

LEGALS

Advertisement for Bids

Notice is hereby given that Ottawa Co. RWD #7 (hereinafter called the "Owner") will receive sealed bids until 3 p.m., Central Standard Time, until the 26th day of May, 2026, for the construction of the Water System Improvement Project Phase II. Mailed bids will be received at the LeBlanc Engineering Office, located at 1536 Echota Ave., Tahlequah, OK 74464. Bids may also be hand delivered the day of the bid opening, at the bid opening location. The bid opening location will be at Mount Zion Church, located at 50101 E 30 Rd, Miami, OK 74354.

Funding for this project is provided through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant program.

All bids received at said time will be opened and evaluated for completeness and correctness. All work shall be performed, and all construction and materials used and furnished shall be in accordance with the Plans and Specifications prepared by LeBlanc Engineering, LLC.

The Bid Packet and Contract Documents for this project may be downloaded via a link that will be provided to bidders upon request. To be added to the official prospective bidder's list, send Bid Packet and Contract Documents request to: Jerry Copeland at jerry@cis-ok.com.

Each bidder shall accompany his original bid, with a certified or Cashier's Check on a solvent bank located in Oklahoma, or a Bidder's Bond, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount bid, as a guarantee of his ability to perform the contract bid upon, and that he will enter into a written contract with the Owner to perform said work and/or furnish said materials in accordance with said Plans and Specifications, and furnish the required bonds according to the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974.

The Owner will retain the deposit for liquidated damages in case the successful bidder fails to enter into said contract and furnish the required bonds provided for in the specifications within the time required. Deposit of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned upon the execution of the Contract and required bonds.

Each bidder shall accompany his bid with a sworn statement in writing that the bidder has not directly or indirectly entered into an agreement, expressed or implied, with any other bidder concerning the price or amount of such bid or any bids, the limiting of the bids or bidders, the paying to anyone any money for promotion expenses, the parceling or farming out to any bidder or bidders or other persons of any part of the contract or any part of the subject matter of the bid or of the profits thereof.

Construction, Maintenance and Statutory Payment Bonds in the amount of 100% of the contract price are required for this project. These bonds must be obtained from a Corporate Surety licensed in Oklahoma and approved by the Owner and Consulting Engineer. The bidder shall state in the proposal the name and address of the Surety or Sureties who will sign these bonds in case the contract is awarded. The Maintenance Bond required will guarantee the repair of all damage due to improper materials or workmanship for a period of one (1) year after the acceptance of the work by the Owner.

The following requirements and regulations must be complied with:

A. "Equal Opportunity in Employment: All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or physical handicap. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended."

B. "Each bidder must fully comply with the requirements, terms and conditions of the Environmental Protection Agency's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Requirements, which have been adopted for the OWRB ARPA program, and include employing the six (6) good faith efforts and soliciting disadvantaged business enterprises during the performance of this contract. Requirements are contained in OWRB's Guidance and Procedures, ARP-267. The bidder commits itself to following the good faith efforts to solicit disadvantaged business enterprises contained herein and all other requirements, terms, and conditions of these bid conditions by submitting a properly signed bid."

C. System for Award Management (SAM) registration is required for all Applicants and Awardees (Entities, Prime Contractors, Subcontractors, Vendors) in

order to receive funds from the ARPA program. SAM replaced the Central Contractor Registration/Federal Agency Registration, Online Representations and Certifications Application, and Excluded Parties List System. Applicants and awardees are required to complete a one-time free registration to provide basic information relevant to procurement and financial transactions. On April 4, 2022, the unique entity identifier used across the federal government changed from the DUNS Number to the Unique Entity ID (generated by SAM.gov). Registrants must retain an active status to be eligible for ARPA funding. Applicants and Awardees can go to SAM.gov to complete the registration process.

The bids filed with LeBlanc Engineering Office or hand delivered on the day of the bid opening will be opened and considered by the Owner, at a meeting to be held at Mount Zion Church, located at 50101 E 30 Rd, Miami, OK 74354 on the 26th day of May, 2026 at 3 p.m.

The contract is to be awarded to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder. The Owner reserves the right to correct any non-material clerical errors in the bidding as allowed under Oklahoma Law. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids in accordance with the Oklahoma Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974. Conditional bids shall not be accepted.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on this project at Mount Zion Church, 50101 E 30 Rd, Miami, OK 74354 on the 18th day of May, 2026 at 11 a.m.

