Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review – Meeting Minutes

Saturday, June 27, 2026 at 9:00 AM
Hosted on Zoom by the Kansas Historical Society

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call & Quorum
III. **Review the Minutes from the February 7, 2026 meeting**
IV. Reports from the Kansas State Historical Society and Historic Preservation Office
V. **Review the Kansas Rural Preservation Committee Report and Award**
VI. **Review the Historic Preservation Fund Committee Report and Award**
VII. **Consider Nominations for the Register of Historic Kansas Places (only)**
(* denotes properties within a Certified Local Government boundary)

1. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post # 6240 – Russell, Russell County
2. Grinter Chapel – Kansas City, Wyandotte County*

VIII. **Consider Nominations for both the State & National Registers of Historic Places**
(* denotes properties within a Certified Local Government boundary)

1. Ceder Creek Open Spandrel Bridge – Welda, Anderson County
2. Cowley County Poor Farm Bridge – Winfield, Cowley County
3. Bayles Residence – Lawrence, Douglas County*
4. Hillcrest Grocery – Dodge City, Ford County*
5. Shawnee Grade School – Shawnee, Johnson County
6. Marysville Downtown Historic District – Marysville, Marshall County
7. Whiting, T.W., House – Council Grove, Morris County
8. Phillips 66 Service Station – Phillipsburg, Phillips County
9. Highland Cemetery – Wichita, Sedgwick County*
10. Yucca Mentholatum Building – Wichita, Sedgwick County*
11. Mowers House – Topeka, Shawnee County*

IX. **Other Business**
X. Announcements

1. Other announcements from members
2. Meeting Schedule for 2026

XI. Adjournment

Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review Meeting

June 27, 2026

Kansas Historical Society, Topeka, KS

Board Members

Present: Patrick Zollner – State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Mark Kelly, J.D., Ryan McDonald, Dr. Mary McMurray, Dr. Laura Murphy, Dr. Jay Price (Chair), Dr. Kerry Wynn, Christine Steinkuehler

Absent: Dana Williamson, Jean Schodorf (Vice-Chair), Whitley Stephens

A quorum was established.

Staff

Present: Patrick Zollner – Executive Director, Katrina Ringler – CRD Director; Jamee Fiore Krivenko, Megan Maize, Lauren Jones, Kristen Johnston, Darbee Chard, Noah Rockett.

I. Proceedings

Chair Jay Price called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

III. Review of Minutes for February 7, 2026 Meeting

Dr. Mary McMurray made a motion to approve the minutes as prepared. Second: Mark Kelly. 8 votes to approve.

IV. KSHS & Cultural Resources Division Director's Report

Patrick Zollner reported on the successful legislative session by way of additional staffing to operate the museum. Zollner announced the Historical Society was successful in getting staffing, one and a half FTEs, and operation costs for the Curtis House State Historic Site and hopes to have a soft opening in the fall. The newest state historic site, Fort Dodge Junior Officer Quarters, will be officially acquired at the start of the next State Fiscal Year. And that the Historical Society will receive no less than one million dollars to restore the site. Zollner also announced on July 1st there would be an opening reception for the Kansas 1776 dynamic landscape exhibit, going through the end of the year. Jay Price inquired about an event in September, which Zollner explained was the History Summit KSHS is cohosting in collaboration with Humanities Kansas, targeting invitations to local and county historical societies.

Katrina Ringler shared the dates for the History Summit, September 24th and 25th. Regulations for the Register of Historic Kansas Places have been drafted. Ringler announced the State Preservation Conference on October 8th and 9th, in Wichita. There were updates for the Historic Preservation Fund grants, the overall funding has been sought but not yet awarded. Ringler also announced two new interns for the summer, helping with State and National Register, and organizing databases and paper records.

V. Review the Historic Preservation Fund Committee Report and Award

Christine Steinkuehler read the report as herself, and fellow board members Sarah Bell and Megan Burton formed a committee to review applications to the 2026 historic preservation fund, meeting virtually with all applicants on June 18. The committee and SHPO staff recommended funding all seven projects at the following levels pending allocation of funding by the National Park Service for the federal fiscal year 2026.

