

COMMISSIONER’S PROCEEDINGS
COTTON COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
JULY2025

July 14, 2025

The Board in regular session for which time, place and agenda being posted at 8:30 a.m. July 11, 2025 for July 14, 2025 with Milton Honeycutt, John Anderson and Kevin Grimes present; Cotton County Clerk Joseph Schappert, Cotton County Clerk Chief Deputy/BOCC Assistant Sandy Edgmon, Cotton County Sheriff Tim King, Cotton County Emergency Management Director Lori Hedges, Cotton County Treasurer Tammy Simpson, Cotton County OSU Extension Director Kim Davis, Cotton County Tax Assessor Virginia Brasier, Cotton County Election Board Secretary Shellie Hart, Walters City Manager Matt Lafee and Walters/Cotton County E911 Trust Authority Chairman Joe Keaton were present for the meeting.

- A.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Honeycutt.
- B.

Introduction of Guests, as listed above.
- C.

Reading and Approval of Commissioners Proceedings for Regular Meeting July 7, 2025 on motion by Honeycutt, 2 nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- D.

CONSENT AGENDA: The following items are considered to be Routine by the Board of Commissioners and will be enacted with one motion. Should discussion be desired on an item; that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to action and considered separately.

Honeycutt moved to approve consent agenda as follows:

1. Consider Approval of Processing Purchase Orders for Purchases Prior to Encumbrance

2. Consider Approval of Blanket Purchase Orders

193 Richard Anderson District #2 \$1500.00

194 Carolyn McComber District #2 \$1500.00

195 Hooker Family Revocable Living Trust District #2 \$1500.00

196 Vulcan Construction Materials, LLC District #2 \$5000.00

220 Tony High District #3 \$2000.00

294 Tony High District #3 \$5000.00

3. Consider Approval of Purchase Orders and Payroll Affidavits

4. Consider Approval of Monthly P-Card Statement and Payment

5. Consider Approval of Request for Appropriations and Transfer of Ap propriations

Transfer of Appropriations 26-01 as follows:

Account 1102-6-4100-2005 to 1102-6-4000-1234 \$10,858.71

Account 1102-6-4200-2005 to 1102-6-4000-1234 \$13,657.80

Account 1102-6-4300-2005 to 1102-6-4000-1234 \$8909.14

Transfer of Appropriations 26-02 as follows:

Account 1102-6-4100-2005 to 1102-6-4100-4110 \$100,000.00

6. Consider Monthly Officer’s Reports for the month of June 2025

Cotton County Health Department \$30.00

7. Consider Monthly Districts’ Summary Reports of Consumable Items for the month of June

District #1

\$20,231.46

District #2

\$38,755.04

Anderson 2 nd the motion to approve consent agenda. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- E.

Walters City Manager, Matt LaFee discussed the notice that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is planning to issue to the Walters Public Works Authority an Administrative Order under Section 1414(g) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), 42 U.S.C. § 300g-3(g). The notice states that the EPA believes that the above-referenced drinking water system violated the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) and Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 141, Subpart I, by failing to develop and submit an initial service line inventory to the State of Oklahoma by the October 16, 2024, deadline. The administrative order will require the Walters Public Works Authority to take specified action to remedy its violations. LaFee informed the Board that while the Walters Public Work Authority did indeed miss the October 16, 2024 deadline for submitting the initial service line inventory, Joey, the Walters Water Plant Supervisor has been in direct communication with the EPA. An updated service line map was submitted to them in May. However, it appears the EPA’s system may not have been updated yet. LaFee assured the Board that Walters has been actively working on this project in coordination with outside water agencies to properly identify and map the lines. LaFee stated that this has proven to be a significant and time-consuming undertaking, given the historical records and infrastructure involved. However, he says they are making steady progress and have about 40% completed. Walters fully intends to complete the inventory as soon as possible, ideally before any administrative enforcement action is finalized by the EPA. LaFee said he appreciates the Boards support as Walters works to bring the system into full compliance. No action taken.

F.

Discuss, consider and possible action on entering into Executive Session pursuant to Title 25 Oklahoma Statute, Section 307(B)(4) for the purpose of confidential communications between a public body and its legal counsel regarding all aspects of pending litigation, filed in the District Court of Cotton County, Oklahoma, in the case styled Walters/ Cotton County Enhance 911 Trust Authority v. The County of Cotton of the State of Oklahoma, et al., Case No. CJ-2024-19. Counsel may appear telephonically.

G.

Enter Executive Session if authorized by a majority vote of quorum of the members present; record said vote publicly. Authority: Title 25 Oklahoma Statutes Section 307(E). Motion by Grimes, 2 nd by Anderson to enter into Executive Session. Board requested Executive Assistant Sandy Edgmon and Cotton County Clerk Joseph Schappert to stay in executive session and requested everyone else in attendance to please leave the meeting. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

H.

Executive Session. Board discussed matters regarding all aspects of pending litigation, filed in the District Court of Cotton County, Oklahoma, in the case styled Walters/Cotton County Enhance 911 Trust Authority v. The County of Cotton of the State of Oklahoma, et al., Case No. CJ-2024-19 in confidential communications with legal counsel. Counsel appeared telephonically.

I.

Public vote to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene in Open Session with vote of each member publicly cast and recorded. Authority: Title 25 Oklahoma Statutes Section 307(E). Everyone who wished to rejoin the meeting was invited back in. Those rejoining the meeting are as follows: Cotton County Treasurer Tammy Simpson, Cotton County OSU Extension Director Kim Davis, Cotton County Tax Assessor Virginia Brasier, Cotton County Election Board Secretary Shellie Hart, Walters/ Cotton County E911 Trust Authority Chairman Joe Keaton and Chisholm Trail Consulting PE, CFM Scott Vaughn joined the meeting. Motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Grimes to end Executive Session and return to open meeting. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE. Chairman Honeycutt stated the only matters discussed in Executive Session were for the purpose of confidential communications between a public body and its legal counsel regarding all aspects of pending litigation, filed in the District Court of Cotton County, Oklahoma, in the case styled Walters/Cotton County Enhance 911 Trust Authority v. The County of Cotton of the State of Oklahoma, et al., Case No. CJ-2024-19. Counsel appeared telephonically. Authority: Title 25 Oklahoma Statutes Section 307(E).

- J.

Consider possible action from Executive Session with vote of each member publicly cast and recorded. Consider action on any item discussed in Executive Session related to pending litigation filed in the District Court of Cotton County, Oklahoma, in the case styled Walters/ Cotton County Enhance 911 Trust Authority v. The County of Cotton of the State of Oklahoma, et al., Case No. CJ-2024-19. Counsel appeared telephonically. Authority: Title 25 Oklahoma Statutes Section 307(E).