(Published in the Miami News Record May 8, 15, and 22, 2026) LPXLP

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff,

v.

DEBORAH D. POWERS A/K/A DEBORAH DEE DAIGH POWERS; SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF DEBORAH D. POWERS; RANDY L. POWERS; SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF RANDY L. POWERS; JOHN DOE, OCCUPANT; AND STATE OF OKLAHOMA EX REL. OKLAHOMA TAX COMMISSION Defendant(s).

Case No. CJ-2025-43
Judge Jennifer McAffrey
SECOND ALIAS
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

NOTICE IS GIVEN to Deborah D. Powers; Spouse, if any, of Deborah D. Powers; Randy L. Powers; Spouse, if any, of Randy L. Powers; John Doe, Occupant; State of Oklahoma ex rel. Oklahoma Tax Commission, and their unknown successors and assigns, that on June 24, 2026, 10:00AM, Sheriff's Office Lobby at 28 B Street S.E., in Miami, Ottawa County, Oklahoma, the Sheriff of said County will offer for sale and sell for cash at public auction to the highest and best bidder, with appraisalment, all that certain real estate in Ottawa County, Oklahoma, to wit:

LOTS 13 AND 14, BLOCK 62 IN THE CITY OF MIAMI, OTTAWA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 127 H Street N.E., Miami, OK 74354

subject to taxes and tax sales, said property being duly appraised at \$65,000.00.

Sale will be made pursuant to an Order of Sale issued upon a judgment entered in the District Court of Ottawa County, Oklahoma, in Case No. CJ-2025-43, wherein Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. is Plaintiff and Deborah D. Powers is/are Defendant(s) to satisfy said judgment in the sum of \$26,612.84 together with interest at 6.75% per annum from March 1, 2024, until paid, attorney's fee in the amount of \$3,650.00, late charges, all advances for taxes, insurance premiums, property preservation expenses, and other fees or expenses incurred prior to or during the pendency of this action, and costs of this action.

WITNESS MY HAND this 22nd day of April, 2026.

/s/ David A. Dean
Sheriff

LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP
770 NE 63rd St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-6431
(405) 848-1819
Attorneys for Plaintiff
File No. 25-141440

(Published in the Miami News Record May 8 and 15, 2026) LPXLP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
IN AND FOR
OTTAWA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC; Plaintiff,

vs.

KIMBERLY NICOLE MCCANN N/K/A KIMBERLY NICOLE MILLER; JAMES MILLER A/K/A JAMES M. MILLER; et al. Defendants.

Case No. CJ-2026-11
Judge McAffrey, Jennifer
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO: MATTHEW LEWANDOWSKI; CHEYENNE LEWANDOWSKI; NATHANIEL F. RADDATZ, ESQUIRE, IF LIVING, AND IF DECEASED, THEIR HEIRS, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, DEVISEES, TRUSTEES, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS AND THE UNKNOWN SUCCESSORS

GREETINGS:

You are hereby notified that you have been sued by Plaintiff in the above cause in the District Court of Ottawa County, Oklahoma, entitled Planet Home Lending, LLC, Plaintiff v. Kimberly Nicole McCann n/k/a Kimberly Nicole Miller; James Miller a/k/a James M. Miller, et al., Defendants, and that you must answer the Petition of said Plaintiff on or before the 17 day of June, 2026, or the allegations of said Petition will be taken as true and a judgment will be entered for the sums due under the Note and Mortgage which are the subject of said suit in the amount of \$129,390.50 with interest, attorney fees and all costs and a Decree ordering foreclosure of said Mortgage, barring your interest in the following described real property:

The South 309.08 feet of the East 295.26 feet of the west 728.28 feet of the SW/4 SE/4 of Section 23, Township 26 North, Range 23 East of the Indian Base Meridian, Ottawa County, Oklahoma. AND

A tract of land beginning at the Northeast corner of the South 309.08 feet of the East 295.26 feet of the West 728.28 feet of the SW/4 SE/4 of Section 23, Township 26 North, Range 23 East of the Indian Base Meridian, Ottawa County, Oklahoma; Thence North 29.3 feet; Thence West to a point 25 feet North of the Northwest corner of the South 309.08 feet of the East 295.26 feet of the West 728.28 feet of the SW/4 SE/4 of said Section 23; Thence South 25 feet to the Northwest corner of the South 309.08 feet of the East 295.26 feet of the West 728.28 feet of the SW/4 SE/4 of said Section 23; Thence East 295.26 feet to the point of beginning, commonly known as 59610 East 210 Road, Fairland, OK 74343 (the "Property")

DATED this 20 day of April, 2026.

