



Lawrence County

# FACILITIES | PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

**Date:** July 8, 2025 | **Time:** 5:00-5:55 p.m.

**PRESENT:** County Executive David Morgan. **Commissioners:** Scott Franks, Dave Ray, Barry Luffman, Steve Hagan, Chris Sutherland, Phillip Heatherly, Travis Cauwels, Randy Brewer, and Shane Eaton. **Director of Accounts & Budgets** Brandi Williams and **Circuit Court Clerk** Tommy Lee Kidd, and Mike Hunt with **God's Storehouse**.

**ROLL CALL:** Chairman Scott Franks, Vice-chair Randy Brewer, and Travis Cauwels.

**ABSENT:** Tim Clifton and Sandy Newton.

**Commissioner Franks** called the meeting to order.

- **Prayer:** Executive Morgan.
- **Pledge:** Commissioner Franks.

## **GOD'S STOREHOUSE:**

- **Hunt** requested funding for a new walk-in cooler and freezer. The current units were already used when installed 20 years ago. Estimated cost is roughly \$40,000, which includes the concrete pads. Proposed dimensions are 12x15. Recommended purchasing separate units instead of one large unit—it would be easier to install with beams and more cost-effective. Noted a significant loss of meat due to ongoing issues with the current units.
- **Commissioner Brewer** asked Mike to provide an overview of God's Storehouse services.
- **Hunt** explained that the Thrift Store and God's Storehouse are two separate operations. Funds from the Thrift Store, which come from community donations, go to support God's Storehouse. These funds are used to purchase items like undergarments, toothbrushes, etc.
- **Executive Morgan** noted that this is a county-owned building, so the expense would be categorized as a capital project allocation. He will look into it.
- **Commissioner Brewer** expressed his support for the request.

- **Williams** clarified that this would be an allocation within the budget, and it should be worded as an amount not to exceed. Emphasized that the money is not going to God's Storehouse directly—the county is funding the equipment for the building.

**Approve Contribution to God's Storehouse with the Amount Not to Exceed \$45,000.00.**

**Motion:** Brewer. **Second:** Cauwels.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously 3/0.

**SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER:**

- **Commissioner Franks** reported that the Senior Center is requesting \$5,000 for a covered walkway.
- The committee discussed concerns that the price seemed too low to adequately cover the cost of an awning.
- **Executive Morgan** texted Stephanie Sinclair, Senior Center Director, to request more details.
- While awaiting her response, the committee moved on to the next agenda item: Update on the Election Commission Facility.

**ELECTION COMMISSION FACILITY UPDATE:**

- **Commissioner Franks** noted that Mark Brewer has started renovation work. The project has a budget of \$35,000.
- The large desk currently in place is outdated and not ADA-compliant; the Election Commission would like to replace it. The existing desk is 30 feet long.
- A new unit would cost around \$8,000, but no formal funding request is being made at this time.
- **Executive Morgan** commented that the space is large and functional. Suggested the new countertop could be modified on both ends to meet ADA standards.
- Mentioned the importance of drawing a clear distinction now regarding future plans and budgeting. Asked if this could be addressed through budget amendments for Mark's fund.
- **Williams** explained that **\$75,000** is currently being used. Once the project is complete, they will return to the Budget Committee with an amendment to replenish the fund.

## **LAND DONATION:**

- The committee discussed land that officer Anthony Washburn is willing to donate land to the county for an EMS building in Henryville near the fire department.
- The committee discussed their desire to use the property for both an EMS facility and a Solid Waste Convenience Center.
- **Commissioner Heatherly** stated that two community clubs he went to were in favor of the proposal.
- EMS previously opposed the site, which is why it wasn't pursued earlier.
- **Commissioner Heatherly** expressed his continued support for the location.
- **Commissioner Ray** shared that his community club questioned why the county didn't accept the property. He spoke with an EMS employee who mentioned a lack of nearby food options as a concern.
- **Executive Morgan** noted that the new building would include full living quarters and all necessary facilities.
- **Commissioner Sutherland** asked about the cost of the Convenience Center.
- **Williams** stated the Loretto Center cost roughly \$750,000.
- **Executive Morgan** added that the Loretto convenience center is the largest one so the other centers will be cheaper and all the trucks have already been purchased for use at all centers.
- **Executive Morgan** emphasized that EMS and the Solid Waste Convenience Center should be included together in the overall plan.

### **Motion to Accept the land donation for the EMS Center and Solid Waste Convenience Center, Pending Soil Testing and Verification of the Property Deed.**

**Motion:** Cauwels. **Second:** Brewer.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously 3/0.

- **Commissioner Franks** noted there were some structural issues in the old section at EO Coffman.
- **Executive Morgan** agreed to call Director of Schools, Michael Adkins.
- **Commissioner Eaton** noted he was approached by Paul Rosson in regards to a Carrier Center truck parked in the new Election Commission parking lot. He asked if he was allowed to keep it there until he finds available space.
- **Executive Morgan** agreed to call SCHRA Executive Director, Paul Rosson.

### **Motion to Adjourn.**

**Motion:** Brewer. **Second:** Cauwels.

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously 3/0.

**Minutes Submitted By:** Christian Tyree