1. Motion by Grimes, 2 nd by Anderson to authorize counsel to begin negotiating, subject to the Board of County Commissioner’s approval and direction, a single contract to replace the multiple contracts in effect with Walters/ Cotton County E911 Trust Authority. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

2. Motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Grimes to authorize counsel to seek a stay of the scheduling order to allow the parties to submit motions and briefs to the Court for determination of all legal issues prior to a possible trial on the merits of the case. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

3. Motion by Grimes, 2 nd by Anderson to authorize counsel to work with Plain-tiff’s counsel to schedule the deposition of Lance Terry including the issuance of subpoenas, if necessary. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

4. Motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Grimes to equally share with Plaintiff the costs of the transcript, court reporter, and other deposition expenses, except for attorney fees, associated with the deposition of Lance Terry. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- K.

2024 REAP Grant Sidewalk Project was discussed with Scott Vaughn PE, CFM; Chisholm Trail Consulting. Vaughn informed Board that the project should be completed approxi-mately within a week. Beginning today the North and West doors will be open and the South and East doors will be locked as work continues on those sides. There have been a few issues remain-ing with the West door which will be addressed and a temporary fix has been created. No action taken.

L.

Annual Financial Statement of the Treasurer of Cotton County for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 was presented and approved on motion by Grimes, 2 nd by Honeycutt. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

M.

Cooperative Agreement between Cotton County and the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, Wildlife Services Division made to augment the wildlife damage management program in Oklahoma was presented and reviewed including a payment of \$3400.00 to partially supplement costs incurred to include salary, vehicle, travel and equipment for the Wildlife Specialist(s) conducting wildlife damage management activities in Cotton County for fiscal year 2025-2026. Agreement was deferred pending ad-ditional information on motion by Anderson, 2nd by Honeycutt. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

N.

Resolution 25-89 authorizing Cotton County Treasurer to deposit funds received from Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma (ACCO) Self Insured Group for damages to two Sheriff units from accident on 5/24/2025 in the amount of \$39,242.50 was reviewed and approved to be deposited as follows on motion by Grimes, 2 nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE. \$17,405.00 to B-3 account, (0001-2-8004-4110); \$21,837.50 to SD-2 account, (1235-2-0400-2005)

O.

Authorization for road repair by Vulcan Materials to repair the damaged section of County Road NS 2680 south of Highway 70 at its own expense, using donated materials and labor was discussed, reviewed and approved on motion by Honeycutt, 2 nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

P.

New Business: (Consider any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting this agenda)

Assistant stated that she attended the REAP Grant Workshop this past Thurs-day as requested by the Board. She stated that the Workshop was informative and that the Board needed to start considering the next REAP Grant Project. Assistant reminded Board that they had discussed redoing the north parking lot of the courthouse due to fall haz-ards which were made worse during the Sidewalk project. Clerk Schappert also mentioned the need for elevator upgrades.

Q.

Motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Grimes to adjourn and reconvene at Cotton County Expo/Fair Barn at 10:45 a.m. to inspect flood water damage. Damage was inspected and discussed. Insurance has already approved claim. No action taken.

R.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion by Honeycutt, 2 nd by Anderson to adjourn. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- WARRANTS ISSUED IN FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
- | | | | |
|------------|--|------------|--------------------|
| FAIR BOARD | | | |
| 000004 | COTTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE | \$560.83 | UTILITIES |
| 000005 | COTTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE | \$54.36 | UTILITIES |
| GENERAL | | | |
| 000011 | BURKBURNETT QUICK LUBE | \$227.46 | OIL CHANGE |
| 000012 | SYSCO FOOD SERVICES OF OK INC | \$3,351.91 | INMATE FOOD |
| 000013 | DANNY C. HILL, DBC D&N FIRE PROTECTION | \$1,590.25 | MAINTENANCE |
| 000014 | MERIT CDJR OF DUNCAN | \$195.26 | OIL CHANGE |
| 000015 | MAYFIELD PAPER CO. | \$828.08 | SUPPLIES |
| 000016 | SCHAPPERT, JOSEPH FREDERICK | \$148.30 | TRAVEL |
| 000017 | HONEYCUTT, MILTON A. | \$148.30 | TRAVEL |
| 000018 | CALFY BROTHERS BUILDING CENTER | \$79.98 | LIGHTS |
| 000019 | OSBI | \$1,200.00 | ODIS SOFTWARE |
| 000020 | QUILL | \$375.17 | FILE SHREDDING |
| 000021 | HART, SHELLIE D. | \$107.80 | TRAVEL |
| 000022 | OSU | \$877.92 | PART TIME HELP |
| 000023 | COTTON COUNTY, FREE FAIR | \$750.00 | RENTAL |
| 000024 | WALTERS CAR WASH | \$106.50 | OVERAGES |
| 000025 | TK ELEVATOR CORPORATION | \$2,907.12 | MAINTENANCE AGREEM |
| HEALTH | | | |
| 000001 | DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES | \$1,375.00 | RENT |
| 000002 | PURE WATER PARTNERS, LLC | \$128.00 | WATER |
| 000003 | ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP | \$4,213.40 | PROPERTY INSURANCE |
| 000004 | AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES | \$33.40 | OFFICE SUPPLIES |
| HIGHWAY | | | |
| 000010 | KOHOUT, NATHANIEL WYATT | \$687.59 | PAYROLL |
| 000011 | OK PUB. EMP. RET. SYSTEM | \$60.48 | PAYROLL |
| 000012 | WALTERS BANK AND TRUST | \$115.66 | PAYROLL |
| 000013 | KELLPRO COMPUTER SOLUTIONS | \$3,450.00 | SOFTWARE |

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WARRANTS ISSUED IN FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