COURT CLERK OF OTTAWA COUNTY
By: /s/ T Curry
Deputy Clerk

KIVELL, RAYMENT AND FRANCIS

A Professional Corporation
Ger'Kayla Tunley, OBA #36283
Triad Center I, Suite 550
7666 East 61st Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133
Telephone (918) 254-0626
Facsimile (918) 254-7915
E-mail: gtunley@kivell.com
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

(Published in the Miami News Record May 1, 8, and 15, 2026) LPXLP

DISTRICT COURT
OF OTTAWA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

CORNERSTONE BANK, Plaintiff,

v.

KANDIE ANN WOOD A/K/A KANDIE ANN BOEVERS-WOOD AND LLOYD WOOD, Defendants.

No. CJ-2026-39
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of June, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Sheriff's Office lobby at 28 B. St SE, Miami, Oklahoma, the undersigned Sheriff of said County of Ottawa will offer for sale and sell for cash at time of sale at public auction to the highest and best bidder, with appraisalment, that certain real property situated in Ottawa County, Oklahoma described as follows:

Beginning at a point 71.33 feet South and 87.62 feet West of the Northeast corner of the SE¼ NW¼ E¼: thence S 53°49.77' W Along the South Right of Way line of Highway #60 for a distance of 335.46 feet; thence S 36°30' E for a distance of 329.00 feet

to the North Right of way line of the Frisco Railroad; thence N 44°43.20' E along said Right of way for a distance of 106.74 feet; thence North for a distance of 386.61 feet to the south Right of way line or Highway I60 or the point of beginning, all lying in the SE/4 NW/4 NE/4 of Section 36, Township 27 North, Range 23 East, Ottawa County, Oklahoma.

subject to taxes and tax sales, said property being duly appraised at a value of \$46,000.00.

Sale will be made pursuant to an Order of Sale issued upon a Judgment entered in the District Court of Ottawa County, Oklahoma, in Case No. CJ-2026-39 in favor of Plaintiff Cornerstone Bank against Defendants in personam and all Defendants in rem for the sum of \$87,098.17 through March 11, 2026 which includes principal, accrued interest, and late charges; plus additional interest accruing for each day thereafter at the default rate of 10 percent (10%) per annum; and reasonable attorneys' fees to be determined by the Court and a further judgment finding that the Plaintiff's mortgage lien is valid, subsisting first lien upon the real property and ordering that if said judgment be not paid, that a Special Execution issue from the office of the Court Clerk, directed to the Sheriff of Ottawa County, commanding such Sheriff to levy upon, advertise and sell said real property, with appraisalment, as provided by law; and whereas, the judgment in favor of the Plaintiff remains wholly unpaid and the Plaintiff has requested a Special Execution and Order of Sale to issue in accordance with said judgment.

WITNESS my hand this 22nd day of April, 2026.

/s/ David A. Dean
Sheriff of Ottawa County,
Oklahoma

Randall G. Vaughan,
OBA #11554
DAVIS & THOMPSON, PLLC
P. O. Box 487
Jay, Oklahoma 74346
Telephone: (918) 253-4220
Fax: (918) 253-8110
Attorney for Cornerstone Bank

(Published in the Miami News Record May 8 and 15, 2026) LPXLP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF OTTAWA COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

UNITED AUTO CREDIT CORPORATION Plaintiff,

vs.

AUSTIN KEITH BARNHART and MADDISON DIANE PICKETT Defendants.

No. CS-2026-70
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

Austin Keith Barnhart and Maddison Diane Pickett you are hereby notified that you have been sued by UNITED AUTO CREDIT CORPORATION and you must answer plaintiff's petition on or before the 25th day of June, 2026 or a money judgment in the amount of \$8,099.67 plus interest will be rendered accordingly.

Dated this day 4-27-26.