Applicant	Project	Amount
Douglas County Historical Society	Municipal Stadium Historic Report	$12,000.00
City of Ellis	Downtown Ellis Historic District National Register Nomination	$15,664.00
City of Fort Scott	Historic District Guidelines	$15,000.00
Kansas Anthropological Society	Production of the Kansas Anthropologist, Volume 48	$5,000.00
The Other Roads Consulting	Preserving Black Kansas	$8,910.00
Russell Main Street	Survey of Downtown Russell, KS	$10,800.00
Stafford County Economic Development	Survey of St. John and Downtown Stafford Historic District National Register Nomination	$24, 840.00

These seven (7) projects represent a total of $92,214.00. SHPO staff have determined these seven projects are deserving and will meet the funding requirements issued by the National Parks Service.

Dr. Wynn moved to approve the recommended awards. Second: Ryan McDonald. 8 votes to approve.

VI. Review the Kansas Rural Preservation Committee Report and Award

Christine Steinkuehler read the report about the June 18 meeting to discuss the redetermination of applications and to prepare a list of recommendations to this board on behalf of herself, and fellow board members Sarah Bell and Megan Burton. The committee reviewed 13 applications requesting a total of $1,163,422.00 in grant funds. Below is the recommended property for funding in the 2026 round of Kansas Rural Preservation grants, pending approval and allocation of funding by the National Parks Service.

City	County	Property	Award
Independence	Montgomery	Ernest Brothers Garage	$100,000.00

The Review Committee states they believe the recommended project will benefit the rural community in which it is found and hope it is met with approval from the board.

Dr. Wynn moved to approve the recommended awards. Second: Ryan McDonald. 8 votes to approve.

VII. Consider Nominations for the Register of Historic Kansas Places (only)

1. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post # 6240 – Russell, Russell County

Prepared by Lance Waymaster and SHPO staff on behalf of the owners
Criteria A: Social History
Period of Significance: 1970
Presented by: Jamee Fiore Krivenko

Discussion: Fiore Krivenko added that the group is very engaged in the community.

Public Discussion: Doug Bernard, Post Commander, spoke in support of nomination. He's proud of the facility as it hosts many kinds of gatherings, from weddings to funerals. Bernard said the building is the largest indoor meeting space in the county and mentioned a third of the approximate 300 members live out-of-state. He noted the history of Bob Dole's campaign involved with the facility.

Motion: Dr. Price moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Second: Mark Kelly. 8 votes to approve.

2. Grinter Chapel & Cemetery – Kansas Cit, Wyandotte Co.*

Prepared by Amy Van de Reit and David Lynn of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians Inc. (owners)

Criterion A & C: Ethnic Heritage, Architecture

Period of Significance:

Presented by: Amy Van de Reit

Discussion: Dr. Kerry Wynn asked the reason as to why this nomination is only for the State Register. Fiore Krivenko explained the owners are working towards the National Register after receiving feedback from the National Parks Service. The owners will need to address the NPS changes before returning to the board to nominate for the National Register. Price asked about the congregation members and the property's intended future use as the interior chapel space is hard to convert to other needs. Van de Reit answered the members were Methodist, which dwindled during the COVID pandemic, which led to the Methodist congregation approving transfer to David Lynn of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians Inc. Van de Reit also said the future uses were for tribal events, to be rented by donation, and there is space in the basement for other activities.

Public Discussion: David Lynn wanted to note the issue with NPS was a miscommunication on behalf of the photos sent. He said the usage of the chapel would be 80% religious purposes, 10% community purposes, and 10% tribal events. Lynn also thanked SHPO staff for their help.

Motion: Dr. Kerry Wynn moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places for Criterion A & C: Ethnic Heritage and Architecture. Second: Mark Kelly. 8 votes to approve.

VIII. Consider Nominations for both the State & National Registers of Historic Places

1. Cedar Creek Open Spandrel Bridge – Welda, Anderson Co.

Prepared by Seth Allen on behalf of the owners

Criterion C: Engineering

Period of Significance: 1928

Presented by: Lauren Jones

Discussion: Dr. Wynn asked if there was more information about the historical significance of the bridge. Jones explained there wasn't a lot provided in the prepared presentation, but that a similar bridge was to come down. The county moved to nominate this bridge as their Section 106 mitigation. Ringler explained from the criterion that there is not much information on the history of these kinds of structures. Dr. Price recommended details about the road would offer useful information, noting the amount of effort needed to place such a structure. To

which Fiore Krivenko suggested that if the board wanted to require such information for the nomination, they are welcome to motion for revisions.

Public Discussion: There were no questions or comments from the public.

Motion 1: Dr. Price moved that the Board approve this nomination with minor revisions regarding the history of the route for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Second: Christine Steinkuheler. 8 votes to approve.

