

HPS gross production income still down, but some good news

By Barb Walter
For The Times and Free Press

Hennessey’s Board of Education had a light agenda again this month, then

learned the school’s recent gross production was only \$64,000.

Superintendent Jason Sternberger also told the

board Monday, Jan. 12, that it “jumped back up to \$200,000,” but meanwhile “it will be difficult to develop a pattern for the next

five months.”

He added: “We got a state aid increase of \$110,000, but we’re still going to eat into our carry-over...So a little bit of good news.”

Another Bond Sale

The board scheduled the sale of \$1.215 million in taxable building bonds for a special meeting at noon Wednesday, Feb. 25, at The Eagle Event Center meeting room.

There was no discussion about what kind of major capital projects, such as constructing new buildings or renovating others, or purchasing transportation vehicles, etc.

The school sold \$1.7 million in taxable building bonds in March 2025. That’s when The Bank of Oklahoma was awarded the best and lowest bid at 4.498 %.

That interest is due May 1, 2026, according to an earlier Times & Free Press story.

“This is the second-to-last sale that we have on the bonds for ‘The Dome,’” Sternberger told the board. “Next year we’ll be doing this for the last time and that will be the last issuance. It’s a three-year term, so it was originally scheduled to pay off in 2030.

“One thing really good on the valuation, if you’ll remember, is that we’re still on track to pay off everything around 2028.”

State Question Eliminating Property Taxes

“Another thing to keep your eye on that I wanted

to just bring to your attention State Question 842 about the elimination of property taxes,” said the superintendent.

“That could definitely impact this, so just something that, once again, as we move through the session, keep your eyes on it.”

Bid Opening Next Month

The bids are due at 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25. The board will open the bids and a bidder will be recommended.

What Will Legislators Do?

The board approved the school calendar for the 2026-27 year after comments from the superintendent.

Sternberger said they would continue a week off at Thanksgiving and two weeks at Christmas and “changing the dates of the Easter, not taking off both Friday and Monday and moving the Monday to later.”

That action was after Sternberger said, “Our state superintendent has suggested adding up to 15 days to the calendar next year. Now, you know, everything I’ve heard, but they could meet in the middle somewhere, possibly. So, I think we need to go ahead and adopt this calendar now and then see how it plays out in the next session if there are any days added.

“Because there’ll be a lot of negotiations with that on teacher pay and everything else. So that’s a big topic.

“That’s not only days,

but hours of instruction as well...But they could set a minimum and so it could eliminate the hours. There’s just a lot of what else right now.

Cameron is Thanked

“Todd Cameron has turned in his letter of retirement,” said Sternberger. “Not his resignation, but his letter of retirement.

“I think everybody knows how valuable he is in this district and I’m afraid to sit down with him when we actually start saying: now what is your job description?”

“That’s true of all the things he does and his historical knowledge where all the bodies are hidden here at Hennessey,” the superintendent added. “It’s going to be very hard to replace Todd.

“Thank you for making my five years here very good and I appreciate everything you’ve done,” the superintendent said, and board members echoed their thanks for his service.

The board covered a lot of ground at this month’s meeting, and did it in under eight minutes.

At the Meeting

All board members were present: President Dr. James M. Matousek, Vice President Dakota Semrad, Clerk Amy Charmasson, Luke Lough and Lance Painter.

Also at the board table were Sternberger and Timberly Jech, office manager and minutes clerk.

Commissioners proceedings

(Published Sun., Jan 25, 2026, in the Kingfisher Times and Free Press)

KINGFISHER COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

January 12, 2026

Minutes of the regular meeting of Kingfisher County Board of County Commissioners was held on January 12, 2026. Advanced notice of the meeting was posted on bulletin board next to the Commissioner’s office and the north entrance on January 9, 2026 at 9:00 am.

- Chairman Mike Sparks called the meeting to order at 9:00am with Commissioners Sparks leading the flag salute. Roll call was read with the following responses: Moss – present; Sparks – present; Schwarz – present.
- Guest: Gary Reid, Kingfisher Times & Free Press; Randy Poindexter, Emergency Management; Aaron Pitts, Sheriff; Jack Quirk & Maitland Woody, All About Network; Nik Smith, Engineer; Brandon Scott, Hennessey Fire Chief; Roy Counts, Haskell Lemon; Representative from TJ Campbell; Representative from Silver Star Construction; Kelly Buck, Citizen; and Emily Lee, County Clerk. Public Comment: None
- A motion was made by Moss and seconded by Schwarz to table results for Bid# 8-25-26 2026 Asphalt Overlay for Dist. 1 & 3, for time to review and prepare tabulations. Bids Submitted are as follows:

| | DIST. 1 CASHION | DIST. 3 LOYAL | TOTAL FOR BOTH |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| ATLAS | | | |
| PAVING CO. | \$1,363,870.30 | \$2,201,660.20 | \$3,565,530.50 |
| TJ CAMPBELL | \$1,465,117.38 | \$2,258,690.72 | \$3,723,808.10 |
| SILVER STAR | | | |
| CONSTRUCTION | \$1,540,635.57 | \$2,292,633.10 | \$3,833,268.67 |
| RUDY | | | |
| CONSTRUCTION | \$1,747,765.40 | \$2,524,996.10 | \$4,272,761.50 |
| HASKELL | | | |
| LEMON | \$1,570,080.53 | \$2,211,841.84 | \$3,781,922.37 |
| SCHWARZ | | | |
| PAVING CO. | \$1,669,377.25 | \$2,439,699.48 | \$4,109,076.73 |
| ELLSWORTH | | | |
| CONSTRUCTION | \$1,823,421.18 | \$2,868,393.64 | \$4,691,814.82 |

A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes.

- A motion was made by Moss and seconded by Schwarz to approve Public Service/Access Drive for Tess White Location: N 2950 Rd Culvert Size: 24x20 Dist. 1 A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes.
- A motion was made by Schwarz and seconded by Moss to approve Transfer of 2010 Ford Pick-up from Emergency Management to Big Four Fire Dept. EM-301-0001 Serial# 1FTFX1E1V4AKE05316 A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes.
- A motion was made by Schwarz and seconded by Moss to approve Bridge Plan Title Sheet for Bridge #147 for Dist. 3. A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes.
- A motion was made by Schwarz and seconded by Moss to approve Jeff Moss to remain as Kingfisher County Representative for the NODA Board of Trustees. A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes.
- A motion was made by Schwarz and seconded by Moss to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 5, 2026; Agenda, Purchase Orders, Warrants, Payroll for January 12, 2026 for FY:24-25 and FY:25-26.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Action Items: | |
| FY 24-25 | |
| Sheriff Service Fee | |
| 364 Unifirst First Aid & Safety \$19.00 | M & O |
| ¼ Cent Sales Tax | |
| 160 Banner Fire \$1,335.00 | M & O |
| FY 25-26 | |
| General | |
| 1138 Kingfisher Public Works \$502.78 | M & O |
| 1139 Kingfisher Public Works \$807.56 | M & O |
| 1140 Tisdal & O'Hara \$600.00 | M & O |
| 1141 Eureka Water \$13.94 | M & O |
| 1142 Bancfirst \$22,256.01 | M & O |
| 1143 Staples \$165.10 | M & O |
| 1144 Hennessey Utilities \$325.87 | M & O |
| 1145 Eureka Water \$17.49 | M & O |
| 1146 Kingfisher Office Supply \$88.51 | M & O |
| 1147 Eureka Water \$31.34 | M & O |
| 1148 Cimarron Exterminators \$200.00 | M & O |
| 1149 OA Cheeks \$3,700.00 | M & O |
| 1150 Cimarron Electric \$650.96 | M & O |
| 1151 Kingfisher Public Works \$256.77 | M & O |
| 1152 Eureka Water \$27.14 | M & O |
| 1153 Kingfisher Office Supply \$1,497.35 | M & O |
| 1154 Pioneer Telephone \$237.25 | M & O |
| 1155 Pioneer Telephone \$2,591.52 | M & O |
| 1156 Eureka Water \$11.24 | M & O |
| 1157 Standley Systems \$9.56 | M & O |
| 1158 Kingfisher Public Works \$612.45 | M & O |
| 1159 RK Black \$89.66 | M & O |
| 1160 RK Black \$134.73 | M & O |
| 1161 Fuelman \$5,778.41 | M & O |
| 1162 Ace Hardware \$19.99 | M & O |
| 1163 Kingfisher Office Supply \$66.35 | M & O |
| 1164 Eureka Water \$33.39 | M & O |
| 1165 Kingfisher Office Supply \$769.54 | M & O |
| 1166 Cimarron Electric \$3,518.51 | M & O |