By: /s/ T Curry
DEPUTY COURT CLERK
FOR OTTAWA COUNTY
DISTRICT COURT CLERK
CASSIE KEY

APPROVED BY:
/s/ Hugh H. Fudge
Hugh H. Fudge, OBA# 20487
Robinson, Hoover & Fudge, PLLC
726 W. Sheridan Ave., Suite 200
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
(405)232-6464
(405)232-6363 fax
lawmail@rhfok.com

(Published in the Miami News Record May 15, 22, and 29, 2026) LPXLP

Failure to Report Initial Inventory to the State

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Reporting Requirement(s) Not Met for Quapaw Public Works

We were required to develop and submit to the State an initial service line inventory that includes all service lines connected to the public water distribution system and characterize the materials of those service lines as either lead, galvanized requiring replacement, non-lead, or lead status unknown. Our system failed to submit an initial inventory of service lines to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality by October 16, 2024.

We developed the initial inventory and notified persons served at service connections

with service lines made of lead, galvanized, or unknown materials on May 11, 2026. The public inventory of the Lead Line Survey is at Quapaw City Hall.

Although the failure to report the initial inventory to the State does not create a risk to the public health, we are required to inform you of this violation and provide additional information including what we did to correct the situation.

What should I do?

There is nothing to be done at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other actions. Remember, boiling water does not remove lead from the water.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit the EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinkingwater/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water> and <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

What is being done?

The Quapaw Public Works Authority completed the initial service line inventory and recently submitted the inventory to the state on May 8, 2026.

For more information, please contact Quapaw City Hall at 918-674-2525 or by email at cquapaw@att.net.

This notice is being sent to you by The Quapaw Public Works Authority. Public Water System ID# S21609

Date distributed: May 12, 2026

/s/ Floyd Dunning

"State" means the agency of the State or Tribal government which has jurisdiction over public water systems. During any period when a State or Tribal Government does not have primary enforcement responsibility pursuant to section 1413 of the Act, the term "State" means the Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. [40CFR 141.2]

(Published in the Miami News Record May 15 and 22, 2026) LPXLP

The Housing Authority of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma will hold a Regular monthly meeting May 19, 2026 at 4:30 p.m., at the Housing Authority Office located at 3606 Sencay Avenue, Comstick Square, Miami, Oklahoma.

(Published in the Miami News Record May 15, 2026) LPXLP

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Brian Brassfield, Purchasing Agent for the City of Miami will receive sealed bids until 2:00 P.M. CST, on Tuesday June 9th, 2026, for The City of Miami Request for Bids for Annual On-Call, As Needed, Plumbing Services For The City of Miami and Affiliates (RFB 26-32). All bids that have been duly received by the appropriate date and time will be opened in the Office of the Purchasing Agent, located at Miami City Hall, 129 5th Ave. NW, Miami, OK. Everyone is welcome to attend sealed bid opening.

RFB 26-32 REQUEST FOR BIDS For (RFB 26-32) The City of Miami requests bids from qualified bidders to provide plumbing services for the City of Miami and Affiliates.

SMALL BUSINESS AND MINORITY BUSINESSES ARE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE A BID. ENVELOPES SHALL BE CLEARLY MARKED "SEALED BID" WITH THE BIDDERS NAME & APPROPRIATE SOLICITATION NUMBER (RFP 26-32) CLEARLY SHOWN ON FRONT OF THE ENVELOPE.

The City of Miami reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Any bid received after the time set for the opening of bids shall not be considered by the awarding agency and shall be returned unopened to the bidder submitting same.

Full solicitation packets can be obtained by contacting the purchasing agent. They are also available on the city website at www.miamiokla.net.

(Published in the Miami News Record May 8 and 15, 2026) LPXLP

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Brian Brassfield, Purchasing Agent for the City of Miami will receive sealed bids until 2:00 P.M. CST, on Thursday June 11th, 2026, for The City of Miami Request for Bids for Annual On-Call, As Needed, HVAC Services For The City of Miami and Affiliates (RFB

26-33). All bids that have been duly received by the appropriate date and time will be opened in the Office of the Purchasing Agent, located at Miami City Hall, 129 5th Ave. NW, Miami, OK. Everyone is welcome to attend sealed bid opening.

RFB 26-33 REQUEST FOR BIDS For (RFB 26-33) The City of Miami requests bids from qualified bidders to provide HVAC services for the City of Miami and Affiliates.