FAIR BOARD			
000004	COTTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	\$560.83	UTILITIES
000005	COTTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	\$54.36	UTILITIES
GENERAL			
000011	BURKBURNETT QUICK LUBE	\$227.46	OIL CHANGE
000012	SYSCO FOOD SERVICES OF OK INC	\$3,351.91	INMATE FOOD
000013	DANNY C. HILL, DBC D&N FIRE PROTECTION	\$1,590.25	MAINTENANCE
000014	MERIT CDJR OF DUNCAN	\$195.26	OIL CHANGE
000015	MAYFIELD PAPER CO.	\$828.08	SUPPLIES
000016	SCHAPPERT, JOSEPH FREDERICK	\$148.30	TRAVEL
000017	HONEYCUTT, MILTON A.	\$148.30	TRAVEL
000018	CALFY BROTHERS BUILDING CENTER	\$79.98	LIGHTS
000019	OSBI	\$1,200.00	ODIS SOFTWARE
000020	QUILL	\$375.17	FILE SHREDDING
000021	HART, SHELLIE D.	\$107.80	TRAVEL
000022	OSU	\$877.92	PART TIME HELP
000023	COTTON COUNTY, FREE FAIR	\$750.00	RENTAL
000024	WALTERS CAR WASH	\$106.50	OVERAGES
000025	TK ELEVATOR CORPORATION	\$2,907.12	MAINTENANCE AGREEM
HEALTH			
000001	DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES	\$1,375.00	RENT
000002	PURE WATER PARTNERS, LLC	\$128.00	WATER
000003	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$4,213.40	PROPERTY INSURANCE
000004	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$33.40	OFFICE SUPPLIES
HIGHWAY			
000010	KOHOUT, NATHANIEL WYATT	\$687.59	PAYROLL
000011	OK PUB. EMP. RET. SYSTEM	\$60.48	PAYROLL
000012	WALTERS BANK AND TRUST	\$115.66	PAYROLL
000013	KELLPRO COMPUTER SOLUTIONS	\$3,450.00	SOFTWARE

Cotton County Community News

000014	ROBERT HOWARD, DBA HOWARD S AUTO & DIE	\$360.00	REPAIRS
000015	ANDERSON, JOHN	\$22.20	TRAVEL
000016	OKLA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION	\$5,094.72	EQUIP LEASE
000017	OKLA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION	\$1,682.87	EQUIP LEASE
000018	OKLA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION	\$5,310.94	EQUIP LEASE
000019	RCB BANK	\$1,423.83	EQUIP LEASE
000020	ASCOG	\$401.67	MEMBERSHIP DUES
000021	ASCOG	\$401.67	MEMBERSHIP DUES
000022	ASCOG	\$401.66	MEMBERSHIP DUES
000023	RANDLETT PWA	\$54.00	UTILITIES
000024	GONZALEZ, FEDERICO	\$117.52	LICENSING FEE
000025	COTTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	\$157.62	UTILITIES
000026	COTTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	\$97.94	UTILITIES
000027	T H ROGERS LUMBER COMPANY	\$205.98	TOILET
000028	SIMPSON, KENT	\$400.00	REPAIRS
000029	D & J SANITATION	\$68.50	UTILITIES
000030	PIONEER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE	\$133.07	PHONE
000031	AT&T	\$68.24	WIRELESS SERVICE

INDIGENT CARE

000001	TEMPLE UTILITIES AUTHORITY	\$269.95	UTILITIES FOR NEEDY
000002	TEMPLE UTILITIES AUTHORITY	\$500.00	UTILITIES FOR NEEDY

RESALE

000002	BENNETT OFFICE EQUIPMENT, LEASE AGREE	\$300.00	CONTRACT SERVICE
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SH SVC FEE

000002	SYSKO FOOD SERVICES OF OK INC	\$10.36	OVERAGES
000003	BURKBURNETT QUICK LUBE	\$78.50	OIL CHANGE
000004	BURKBURNETT QUICK LUBE	\$84.98	OIL CHANGE
000005	SYSKO FOOD SERVICES OF OK INC	\$584.27	INMATE FOOD

WARRANTS ISSUED IN FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

CBRI

000008	CAROLYN MCCOMBER TRUST	\$1,435.00	NATIVE MATERIAL
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DONATIONS

000024	COTTON CO. ELECTRONIC TRANSFER ACCT.	\$489.95	HOTEL/MEALS
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GENERAL

001210	LOCKE SUPPLY	\$585.74	REPAIRS
001211	CLEAN UNIFORM	\$49.00	UNIFORMS
001212	DOLLAR GENERAL	\$84.00	SUPPLIES
001213	WALTERS COOP ELEVATOR	\$114.20	FUEL
001214	SAMS CLUB DIRECT	\$74.76	SUPPLIES
001215	WALTERS COOP ELEVATOR	\$239.50	FUEL
001216	SCHAPPERT, JOSEPH FREDERICK	\$148.30	TRAVEL EXPENSE
001217	QUILL	\$91.36	SUPPLIES
001218	HORSE SENSE TRADING POST	\$310.00	UNIFORMS
001219	COLLINS, ZORN & WAGNER, PLLC	\$5,604.47	LEGAL SERVICES
001220	COTTON CO. ELECTRONIC TRANSFER ACCT.	\$139.99	REPAIRS

HEALTH

000159	CIZEK, SHERRY	\$79.20	TRAVEL
000160	STANDLEY SYSTEMS LLC	\$158.21	COPIER LEASE
000161	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$136.41	OFFICE SUPPLIES

HIGHWAY

01244	RICHARD ANDERSON	\$157.50	NATIVE MATERIAL
001245	HOOKER FAMILY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST	\$122.50	NATIVE MATERIAL
001246	DOLESE BROTHERS	\$1,003.33	ROCK
001247	SPRING HOUSE WATER CO.INC	\$52.00	SUPPLIES
001248	WALTERS COOP ELEVATOR	\$911.63	SUPPLIES
001249	CALFY BROTHERS BUILDING CENTER	\$157.73	SUPPLIES
001250	CLEAN UNIFORM	\$424.13	UNIFORM CLEANING
001251	COTTON COUNTY AUTO PARTS	\$732.61	SUPPLIES
001252	T H ROGERS LUMBER COMPANY	\$77.22	SUPPLIES
001253	CLEAN UNIFORM	\$218.26	UNIFORM CLEANING
001254	SPENCE TRUCKING	\$19,965.90	CRUSHER RUN
001255	BRUCKNER TRUCK SALES INC.	\$932.44	SERVICE
001256	QUILL	\$91.36	SUPPLIES
001257	QUILL	\$91.36	SUPPLIES
001258	QUILL	\$91.36	SUPPLIES
001259	DUB ROSS CO. INC.	\$25,384.00	TIN HORNS
001260	HINES HEAVY TRUCK & TRAILER, DUNCAN	\$497.66	TRUCK PARTS
001261	DIRECT DISCOUNTTIRE OF STILLWATER	\$500.54	TIRES

SHERIFF FUNDING ASSISTANCE GRANT

000092	FUELMAN	\$4,000.00	FUEL
000093	COTTON CO. ELECTRONIC TRANSFER ACCT.	\$325.76	HOTEL/MEALS

SH SVC FEE

000285	WALTERS CAR WASH	\$200.00	CAR WASH
000286	PITNEY BOWES INC	\$63.33	POSTAGE
000287	SYSKO FOOD SERVICES OF OK INC	\$1,400.00	INMATE FOOD
000288	SYSKO FOOD SERVICES OF OK INC	\$2,400.00	INMATE FOOD