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Highway | |
| 1123 CL Boyd \$1,296.05 | M & O |
| 1124 Brooks Industries | |
| \$1,339.38 | M & O |
| 1125 Atwoods \$252.00 | M & O |
| 1126 Bruckners \$1,582.29 | M & O |
| 1127 P & K Equip \$100.58 | M & O |
| 1128 K & S Tire \$4,308.40 | M & O |
| 1129 Napa \$2,871.05 | M & O |
| 1130 Earnheart Oil \$300.00 | M & O |
| 1131 K & S Tire \$2,850.92 | M & O |
| 1132 Ernest Hellwege \$9,946.00 | M & O |
| 1133 Scott Coppenbarger \$2,374.23 | M & O |
| 1134 Dolese \$35,18.45 | M & O |
| 1135 Dolese \$38,047.53 | M & O |
| 1136 Dolese \$40,119.26 | M & O |
| 1137 Dolese \$35,208.94 | M & O |
| 1138 Dolese \$40,505.59 | M & O |
| 1139 Dolese \$42,416.67 | M & O |
| 1140 Atwoods \$1,042.63 | M & O |
| 1141 Bruckners \$800.38 | M & O |
| 1142 Gregory Tire & Oil \$960.00 | M & O |
| 1143 Tops & Stripes \$6,420.00 | Capital Outlay |
| 1144 K & S Tire \$2,507.00 | M & O |
| 1145 Garfield Glass \$250.00 | M & O |
| 1146 Zyzer \$25,632.95 | M & O |
| 1147 Jims Welding \$1,991.96 | M & O |
| 1148 Garrison Lumber \$335.64 | M & O |
| 1149 Penley Oil \$1,286.16 | M & O |
| 1150 USG Corp \$52,054.16 | M & O |
| 1151 CED#8 \$600.00 | M & O |
| 1152 Red Fork Manufacturing \$1,000.00 | M & O |
| 1153 K & S Tire \$1,930.00 | M & O |
| 1154 P & K Equip \$168.64 | M & O |
| 1155 K & S Tire \$1,785.00 | M & O |
| 1156 Napa \$897.96 | M & O |
| 1157 K & S Tire \$483.95 | M & O |
| 1158 Cintas Corp No 2 \$772.70 | M & O |
| 1159 Bruckners \$91.56 | M & O |
| 1160 Atwoods \$8.97 | M & O |
| 1161 CED#8 \$926.40 | M & O |
| 1162 CED#8 \$308.80 | M & O |
| 1163 Dollar Trucking \$11,875.12 | M & O |
| 1164 CED#8 \$231.60 | M & O |
| 1165 Dover Public Works \$87.58 | M & O |
| 1166 Govt Acct Services \$6.78 | M & O |
| 1167 Eureka Water \$90.74 | M & O |
| 1168 CED#8 \$92.56 | M & O |
| 1169 Dolese \$45,188.24 | M & O |
| 1170 Christopher Wilczek \$11,809.00 | M & O |
| 1171 Cintas Corp No 2 \$539.46 | M & O |
| 911 | |
| 134 Chickasaw Personal Comm \$1,685.00 | M & O |
| 135 Pioneer Telephone \$406.68 | M & O |
| Health Dept | |
| 114 Firtnet AT&T \$262.30 | M & O |
| 115 Cimarron Exterminators \$100.00 | M & O |
| 116 OA Cheeks \$1,511.22 | M & O |
| 117 Pioneer Telephone \$1,034.82 | M & O |
| Resale | |
| 28 Beverly Cluck \$24.50 | Travel |
| Sheriff Service Fee | |
| 113 Pioneer Telephone \$129.50 | M & O |
| 114 Mollman’s Water \$149.85 | M & O |
| 115 Chickasaw Personal Comm \$3,159.04 | M & O |
| 116 Galls \$779.99 | M & O |
| 117 Melissa Kiser \$675.00 | M & O |
| 118 Oreilly’s \$10.25 | M & O |
| 119 K & S Tire \$899.40 | M & O |
| Sheriff Training | |
| 7 OK BD of Test for Alcohol & Drug \$132.00 | M & O |
| Extension | |
| 55 ONG \$148.09 | M & O |
| 56 Standley Systems \$337.91 | M & O |
| 57 Kingfisher Public Works \$201.44 | M & O |
| 58 Pioneer Telephone \$233.75 | M & O |
| 59 Eureka Water \$22.19 | M & O |
| Free Fair | |
| 78 J & P Supply \$17.43 | M & O |
| 79 Pioneer Telephone \$69.90 | M & O |
| 80 ONG \$1,489.46 | M & O |
| 81 Kingfisher Public Works \$2,259.24 | M & O |
| Jail Sales Tax | |
| 222 Crandall & Sanders \$9,835.98 | M & O |
| Library Sales Tax | |
| 40 Aqualife Aquarium \$314.00 | M & O |
| Sheriff Sales Tax | |
| 25 Chickasaw Personal Comm \$1,680.00 | M & O |
| ¼ Cent Sales Tax | |
| 130 Napa \$308.19 | M & O |
| 131 The Fire Store \$1,309.68 | M & O |
| 132 Dakota Warkentien \$150.00 | M & O |
| 133 Full Pull Diesel Performance \$3,863.31 | M & O |
| 134 Chickasaw Personal Comm \$1,586.00 | M & O |
| 135 Napa \$390.37 | M & O |
| 136 Eagle Flag Products \$3,932.74 | M & O |
| Museum | |
| 24 ONG \$737.68 | M & O |
| 25 Kingfisher Public Works \$701.80 | M & O |
| ¼ Cent Sales Tax | |