SMALL BUSINESS AND MINORITY BUSINESSES ARE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE A BID. ENVELOPES SHALL BE CLEARLY MARKED "SEALED BID" WITH THE BIDDERS NAME & APPROPRIATE SOLICITATION NUMBER (RFB 26-33) CLEARLY SHOWN ON FRONT OF THE ENVELOPE.

The City of Miami reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Any bid received after the time set for the opening of bids shall not be considered by the awarding agency and shall be returned unopened to the bidder submitting same.

Full solicitation packets can be obtained by contacting the purchasing agent. They are also available on the city website at www.miamiokla.net.

(Published in the Miami News Record May 8 and 15, 2026) LPXLP

Legal Notice

Midwest Minerals Inc, 709 N Locust St, Pittsburg, KS 66762, has submitted a permit application to the Oklahoma Department of Mines (ODM) to renew permit #L.E-1452-F to mine Limestone through the surface mining method on portions of the following parcels of land:

Section 01 and Section 12, Township 28N, Range 27E, Ottawa County, Oklahoma

The total permit area contains 151 acres. The permit site is located approximately 1.2 miles south of the town of Quapaw, and 4.35 miles east of Commerce. No major waterways make their way through the property.

A copy of this permit renewal application is available for public inspection on ODM's website <https://mines.ok.gov>. A copy of the existing permit is available for public review by contacting ODM at 405-427-3859.

Any landowner or resident of any occupied dwelling, any public entity or public agency, or any party that may be adversely affected has the right to submit comments or object to the issuance of the permit in writing. An informal conference will be provided if requested. Any objections or requests for an informal conference on this application must be in writing and received no later than fourteen (14) days after the final publication of this notice to the

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF MINES
2915 N. Classen Blvd., Suite 213
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106

(Published in the Miami News Record May 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2026) LPXLP

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-10

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, OKLAHOMA, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-139 OF THE CODE OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, OKLAHOMA, TO INCLUDE THE REZONING OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY AS RM-2

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, OKLAHOMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the zoning map of the City of Miami, Oklahoma, as defined in Section 26-139 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Miami, Oklahoma, be and the same is hereby amended to rezone as RM-2 the following described real property:

Lot 15 and 16 in Block 5 in the Johnson Addition to the City of Miami, Ottawa County, Oklahoma, according to the recorded Plat thereof.

PASSED this 5th day of May, 2026.

/s/ Bless Parker
Bless Parker, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Moore
Melissa Moore, City Clerk

PLEASE SEE
LEGALS PG 8

LEGALS

CONTINUED FROM PG 7

City of Miami, Oklahoma

APPROVED:

/s/ Misty Barnes
Misty Barnes, City Attorney

(Published in the Miami News
Record May 15, 2026)
LPXLP

AS DEFINED IN SECTION 26-139 OF THE CODE OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, OKLAHOMA, TO INCLUDE THE REZONING OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY AS RM-1

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, OKLAHOMA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the zoning map of the City of Miami, Oklahoma, as defined in Section 26-139 of the Code of Ordinances of the

City of Miami, Oklahoma, be and the same is hereby amended to rezone as multi-family (RM-1) the following described real property:

LOT 222 AND the North one-half of LOT 221 in BELMONT ADDITION to the City of Miami, Ottawa County, Oklahoma, according to the recorded Plat thereof.

PASSED this 5th day of May, 2026.

/s/ Bless Parker
Bless Parker, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Moore
Melissa Moore, City Clerk
City of Miami, Oklahoma

APPROVED:

/s/ Misty Barnes
Misty Barnes, City Attorney

(Published in the Miami News
Record May 15, 2026)
LPXLP

PUBLIC NOTICE – LIEN ENFORCEMENT – SOLID STEEL STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that Solid Steel Storage, 6400 S Hwy 69, Miami, OK 74354, is asserting a lien on personal property stored at this facility for unpaid charges, pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Service Storage Facility Lien Act, 42 O.S. §§196-197.

All occupants in default must pay all sums due within thirty (30) days of this notice. If payment is not made, the property will be

sold at public auction or otherwise disposed of to satisfy the lien, as authorized by 42 O.S. §197.