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COTTON COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

/s/ Milton Honeycutt
MILTON HONEYCUTT, CHAIRMAN

/s/ John Anderson
JOHN ANDERSON, MEMBER

/s/ Kevin Grimes
KEVIN GRIMES, MEMBER

ATTEST:

/a/ Joseph Schappert
JOSEPH SCHAPPERT, COUNTY CLERK

July 21, 2025

The Board in regular session for which time, place and agenda being posted at 8:30 a.m. July 18, 2025 for July 21, 2025 with Milton Honeycutt, John Anderson and Kevin Grimes present; Cotton County Clerk Joseph Schappert, Cotton County Clerk Chief Deputy/BOCC Assistant Sandy Edgmon, Cotton County Emergency Management Director Lori Hedges, Cotton County Treasurer Tammy Simpson, Cotton County OSU Extension Director Kim Davis and Cotton County Tax Assessor Virginia Brasier were present for the meeting.

- A. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Honeycutt.
- B. Introduction of Guests, as listed above.
- C. Reading and Approval of Commissioners Proceedings for Regular Meeting July 14, 2025
were deferred on motion by Honeycutt, 2 nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- D. CONSENT AGENDA: The following items are considered to be Routine by the Board of Commissioners and will be enacted with one motion. Should discussion be desired on an item; that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to action and considered separately.

Honeycutt moved to approve consent agenda as follows:

1. Consider Approval of Processing Purchase Orders for Purchases Prior to Encumbrance
2. Consider Approval of Blanket Purchase Orders
- 300 Clean Uniform General \$100.00
- 304 Calfy Brothers Building Center General \$200.00
- 305 Dollar General General \$100.00
- 306 Walters Coop Elevator General \$200.00
- 307 Calfy Brothers Building Center Free Fair \$300.00
- 308 Walters Coop Elevator Free Fair \$300.00
- 309 Lowes Free Fair \$500.00
- 310 Home Depot Credit Services Free Fair \$500.00
- 311 Sams Club Direct Free Fair \$500.00
- 312 Tractor Supply Company Free Fair \$300.00
- 313 Sams Club Direct OSU Extension \$500.00
- 314 Hobby Lobby Stores Inc OSU Extension \$500.00
- 315 Lowes OSU Extension \$500.00
- 316 Home Depot Credit Services OSU Extension \$500.00
- 317 Tractor Supply Company OSU Extension \$200.00

- 318 Calfy Brothers Building Center OSU Extension \$200.00
- 319 Dollar General OSU Extension \$200.00
- 320 Walters Coop Elevator OSU Extension \$300.00
- 321 Davis, Kimbreley OSU Extension \$1,000.00
- 322 Williams, Amanda OSU Extension \$500.00
- 323 Williams, Kaila OSU Extension \$500.00
- 324 Gonzalez, Keaston OSU Extension \$500.00
- 326 Department of Public Safety Sheriff \$475.00
- 327 ICS Jail Supplies Inc. Sheriff \$600.00
- 328 Encartele Inc. Sheriff \$1,000.00
- 329 Cotton County Drug Sheriff \$300.00
- 330 O Reilly Corp Office Sheriff \$500.00
- 331 Burkburnett Quick Lube Sheriff \$250.00
- 332 Pitney Bowes Inc. Sheriff \$175.00
- 333 File Thirteen Sheriff \$60.00
- 334 Sysco Food Services of OK Inc. Sheriff \$3,000.00
- 335 Tiger Commissary Sheriff \$2,000.00
- 336 Fuelman Sheriff \$4,000.00
- 337 Walters Hometown Grocery Sheriff \$500.00
- 338 Champion Pest & Lawn LLC Sheriff \$65.00
- 340 Walters Car Wash Sheriff \$250.00
- 341 Johnny’s Car Care Sheriff \$100.00
- 351 Clean Uniform District #2 \$750.00
- 352 Cotton County Auto Parts District #2 \$1,000.00
- 353 Spring House Water Co. Inc District #2 \$100.00
- 354 T H Rogers Lumber Company District #2 \$200.00
- 355 Cintas Corporation No. 2 District #2 \$200.00
- 356 Walters Car Wash District #2 \$100.00
- 357 Cal-Coop Burk Ag Auto & Truck Parts District #3 \$600.00
- 358 Bruckner Truck Sales Inc. District #3 \$1,000.00
- 359 C L Boyd Company Inc. District #3 \$1,000.00
- 360 Clean Uniform District #3 \$800.00
- 361 O Reilly Corp Office District #3 \$600.00
- 362 United Ag & Turf District #3 \$1,000.00
- 363 Spring House Water Co. Inc District #3 \$200.00
- 364 Tractor Supply Company District #3 \$300.00
- 367 Walters Coop Elevator Emer. Mgmt. \$500.00
- 368 Fuelman Emer. Mgmt. \$500.00
- 369 Walters Car Wash Emer. Mgmt. \$100.00
- 370 Spring House Water Co. Inc Emer. Mgmt. \$150.00
- 393 Walters Coop Elevator District #1 \$1,000.00
- 394 Cotton County Auto Parts District #1 \$1,000.00
- 395 Calfy Brothers Building Center District #1 \$300.00
- 396 Walters Car Wash District #1 \$100.00
- 397 Clean Uniform District #1 \$600.00
- 398 Heavy Truck & Trailer District #1 \$2,000.00
- 399 Spring House Water Co. Inc District #1 \$100.00
- 400 Cintas Corporation No. 2 District #1 \$200.00

