:30:32)

Deputy Counsel Wendy Green presented an ordinance allowing condemnation proceedings for water and electric line installation by BPU. The request involves a commercial property easement after failed negotiations.

Deputy Counsel Wendy Green explained that the item was sent back previously because commissioners wanted additional assurance and clarification about BPU's internal approval and negotiation process before authorizing condemnation. At an earlier meeting, commissioners asked whether the BPU Board specifically approved the use of eminent domain for this project. Deputy Counsel Wendy Green clarified at this meeting that the BPU Board normally does not vote on each condemnation; they approve the project and budget, and staff then decides if eminent domain is needed, with the actual legal action taken in the Unified Government's name.

BPU Staff were present to answer questions.

Commissioner Burns made a motion to approve the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bynum.

Vote: Motion fails 5/2

- Ayes: Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Davis
- Nays: Stites, Lopez
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Commissioner Davis made a motion to send the item to the BPU Board for formal advisement and come back for consideration. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kump.

Vote: Motion fails 5/2

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Davis
- Nays: Burns, Lopez
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Item No. 2 – ORDINANCE: ISSUANCE OF BONDS BY KANSAS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY (KDFA) FOR THE GLANVILLE TOWERS PROJECT (Discussion Begins 3:06:34)

Deputy Counsel Wendy Green presented notification of \$17.5 million multi-family housing revenue bonds for Glanville Towers rehabilitation at 730 Nebraska Avenue.

Commissioner Kump made a motion to approve the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Vote: Motion carries 7/0

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Lopez, Davis
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Item No. 3 – PRESENTATION: 2026 BUDGET RECAP (Discussion Begins 3:11:35)

Budget Director Reginald Lindsay presented the 2026 approved budget overview as foundation for 2027 budget process.

Key Points:

- Combined \$509 million budget (city and county)
- City: 1.5 mill increase, County: 2 mill increase
- 1% residential pilot decrease (second year)
- No layoffs, debt issuance reduced to \$10 million
- Historic pavement preservation funding
- Dotte Talk is April 28th at 6 p.m. at the Kansas City Community College (KCCC) Tech Center

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

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn and reconvene as the Land Bank Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Howard. (Discussion Begins 3:36:03)

Vote: Motion carries 7/0

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Lopez, Davis
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Land Bank Board of Trustees' Consent Agenda (Discussion Begins 3:36:40)

Item No. 1 - LAND BANK OPTIONS

Item No. 2 - LAND BANK PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve all items as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kump.

Vote: Motion carries 7/0

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Lopez, Davis
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Land Bank Board of Trustees' Non-Consent Agenda (Discussion Begins 3:37:18)

Item No. 1 - LAND BANK OPTIONS

Commissioner Davis introduced the item, noting the Neighborhood & Community Development Committee voted in approval of 4-1 despite neighborhood association opposition.

Michael Sutton, Redevelopment Coordinator and Co-Land Bank Manager, explained the duplexes project at 10th and New Jersey had completed all requirements, but faced opposition from the Strugglers-Hill Roots Neighborhood Association.

Commissioner Howard made a motion to approve the item as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Vote: Motion fails 5/2

- Ayes: Stites, Kump, Howard, Burns, Davis
- Nays: Bynum, Lopez
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

Commission Bynum asked if there is an opportunity for the item to be returned at any point? Acting Chief Counsel Angela Lawson advised it could return to the future Board of Commission agenda if requested and approved by the mayor.

Adjournment (Discussion Begins 3:41:50)

Commissioner Davis moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Howard.

Vote: Motion carries 7/0

- Ayes: Stites, Bynum, Kump, Howard, Burns, Lopez, Davis
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ramirez, Hill, Pacheco, Watson

MAYOR PRO TEM BYNUM

ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 9:21 P.M.

April 16, 2026

Monica L. Sparks, CMC

Unified Government Clerk

ML