

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
January 17, 2026

Ed called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with open doors.

Special meeting to appoint Interim Fire Chief.

Present: Jim Tucker, Chairman (Absent); Ed Anderson, Vice-Chairman; JW Finn, Commissioner; David Thompson, County Attorney(absent), Gina Shores, County Clerk.

County Attorney asked the Commissioners to meet to appoint an Interim Fire Chief due to our local weather being dry, high winds and fire danger.

Commissioners reviewed the job description, made one change.

They discussed wanting to interview applicants and maybe sending a survey to volunteers and each city fire chief for their recommendations. They discussed who has shown interest in applying and who is not applying. They decided to call Mike Rodriguez, Elkhart Fire Chief and ask if he does not want to apply, would he be the interim until the position is filled. Mike accepted to do this short term. A motion by JW, seconded by Ed to appoint Mike Rodriguez as interim Fire Chief effective immediately until the application and statutory process has been completed.

A motion to adjourn at 1:52 by JW, seconded by Ed.

Jim Tucker, Chairman

Ed Anderson, Vice-Chairman

JW Finn, Commissioner

Attest: _____
Gina Shores, County Clerk