Motion 2: Dr. Price moved that the Board recommend that the SHPO forward the revised nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criterion C: Engineering. Second: Christine Steinkuheler. 8 votes to approve.

2. Cowley County Poor Farm Bridge – Winfield, Cowley Co.

Prepared by John Jordan, Superintendent at Cowley County Public Works.

Criteria A & C: Transportation, Engineering

Period of significance: 1908-1910

Presented by: Lauren Jones

Discussion: Dr. Laura Murphy comments the archeology statements are "pretty inconsistent" towards the potential for encountering an archeological site. Fiore Krivenko clarified the process of removing generalized wording and defining the terms will be sent to the Archeological team at Cultural Resources. Christine Steinkuehler asked if criteria for Social History would apply to the bridge. Fiore Krivenko responded the Poor Farm itself is not being nominated and there isn't much of the farm left.

Public Discussion: Fiore Krivenko noted the bridge is privately owned but the owners understand this nomination is part of a mitigation project and have written their support.

Motion 1: Dr. Wynn moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Second: Kelly. 8 votes to approve.

Motion 2: Dr. Wynn moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination with revisions to the archeological statements to the Keeper for listing in the National Register. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criteria A & C: Transportation and Engineering. Second: Kelly. 8 votes to approve.

The Board took a 5-minute break at [10:44]. The meeting resumed at [10:51].

3. Bayles Residence – Lawrence, Douglas Co*

Prepared by Amy Van de Reit on behalf of the owners

Criterion C: Architecture

Period of significance: 1927-1930

Presented by: Amy Van de Reit

Discussion: Dr. Wynn was thankful to learn the history of this home as she was not aware of the woman architect, Elizabeth Evans River, noting it is "ahead of its time." Steinkuehler asked why the nomination was not submitted with the addition of Criterion A for Social History based on the history of the female architect. Van de Reit responded that it was not considered, which could be explored to promote visibility towards female architects. Jamee Fiore Krivenko elaborated architects are covered under Criterion C, but Social History could be explored; she will check with the NPS. Dr. Price agreed on the importance and suggested the nomination is approved "as is" and to add an amendment noting the social history of the property. Patrick Zollner reiterated the

history can be added later as the Parks Service would only look at this property as Criteria C, and so for expediency the board should move forward with the nomination as is.

Public Discussion: Owner Anne Beetles thanked Van de Reit for her guidance and expertise, as well as SHPO staff.

Motion 1: Dr. Wynn moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places as prepared. Second: Steinkuehler. 8 votes to approve.

Motion 2: Dr. Wynn moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register as prepared. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criterion C: Architecture. Second: Steinkuehler. 8 votes to approve.

4. Hillcrest Grocery – Dodge City, Ford Co.*

Prepared by: Tracie Smith - Owner

Criterion A & C: Commerce, Social History, Architecture

Period of significance: 1935-1985

Presented by: Megan Maize, KS-SHPO Staff

Discussion: Dr. Price suggested adding the book "Building the Housewife's Paradise" to this nomination as it provides insight into how "the corner grocery store worked as a community institution."

Public Discussion: There were no additional comments or questions from the public.

Motion 1: Dr. Wynn moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places as prepared. Second: Dr. Price. 8 votes to approve.

Motion 2: Dr. Wynn moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criterion A & C: Commerce, Social History, Architecture. Second: Ryan McDonald. 8 votes to approve.

5. Shawnee Grade School – Shawnee, Johnson Co.

Prepared by: Nika Falkner with Heritage Consulting Group on behalf of the owners

Criterion A & C: Education, Architecture

Period of significance: 1951-1969

Presented by: Amanda Loughlin – Heritage Consulting Group

Discussion: Dr. Mary McMurray encourages adding the context of the baby boom and white flight contributing towards the population increase in Shawnee during this time.

Public Discussion: There were no questions or comments from the audience.

Motion 1: Dr. McMurray moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places as prepared. Second: Kelly. 8 votes to approve.

Motion 2: Dr. McMurray moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criterion A & C: Education, Architecture. Second: Kelly. 8 votes to approve.

6. Marysville Downtown Historic District – Marysville, Marshall Co.

Prepared by: Brenda and Michelle Spencer at Spencer Preservation on behalf of the owners

Criteria A & C: Ethnic Commerce, Architecture.
Period of significance: 1859-1977
Presented by: Brenda Spencer

Discussion: There were no questions or comments from the board.
Public Discussion: There were no questions or comments from the audience.