3. Consider Approval of Purchase Orders
4. Consider Approval of Monthly P-Card Statement and Payment
None presented
5. Consider Approval of Request for Appropriations and Transfer of Appropriations
None presented
6. Consider Monthly Officer’s Reports for the month of June 2025
None presented
7. Consider Monthly Districts’ Summary Reports of Consumable Items
None presented
8. Self-Evaluation of the Handicapped Non-Discrimination
No complaints or concerns reported.
- E. Grimes 2 nd the motion to approve consent agenda. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- E. 2024 REAP Grant Sidewalk Project was discussed. Project was to be completed by today but remains uncompleted. Although all Court house doors are now open for use, there are still issues to be resolved at the west door and a permanent handrail is still required at the north door. There are also sidewalks that still require completion, and some spots that require correction as well as clean up to be done. Commissioner Anderson, project overseer, stated that he would speak to the WW Construction foreman or project manager. No action taken at this time.
- F. Agreement with Mumford Precast LLC; James Mumford, President to work on Private Property located on a tract of land beginning at the Northeast Corner of Lot 7, Block 41, Original Town of Walters, Oklahoma; thence south 300 feet; thence east 300 feet; thence north 300 feet; and thence west 300 feet to the point of beginning; (formerly known as: Lots 1-6 and Lots 11-16, Block 41, Original Town of Walters, Cotton County, State of Oklahoma), for the purpose of removing donated concrete materials was deferred on motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Honeycutt. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- G. Agreement with Karla Eschiti to work on Private Property located on Block 5, Lots 20-23, Nicholson Addition, Walters, Cotton County, State of Oklahoma), for the purpose of removing donated road materials was deferred on motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Honeycutt. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- H. Cooperative Agreement between Cotton County and the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, Wildlife Services Division made to augment the wildlife damage management program in Oklahoma. To partially supplement costs incurred to include salary, vehicle, travel and equipment for the Wildlife Specialist(s) conducting wildlife damage management activities Cotton County agrees to contribute \$3400.00 for fiscal year 2025-2026. Agreement was reviewed and discussed. Wildlife removal is provided to the county and all its citizens through this agreement which was approved on motion by Grimes, 2 nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- I. Walters/Cotton County Enhanced 911 Trust Authority budget message was reviewed. No action taken.
- J. Walters/Cotton County Enhanced 911 Trust Authority June 2025 short fall invoice in the amount of \$4574.27 approved on motion by Honeycutt, 2 nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- K. Cotton County District Attorney’s Office electrical improvements quote was presented and reviewed. Quote was for the addition of 8 new circuits and breakers to the District Attorney’s office as well as some updates to the internet and camera system connections. Total Cost: \$3723.00. Improvements approved on motion by Honeycutt, 2nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- L. ACCO claim for flood water damage to Cotton County Expo/Fair Barn was discussed and claim was accepted on motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Honeycutt. Per State Auditor’s Office claim payment to be deposited into 1214 Fund and proceeds should be used for damage repairs first, if funds remain after all damage is repaired the balance of funds may be used for barn upgrades. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- M. Application of Zayo Network Services, LLC for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Provide Resold and Facilities-Based Local Exchange, Interexchange, Exchange Access and Private-Line Telecommunications Services in the State of Oklahoma from the Corporation Commission of the State of Oklahoma was presented. There were no objections. No action taken.
- N. New Business: (Consider any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting this agenda)

Cotton County Community News

Commissioners have been speaking to our congressmen regarding the lack of FEMA funding for the county road flood damage from the spring of 2025.

District #2 is using ETR funds to aid in building temporary road with weir structure.

District #2 will be hosting a Road Grading Course (2 nd module) in September or October.

Bridge Inspection selection will be coming up soon.

Rail car culverts will be delivered this week.

There may be some aid from the BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) for some damaged road sites.

Commissioner Honeycutt will follow up with Cotton County Emergency Medical Service District (Ambulance Board) Chairman Pete Tulloh regarding recent issues with Ambulance service.

EM Director L. Hedges informed the Board that she has been contacted by Chattanooga Fire Department regarding a recent fire and requesting that fire districts be reviewed and reconsidered.

- O. Motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Honeycutt to adjourn and to reconvene immediately at Cotton County Jail for annual inspection. Minor water leaks, sink, toilet and shower problems were noted. Repairs to Jail Kitchen have been completed although the freezer will likely need to be replaced in the near future. No action taken.
- P. There being no further business to come before the Board, motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Honeycutt to adjourn. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

WARRANTS ISSUED IN FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

COUNTY CLERK LIEN FEE			
000001	KELLPRO COMPUTER SOLUTIONS	\$3,612.75	ANNUAL LICENSE FEE
FAIR BOARD			
000006	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$44.64	FILTERS
000007	POWERS SERVICES	\$125.00	ICE MACHINE
000008	NEXTLINK	\$96.88	INTERNET SERVICE
GENERAL			
000026	T H ROGERS LUMBER COMPANY	\$254.85	LIGHT
000027	ACCO SELF-INSURED FUND	\$451.32	WORKERS COMP
000028	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$37,460.40	PROP/LIAB INS
000029	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$7,417.56	PROP/LIAB INS
000030	CROWN AWARDS	\$270.99	SUPPLIES
000031	SIMPSON, KENT	\$288.00	MAINTENANCE/REPAIR
000032	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$3,481.00	PROP/LIAB INS
000033	ACCO SELF-INSURED FUND	\$3,498.46	WORKERS COMP
000034	ACCO SELF-INSURED FUND	\$62.06	WORKERS COMP
000035	ACCO SELF-INSURED FUND	\$471.16	WORKERS COMP
000036	ACCO SELF-INSURED FUND	\$11,594.69	WORKERS COMP
000037	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$689.28	PROP/LIAB INS
000038	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$527.56	PROP/LIAB INS
000039	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$5,677.32	PROP/LIAB INS
000040	JOHN SKINNER, DBA JOHNNYS CAR CARE	\$20.00	REPAIRS
000041	CALFY BROTHERS BUILDING CENTER	\$68.01	SUPPLIES
000042	OKLAHOMA EMPLOY SECURITY COMMISSIO	\$2,041.20	UNEMPLOYMENT
000043	SERVICE OKLAHOMA	\$55.00	TAG & TITLE
000044	GMC SOLUTIONS DBA BENNETT OFFICE EQUIP	\$92.55	COPIES
000045	OSU CO-OP EXTENSION SERVICE	\$3,809.52	PAYROLL
HEALTH			
000005	SANGOMA US INC	\$24.16	PHONE SERVICE
000006	WILLIAMS, JR., DARREL	\$150.00	LABOR
000007	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$16.99	MEDICAL SUPPLIES
HIGHWAY			
000032	TONY HIGH	\$990.00	NATIVE MATERIAL
0033	HEAVY TRUCK & TRAILER, LAWTON	\$54.79	REPAIRS
000034	TONY HIGH	\$135.00	NATIVE MATERIAL
000035	KELLPRO COMPUTER SOLUTIONS	\$3,612.75	ANNUAL LICENSE FEE
000036	KELLPRO COMPUTER SOLUTIONS	\$3,612.75	ANNUAL LICENSE FEE
000037	KELLPRO COMPUTER SOLUTIONS	\$3,612.75	ANNUAL LICENSE FEE
000038	TONY HIGH	\$2,000.00	NATIVE MATERIAL
000039	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$46,958.02	PROP/LIAB INS
000040	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$46,958.02	PROP/LIAB INS
000041	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$46,958.02	PROP/LIAB INS
000042	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$4,363.57	PROP/LIAB INS
000043	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$4,363.57	PROP/LIAB INS
000044	ACCO SELF-INSURED GROUP	\$4,363.56	PROP/LIAB INS
000045	ACCO SELF-INSURED FUND	\$10,858.71	WORKERS COMP
000046	ACCO SELF-INSURED FUND	\$13,657.80	WORKERS COMP
000047	ACCO SELF-INSURED FUND	\$8,909.14	WORKERS COMP
000048	PROSPERITY BANK	\$133,940.58	EQUIPMENT
000049	OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSIO	\$1,462.22	UNEMPLOYMENT
000050	PIKEPASS CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER	\$189.31	HIGHWAY TOLLS
000051	PIKEPASS CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER	\$78.65	HIGHWAY TOLLS
000052	PIKEPASS CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER	\$218.97	HIGHWAY TOLLS
SH SVC FEE			
000006	FUELMAN	\$360.66	FUEL

