



Lawrence County

COMMITTEE AS-A-WHOLE

Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2026 | **Time:** 5:00-5:27 p.m.

PRESENT: County Executive David Morgan. **Commissioners:** Shane Eaton, Phillip Heatherly, Chris Sutherland, Wayne Yocom, Denny Gillespie, Tim Clifton, Dave Ray, Scott Franks, Travis Cauwels, Steve Hagan, Rick Skillington, Barry Luffman, Delano Benefield, and John Bradley. **County Attorney** Ryan Durham, Anthony Washburn, and John Uzbasic.

- **Commissioner Eaton** called the meeting to order.

PRAYER: Morgan.

PLEDGE: Eaton.

- **Durham** explained that the new amendment to the Open Meetings Act allows members of the public to speak on non-agenda items. He noted that it remains the responsibility of the Commission Chair or Committee Chair to maintain decorum during meetings. Time limits for individual speakers may still be enforced, and the Commission may designate a specific period for public comment if it so chooses. **Durham** stated that the Commission should determine whether to adopt this into policy and, if adopted, to apply it consistently at every meeting. He also suggested thanking each speaker after they finish and proceeding without referring them to another committee.
- The commissioners discussed establishing separate times for public comment on agenda items and non-agenda items.
- The commissioners discussed implementing a maximum time limit for public comment, with a total of 30 minutes suggested.
- It was agreed that the Rules Committee would meet to consider adding a 30-minute public comment period to the Commission's Rules of Procedure document.

Adjournment.

Motion: Clifton. **Second:** Cauwels.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Submitted By: Christian Tyree