For payment or account inquiries, please contact 918-533-2888

(Published in the Miami News
Record May 8, 15, and 22, 2026)
LPXLP



Photo by Vonceil Harmon/ODOT

Milkweed along a rural Oklahoma roadside provides habitat for pollinators.

Oklahoma's roadside wildflowers power conservation, agriculture, and tourism

Oklahoma's roadside wildflowers do more than beautify highways — they support wildlife, strengthen agriculture, and enhance tourism across the state.

Pollinators are essential to Oklahoma's food system, supporting one in every three bites of food consumed and contributing an estimated \$157 million annually to the state's agricultural economy. By cultivating native, wildflower-rich roadsides, Oklahoma is helping sustain these vital species.

Through the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's Monarch Program, more than 16,000 acres of pollinator-friendly habitat have been established along state roadways. These "habitat highways" reconnect fragmented ecosystems and provide critical corridors for monarch butterflies and other wildlife.

Native roadside management also delivers practical benefits. Reduced mowing lowers fuel and labor costs while maintaining safe, attractive highways for residents and visitors alike.

This work is made possible through strong collaboration among state and nonprofit partners:

- Oklahoma Department of

Transportation (ODOT) manages state's highway rights of way and leads the implementation of pollinator-friendly roadside practices through its Monarch Program.

- Color Oklahoma, a program of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, enhances roadsides by planting native wildflowers and supporting community beautification through a statewide matching grant program.

- Keep Oklahoma Beautiful engages communities through education and environmental stewardship, expanding participation in roadside habitat conservation.

"Strong partnerships, like those with Keep Oklahoma Beautiful and the Oklahoma Native Plant Society's Color Oklahoma Program support native ecosystems across the state," said Kait Taylor, biologist with ODOT's Natural Resources program. "Our shared commitment to Oklahoma's natural beauty and community wellbeing allows our organizations to deliver a greater impact than any one partner would be able to do alone."

"At a time when pollinator populations are declining and the economy is uncertain, collaborative

initiatives like these roadside habitat partnerships are essential," said Katie Hawk, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Monarch Society. "By pooling resources and expertise, they improve efficiency and expand their impact, making it possible to achieve more ambitious goals. We applaud their accomplishments and look forward to supporting their continued efforts by expanding best management resources for roadside pollinator habitat through the launch of a new Statewide Monarch Conservation Plan this summer."

All of these partners are part of the Oklahoma Monarch & Pollinator Collaborative (OMPC), a program of the Oklahoma Monarch Society and a network of more than 60 organizations working together to advance pollinator conservation statewide. The collaborative is currently developing version 2.0 of the Statewide Monarch Conservation Plan, set for release in summer 2026. Together, these efforts are transforming Oklahoma's roadsides into thriving ecosystems that benefit pollinators, wildlife, and communities alike.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT REQUESTS INVESTIGATION INTO FEED THE KIDS PROGRAM OPERATIONS

In a letter sent to the governor, attorney general, and state auditor, State Superintendent Lindel Fields shared his concerns regarding OSDE's extensive review of operations by the Feed the Kids program.

"I am writing to bring to your immediate attention a number of serious concerns regarding Feed the Kids, Inc., an Oklahoma-based company participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and specifically the portion of the CACFP that encompasses the 'At-risk Afterschool Meal Program,'" Fields stated in his memo. "Recent information has come to light indicating what I believe to be systemic fraudulent and deceptive practices by this organization, and which undermine both the purpose of the program and the public's confidence in its administration."

The letter goes on to outline evidence suggesting Feed the Kids has engaged in fraudulent behavior, inflating both operating costs and reported meal numbers in order to secure excessive reimbursement from federal funds. Misrepresentations were made on the program application, and false declarations and pleadings were submitted in both federal and state courts.

Fields expressed his appreciation to the OSDE staff for their diligence in uncovering this matter. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) also played a critical role in reviewing information and bringing this to light.

"As State Superintendent of Public Instruction, it is incumbent upon me to uphold public trust and ensure that the resources allocated for the welfare of Oklahoma's children are managed with the utmost integrity," Fields said. "It is my firm belief that Feed the Kids' actions represent not only a misuse of public funds but also a betrayal of the vulnerable populations these programs are designed to serve."

Fields concluded the letter with an appeal to the elected officials for a thorough and immediate investigation of the program's operations.



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