WARRANTS ISSUED IN FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

Health			
000162	Oklahoma State Dept of Health	\$9,530.87	PAYROLL EXPENSE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COTTON COUNTY, OKLAHOMA			
/s/ _____ Milton Honeycutt MILTON HONEYCUTT, CHAIRMAN			
/s/ _____ John Anderson JOHN ANDERSON, MEMBER			
/s/ _____ Kevin Grimes KEVIN GRIMES, MEMBER			

ATTEST:
/a/ _____ Joseph Schappert
JOSEPH SCHAPPERT, COUNTY CLERK

July 28, 2025

The Board in regular session for which time, place and agenda being posted at 8:30 a.m. July 25, 2025 for July 28, 2025 with Milton Honeycutt, John Anderson and Kevin Grimes present; Cotton County Clerk Joseph Schappert, Cotton County Clerk Chief Deputy/BOCC Assistant Sandy Edgmon, Cotton County Treasurer Tammy Simpson, Cotton County Tax Assessor Virginia Brasier, Cotton County Court Clerk Terry Kelley, Cotton County Election Board Secretary Shellie Hart, Cotton County Undersheriff Gary Whittington and Walters/Cotton County E911 Trust Authority Chairman Joe Keaton were present for the meeting.

- A. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Honeycutt.
- B. Introduction of Guests, as listed above.
- C. Reading and Approval of Commissioners Proceedings for Regular Meeting July 14, 2025 and Regular Meeting July 21, 2025 on motion by Ander-

son, 2 nd by Grimes. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
D. CONSENT AGENDA: The following items are considered to be Routine by the Board of Commissioners and will be enacted with one motion. Should discussion be desired on an item; that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to action and considered separately.

- Anderson moved to approve consent agenda as follows:
1. Consider Approval of Processing Purchase Orders for Purchases Prior to Encumbrance
2. Consider Approval of Blanket Purchase Orders
439 Dolese Brothers District #1 \$12,600.00
477 Walters Coop Elevator Assessor 250.00
478 Standley Systems LLC Assessor 118.43
3. Consider Approval of Purchase Orders and Payroll Affidavits
4. Consider Approval of Monthly P-Card Statement and Payment
None presented
5. Consider Approval of Request for Appropriations and Transfer of Appropriations
None presented
6. Consider Monthly Officer’s Reports for the month of June 2025
None presented
7. Consider Monthly Districts’ Summary Reports of Consumable Items
None presented
- Honeycutt 2 nd the motion to approve consent agenda. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

- E. Lease Agreement for Equipment Renewal between Standley System, LLC and Cotton County Assessor approved on motion by Honeycutt, 2 nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- F. Agreement with Mumford Precast LLC; James Mumford, President to work on Private Property located on a tract of land beginning at the Northeast Corner of Lot 7, Block 41, Original Town of Walters, Oklahoma; thence south 300 feet; thence east 300 feet; thence north 300 feet; and thence west 300 feet to the point of beginning; (formerly known as: Lots 1-6 and Lots 11-16, Block 41, Original Town of Walters, Cotton County, State of Oklahoma), for the purpose of removing donated concrete materials was approved on motion by Grimes, 2 nd by Honeycutt. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- G. 2024 REAP Grant request for payment approved on motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Grimes. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- H. 2025 REAP Grant request for payment was discussed. This request was sent to ASCOG in June no response has been received, assistant stated she has reached out again and is waiting for a response. No action.
- I. Atwood purchasing authorization form was reviewed and approved as presented on motion by Grimes, 2 nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- J. County Clerk Schappert provided an update regarding Telecomp account support and the appointment of new Government and Education Account Manager, Amber Sawyer. No action.
- K. Resolution 25-90 authorizing Cotton County Treasurer to deposit funds received from the Cotton County Election Board for Quill refund in the following amounts and account was approved on motion by Grimes, 2 nd by Anderson. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.
- L. District 2 Commissioner Grimes reminded Board that site locations for railcar (culvert) delivery are needed as soon as possible this week, otherwise rail cars will be placed in district yards. No action.
- M. An update was given by Commissioner Grimes regarding his visit with U.S. Senator Markwayne Mullin on Thursday, July 24, 2025. The two met to discuss county wide road flood damage and the need for FEMA financial aid and toured several sites in all three districts of county. Senator Mullins told Commissioner Grimes that he has a grant writer on staff and as well as on following up with FEMA he will also have his grant writer notify us if there is a grant available that may help us. Commissioner Honeycutt stated that he has been in touch with U.S. Representative Tom Cole, who said he would follow up with FEMA and OEM. There is also some possible grant relief opportunities through the OSU-LTAP Unpaved Roads Class taken by Commissioner Grimes. No action taken.
- N. New Business: (Consider any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting this agenda)

Elevator inspection was recently performed by the Oklahoma Labor department. The courthouse elevator passed with two minor citations which are already being addressed. One pertained to the emergency phone located inside the elevator and the other pertained to a damper on the vent system.

County Clerk Schappert informed the Board that he spoke to the county’s Budget builder and that the budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 is worse than originally predicted. A special meeting will be scheduled for Friday August 1, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

Another request was received to discuss the Cotton County fire districts. Keaton mentioned that a past Board had worked with Comanche County Commissioners and created an auto-aid agreement, stating first on scene gets command. Commissioner Anderson stated he would reach out to State Fire Marshall for guidance.

Election Board Secretary Hart stated that a new state ethics board has been created and moving forward all Officer’s Financial Reports should be filed electronically rather than through the Election Board.

