

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
January 19, 2026

Jim called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with open doors.

Special meeting for non-payment to local vendors, some dating back to May.

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

Commissioners called this special meeting to review and resolve the Sheriff's department past due bills. The Clerk sent an email to the Sheriff requesting invoices/receipts for 3 vendors for past due bills needed by Jan. 16th to process these. The Sheriff provided 1 of the 3 invoices by the deadline and he said he would get the other 2. One local vendor hasn't been paid since May 2025.

Commissioners discussed our County policy for the Supervisors of each department to properly and timely submit vouchers for payment. If not paid they personally assume responsibility of late fees. After reviewing 2025 vouchers, Sheriff Thad Earls has accumulated late fees of \$356.96 for the Sheriff's department. The Commissioners and Clerk agreed it's best the Clerk pay the outstanding bills we have been made aware of and have the Sheriff sign and provide receipts/invoices on the voucher for these expenses. Commission approved this emergency action on a motion by Jim, seconded by Ed, UYV.

Commissioners reviewed the vouchers the Sheriff submitted last week and noted that the Sheriff submitted 3 months' worth of invoices from 1 local vendor. Another vendor has a \$12/late fee assessed.

They also discussed updating our policy on fuel cards and logs.

A motion to adjourn at 10:48 by Jim, seconded by Ed, UYV.

Jim Tucker, Chairman

Ed Anderson, Vice-Chairman

JW Finn, Commissioner

Attest: _____
Gina Shores, County Clerk