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|--|-------|
| 109 Shawnee Milling Company \$1,359.34 | M & O |
| 110 Jacket Express \$41.49 | M & O |
| 111 Jacket Express \$124.46 | M & O |
| 112 Propane Sales \$688.72 | M & O |
| Sheriff Funding Assistance Grant | |
| 2 COPS Products \$773.73 | M & O |
- A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes.
- A motion was made by Moss and seconded by Schwarz to approve monthly reports for the Treasurer, Election Board, and Sheriff Dept, and Court clerk. A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes
 - A motion was made by Schwarz and seconded by Moss to approve Sheriff Annual Report for Jail. A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes
 - A motion was made by Moss and seconded by Schwarz to approve monthly Reimbursement Claims for District Attorney and Election Board. A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes
 - A motion was made by Schwarz and seconded by Moss to approve Adding Chris Pribyl as additional Requisitioning Officer, and adding Levi Copeland as additional Receiving Officer for Hennessey Fire Dept. (*Levi was already on but County Clerk wanted to make sure it was clearly noted) •Removing Tommy Humphries as Requisitioning Officer for Dist. Attny Office and Adding Alex Sloan. •Adding Don Vogt as additional Receiving Officer for Dist. 3. •Removing Lindy Peterman from Extension and Free Fair Office Requisitioning officer A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes
 - A motion was made by Moss and seconded by Schwarz to approve Appropriations and transfers for the month of December 2025. A motion was made with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz- Yes
- Consideration and Possible Action with respect to any other matters not known about or which could not have been foreseen prior to the posting of this agenda.*
- Board Comments/Announcements: Tax Roll & Excise Board will meet Wed. January 14th. Next Commissioners meeting will be January 20th as the Courthouse will be closed on the 19th for MLK Day.
 - Adjournment: 9:35am A motion was made by Moss and seconded by Schwarz to adjourn. Motion passed with the following votes cast: Moss- Yes, Sparks- Yes, Schwarz-Yes.
- Details Concerning the above listed purchase orders/claims are available in the County Clerk's Office. All records are open to the public, and any person may examine same during regular office hours.*
- Approve this 20th day of January, 2026.

Mike Sparks, Chairman

Anthony Schwarz, Vice Chairman

Jeff Moss, Member

Emily Lee, County Clerk

LPXLP

Legal notice

(Published Sun., Jan. 18 and 25, 2026, in the Kingfisher Times and Free Press)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF KINGFISHER COUNTY, STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Will and Estate of Iva Nell Wetzel, Deceased.

CAUSE NO. PB-2025-19 NOTICE OF HEARING ON FINAL ACCOUNT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. PETITION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP AND FOR DISTRIBUTION OF ESTATE

NOTICE is hereby given that Russell Wayne Wetzel, the duly appointed and qualified Personal Representative of the Estate of Iva Nell Wetzel, Deceased, has filed in this Court the Final Account and report of the administration as such Personal Representative and the Petition for Determination of Heirship and for Distribution of Estate, and that Monday, the 9th day of February, 2026, at the hour of 9:00 A.M. in the Courtroom of

the District Court in Kingfisher, Kingfisher County, Oklahoma has been duly appointed by the said Court for the final settlement of said account, and for hearing of the petition for distribution, and determination of heirship, at which time and place any persons interested may appear and file exceptions and show cause, if any they have, why said account should not be settled and allowed and the said Estate distributed and the Personal Representative discharged.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of January, 2026.

/s/ Lance E. Schneiter
Judge

Jared Harrison (OBA #21515)
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LPXLP