- O. There being no further business to come before the Board, motion by Anderson, 2 nd by Honeycutt to adjourn. Votes: Honeycutt-AYE, Anderson-AYE, Grimes-AYE.

WARRANTS ISSUED IN FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

GENERAL			
000084	STANDLEY SYSTEMS LLC	\$118.43	COPIER LEASE
000085	BURLAP AND BLING LLC	\$295.00	SUPPLIES
000086	WALTERS/COTTON COUNTY E911 TRUST AUTHO	\$4,574.27	CONTRACT
000087	MAYFIELD PAPER CO.	\$425.71	SUPPLIES
000088	CROWN AWARDS	\$205.92	SUPPLIES
000089	OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS	\$195.82	UTILITIES
000090	OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS	\$344.90	UTILITIES
000091	GUARDIAN SECURITY SYSTEMS DBA ALERT 36	\$72.59	LOCKBOX
HEALTH			
000008	SANGOMA US INC	\$332.18	PHONE SERVICE
000009	COMANCHE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT	\$2,167.00	VACCINE
000010	WPS, INC	\$553.24	PHONE SERVICE
HIGHWAY			
000088	CINTAS CORPORATION NO. 2	\$101.54	MEDICAL SUPP
000089	KELLPRO COMPUTER SOLUTIONS	\$3,511.00	SOFTWARE

000090	MMG OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE	\$45.00	DRUG TEST
000091	OREILLYS CORP OFFICE PAYMENT ONLY	\$80.93	PARTS
000092	T & G CONSTRUCTION	\$1,227.40	ASPHALT
000093	WALKUP AUTO REPAIR LLC	\$810.00	REPAIRS
000094	WALKUP AUTO REPAIR LLC	\$280.00	REPAIRS
000095	COTTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE	\$31.99	UTILITIES
000096	ODAFF - WILDLIFE SERVICES	\$1,133.33	PEST CONTROL
000097	ODAFF - WILDLIFE SERVICES	\$1,133.33	PEST CONTROL
000098	ODAFF - WILDLIFE SERVICES	\$1,133.34	PEST CONTROL
000099	HONEYCUTT, MILTON A.	\$37.92	SUPPLIES
RESALE			
000008	WALTERS HERALD	\$35.00	SUBSCRIPTION
SH SVC FEE			
000013	WALTERS HOMETOWN GROCERY	\$299.10	OVER.INMATE FOOD

WARRANTS ISSUED IN FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

FAIR BOARD			
000091	HODGES BADGE CO.	\$226.17	FAIR RIBBONS
GENERAL			
001221	HONEYCUTT, MILTON A.	\$148.30	TRAVEL EXPENSE
001222	STANDLEY SYSTEMS LLC	\$1,032.48	COPIES
HEALTH			
000163	LATHAM, KELDA	\$141.75	TRAVEL
HIGHWAY			
001262	WALTERS HERALD	\$500.00	PROCEEDINGS
001263	OSU-CTP	\$65.00	TRAINING
001264	SPRING HOUSE WATER CO.INC	\$9.00	WATER
001265	DOLESE BROTHERS	\$6,289.37	CRUSHER RUN
001266	DIRECT DISCOUNTTIRE OF STILLWATER	\$1,519.88	TIRE
001267	WALTERS COOP ELEVATOR	\$1,832.31	SUPPLIES
001268	HARBOR FREIGHT TOOLS, TREVIPAY	\$359.98	SUPPLIES

Signed this 4th day of August, 2025

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COTTON COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

/s/ _____
MILTON HONEYCUTT, CHAIRMAN

/s/ _____
JOHN ANDERSON, MEMBER

/s/ _____
KEVIN GRIMES, MEMBER

ATTEST:

/a/ _____
JOSEPH SCHAPPERT, COUNTY CLERK

Preparing Pre-Teens and Teens for the Classroom Includes Immunizations

(StatePoint) Young people ages 7 to 18 are busy checking off their back-to-school or college lists. Visiting their pediatrician or family doctor to get up to date on immunizations should be part of that list. Immunizations will prepare their immune systems to recognize and resist viruses that spread quickly once classes begin. These are viruses that can lead to health issues like infertility, muscle paralysis, brain damage, blindness, deafness and cancer. The recommended immunization schedule approved by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is based on ongoing review of the most recent scientific data and relies on two main factors: when the vaccine works best with your child’s immune system, and when they need protection most.

“Seeing your pediatrician to catch up on vaccinations helps keep classmates, teachers and others in the school community healthy, too.” says Rebekah Fenton, MD, FAAP, an adolescent medicine physician at a community health center in Chicago.

The AAP is sharing this information about recommended vaccines and the diseases they prevent:

Meningococcal Disease

At 11 or 12, your pre-teen should get their first dose of meningococcal vaccine to protect against meningococcal disease, a fast-acting disease that is life-threatening if not caught and treated within a few hours. Caused by bacteria that can infect the bloodstream, brain and spinal cord, anyone can get meningococcal disease. Among young people, it’s most common in babies and 16-20-year-olds. Infections are spread through close contact like coughing or kissing, and lengthy contact in spaces like college dorms.

Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccine protects against four bacterial strains, labeled A, C, W and Y.

Meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine protects against another bacterial strain and is recommended for kids with certain chronic health conditions that make them more vulnerable or anyone 16-18 whose pediatrician recommends it.

Meningococcal ABCWY (MenABCWY) combines protection from MenACWY and MenB. If both vaccines are recommended at the same visit, it can be used instead of separate injections.

Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis

At 11 or 12, pediatricians give the Tdap booster to protect against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough). It’s a slightly different version of a vaccine your child received as a baby (DTaP), with lower doses of the diphtheria and pertussis vaccines. After this, they’ll need additional boosters every 10 years.

Tetanus is caused by exposure to naturally occurring bacteria in soil or dust through a break in the skin. Tetanus produces a toxin that causes painful muscle contractions. Also known as lockjaw, it can cause neck and jaw muscles to lock, making it hard to open the mouth or swallow.

Diphtheria causes serious throat infection, breathing problems and heart failure. The vaccine is a lifesaver. Before it existed, diphtheria killed 1 of every 5 kids infected.

Pertussis can cause a cough that won’t go away and sometimes vomiting or trouble breathing. The protection your teen got from their childhood vaccine starts to wear off around age 11, making the booster essential. Teens can easily spread the disease, including to infants, who are at even more risk.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

The HPV vaccine prevents genital warts and works well to protect against strains of the virus that cause more than 90% of six types of cancer, including cervical cancer, penile and anal cancers, and cancers of the mouth and throat. Vaccinating kids ages 9-12 allows them to build strong immunity against the virus before exposure. If they don’t get the first dose until age 15, they’ll need three doses.

