

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

July 20, 2026

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened on this 20th day of July 2026 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse.

Members Present:

Dennis L. Rolfs, 1st District Commissioner

Gregory C. Bender, 2nd District Commissioner

Shawn Thomas, 3rd District Commissioner

OPENING BUSINESS:

Chairman Bender called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the agenda with the one addition at 9:30.
Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the minutes for July 13th as printed. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

APPOINTMENTS:

Teresa Shute, Noxious Weed, Landfill and Recycling Superintendent, informed the Commissioners that KanEquip is trying to fix the tractor's oil leak and hopefully it will not be too costly. Mrs. Shute received a bid from Bristow Electric to install LED lights for \$400 at the Landfill office. Commissioner Thomas made a motion to allow the Landfill to move forward with the contract with World Pest Control for the amount of \$240 a year and the funds to come out of the landfill budget. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Thomas made a motion to allow the Weed Department to purchase a window air conditioner unit not to exceed \$700 if needed. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Kerianne Ehrlich, Health Department Director, said they can no longer sign into the WIC (Women Infant Children) computer. Commissioner Thomas made a motion to allow the Health Department to move forward with the purchase of a new WIC computer from LockIT not to exceed \$1,800. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Paul Kasper, County Attorney, told the Commissioners he researched several resolutions to compile Resolution 2026R04, regarding data centers. Commissioner Thomas made a motion we move forward with Resolution 2026R04, a resolution voicing the Commissioner's concerns for Data Centers in Ellsworth County. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Bender moved to place a County Commission ad in the Independent Reporter Cowtown Days section as before with the cost of \$173.25 to come from the General Fund. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs left the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Thomas moved to adjourn at 10:25 a.m. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Shelly D. Vopat, Ellsworth County Clerk

07/20/2026