Influenza

The flu is unpredictable and there is no way to know if your child will have mild illness and miss just a few days of school or if they will get seriously ill and need hospital care. But be wary. U.S. flu deaths in children broke records during the 2024-25 season, with at least 216 deaths. The AAP recommends flu shots annually for everyone 6 months and older to prevent severe illness.

COVID-19

Millions globally, including teenagers and children, have received the COVID-19 vaccine. If your child has never had this vaccine, their immune system won’t be ready to recognize and resist the virus that can lead to long-term problems associated with COVID.

Behind on Other Vaccines?

Delaying vaccines leaves your child vulnerable to preventable diseases. The AAP vaccine schedule is designed to prepare their body to resist contagious diseases as early and fully as possible. This keeps them healthy and active, instead of missing out while they’re sick.

Learn more about vaccines at www.HealthyChildren.org and catch up on those your child missed. Most vaccines can be given at the same time as others.

“Kids and teen’s bodies can handle multiple vaccines in a short time because their immune system is in constant learning mode. Vaccines help kids stay healthy by keeping them ahead of serious, preventable diseases,” says Dr. Fenton.

Fall In Love With Your Backyard This Fall – Here's How!

(StatePoint) Just because fall is here doesn’t mean your backyard fun has to end! Fall is the perfect season to breathe in crisp air, sip something warm under the stars, watch an outdoor movie, and make the most of your outdoor setup. With the right tools and a few seasonal upgrades, your backyard can stay the place to be long after Labor Day. Here’s how.

Blow Away the Mess: “Leaf” It to the Pros

Those golden leaves look lovely on trees, not so much on your lawn. A good leaf blower (especially a cordless or battery-powered model) like the Greenworks 80V Cordless Leaf Blower can keep your yard tidy and pathways safe. But to take it up a level, look no further than the Mammoth Yuka robotic mower with sweeper kit. It doesn’t just trim your lawn, it also collects fallen leaves as it goes.

Bring the Heat: Stay Toasty on the Patio

With propane or electric patio heaters, you can keep the chill at bay and enjoy those al fresco dinners well into the season. Try the Dr. Infrared Heater Outdoor Patio Heater for electric convenience or the Hampton Bay 48,000 BTU Patio Heater for classic propane warmth.

Cover Up: Furniture that Survives the Season

Fall weather can be unpredictable, but with water-resistant covers for patio chairs, tables and lounge sets, your stylish setup won’t suffer. Brands like Vailge and Duck Covers make highly rated all-weather options in multiple sizes and styles.

Pool Days Aren’t Over Yet

If you’re one of the lucky ones with a pool, you might be able to stretch swimming season into September, especially with a pool heater. A reliable robotic skimmer like the Bublue BuVortex V5 will spin around your pool, clearing it of fallen leaves, bugs and branches.

Backyard Movie Magic: Outdoor Projectors

Cooler nights are made for blankets, popcorn and movie marathons under the stars. Outdoor projectors turn backyards into a private cinema. One of the best is the Valerion Vision Master Pro 2, which delivers ultra-bright, cinematic 4K laser projection even in ambient light.

Fall Clean-Ups are Easier with the Right Tools

Pressure washers, trimmers and gutter vacs are great tools to prep your home for colder months. The Sun Joe SPX3000 Pressure Washer is a fan favorite. When paired with a gutter cleaner like the WORX Universal Gutter Cleaning Kit, you’re ready for seasonal upkeep.

Don’t Let Mishaps and Malfunctions Ruin Your Fall Fun

Outdoor gear works hard all year—but colder weather puts added stress on everything from leaf blowers to lounge chairs. When something breaks, it can be expensive to replace. The good news? Many of these items can be protected. The surprise? Most Americans don’t know it.

An Allstate Protection Plans survey found:

- Only 9% know patio tables can be covered
- Just 7% know about patio chairs and umbrellas
- Only 6% realize lounge chairs qualify

And awareness is also low for leaf blowers (34%), robotic pool cleaners (28%) and patio heaters (22%)

Don’t wait for a breakdown. A protection plan helps keep backyard essentials working longer and saves you from surprise repair costs. Visit www.allstateprotectionplans.com for more fall outdoor living tips.

By performing a few maintenance tasks and protecting your gear, you can stretch backyard season into sweater weather.

3 Things Every Older Adult Should Do for Their Health This Fall

(StatePoint) For older adults, fall is an important time to focus on health and wellness. According to Ryan Kocher, who leads Medicare growth for HealthSpring, the new brand for Health Care Service Corporation’s Medicare business, formerly owned by the Cigna Group, the following three tasks are essential for seniors to complete as cool weather sets in.

Get a Flu ShotAn influenza vaccine can help prevent serious illness due to flu. As immune defense diminishes with age, older adults are increasingly susceptible to flu complications. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the use of higher dose flu vaccines for people 65 years and older. This fall, in advance of flu season, visit your healthcare provider or pharmacist to get the right vaccine for you. This is also a good time to catch up on any other immunizations that your provider recommends.

Review Medicare Coverage

Medicare is the government health insurance program for Americans 65 and older and others who qualify. Many Medicare beneficiaries choose or change their plans during the Medicare Annual Enrollment Period (AEP), which takes place between Oct. 15 and Dec. 7. HealthSpring is offering a host of Medicare options for 2026. The company provides these tips for selecting a plan:

- Check for plan changes: Review your plan every AEP, especially if you’ve experienced changes to your health, lifestyle or finances. It’s especially important to read your Annual Notice of Change (ANOC) letter – delivered every September – to find out about any modifications to your current plan.
- Dig into the details: A good plan is one that includes your favorite providers and specialists and covers the medications you currently take. When reviewing plans, take these factors into consideration.
- Consider all your options: Medicare Advantage plans cover everything Original Medicare does, so do your research to see if these plans will work for you.
- Learn more: Before enrolling in a particular plan, be sure you understand the details. Call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048. Or, visit the Medicare Plan Finder website at Medicare.gov/plan-compare. For local assistance, refer to the State Health Insurance Assistance Program website at www.shiptacenter.org. You can also visit individual Medicare plans’ websites for more information. For example, HealthSpring’s website is www.healthspring.com.

Use Your Health Care Benefits

Annual enrollment also serves as a good reminder to take advantage of all your Medicare benefits. Preventive care and a healthy lifestyle can help you maintain your independence and vitality as you age. Tap into what your plan offers so you can actively engage in your health and well-being.

By checking a few important items off your to-do list during autumn, you can ensure you’re well-positioned for a healthy winter and 2026.

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