Motion 1: Dr. Price moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places as prepared. Second: Dr. Wynn. 8 votes to approve.
Motion 2: Dr. Wynn moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register as prepared. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criteria A & C: Commerce, Architecture. Second: Steinkuehler. 8 votes to approve.

7. Whiting, T.W. House – Council Grove, Morris Co.

Prepared by: Owner Kelly Judd with assistance from SHPO staff
Criterion C: Architecture
Period of significance: 1911
Presented by: Lauren Jones

Discussion: Dr. Price asked for evidence of the house being "mission style," to which Jones suggested the roof shape and materials contribute to its classification. They both agree the nomination could be revised to changing the style to "eclectic." Dr. Wynn commented the style of architecture is not very specific for this building, Dr. McMurray agreed. Ryan McDonald announced his abstention due his personal friendship to Judd as well as being his neighbor.
Public Discussion: Owner Kelly Judd stated the house was designed by T.W. Whiting, who was not a licensed architect. To which Dr. Price asked if he knew Whiting's inspiration or intent with the house. Judd replied that he did not know but praised the architecture and noted the original native limestone.

Motion 1: Christine Steinkuehler moved that the Board approve this nomination with revisions to the style nomenclature for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Place. Second: Dr. Price. 7 votes to approve, 1 abstention.
Motion 2: Steinkuehler moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register with the previous mentioned revisions. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criterion C: Architecture. Second: Dr. Price. 7 votes to approve, 1 abstention.

8. Phillips 66 Service Station – Phillipsburg, Phillips Co.

Prepared by: Owners Robert and Joyce Bunch with assistance of SHPO staff
Criterion A & C: Commerce, Architecture
Period of significance: 1963-1977
Presented by: Megan Maize, KS-SHPO staff.

Discussion: Dr. Price recommends The American Gas Station by Michael Witzel be added to the record for additional context. Mark Kelly had concerns with the possibility of gas tanks under the property and their impact, to which the owner notified the board that the tanks were removed in 1980.

Public Discussion: SHPO staff, Lauren Jones, commented that the restoration was a "labor of love", and commended the owners' dedication.

Motion 1: Dr. Wynn moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places as prepared. Second: Dr. Price. 8 votes to approve.

Motion 2: Dr. Wynn moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register as prepared. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criterion A & C: Commerce, Architecture. Second: Dr. Price. 8 votes to approve.

9. Highland Cemetery, Wichita Mausoleum, and Jewish Cemetery – Wichita, Sedgwick Co.*

Prepared by Barb Myers – Chair, Friends of the Wichita Pioneers, on behalf of the owners
Criterion A: Exploration/Settlement
Period of significance: 1868-1933

Presented by: Barb Myers

Discussion: Dr. Murphy reiterated for SHPO staff on the archeological statements were inconsistent and the potential at the cultural site. Dr. Price asked if he is to abstain as Myers is a student of his, but he was not involved in the nomination, Zollner thinks it is fine not to abstain.

Public Discussion: There were no questions or comments from the public.

Motion 1: Dr. McMurray moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Second: Dr. Wynn. 8 votes to approve.

Motion 2: Dr. McMurray moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register with revisions regarding architecture. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criterion A: Exploration/Settlement. Second: Dr. Wynn. 8 votes to approve.

10. Yucca Mentholatum Company Building – Wichita, Sedgwick Co.*

Prepared by: Stephanie Lucatero and Brina Falk of Falk Architects on behalf of the owner.

Criterion C: Architecture

Period of significance: 1887-1914

Presented by: Bryan Falk

Discussion: Dr. Price recommends highlighting Lorenzo Lewelling as a populist governor as more information on the building.

Public Discussion: There were no questions or comments from the public.

Motion 1: Dr. Price moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Second: McDonald. 8 votes to approve.

Motion 2: Dr. Price moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register as prepared. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criterion C: Architecture. Second: McDonald. 8 votes to approve.

11. Mowers House – Topeka, Shawnee Co.*

Prepared by: Robin Gibson and owner Brian Falk of Falk Architects

Criterion A & C: Community Planning and Development, Architecture
Period of significance: 1939
Presented by: Byan Falk.

Discussion: Dr. Wynn commented she would like to see included Westboro was one of the first neighborhoods in Topeka to ban African Americans from buying homes in the area. Steinkuehler agreed with Wynn.
Public Discussion: There were no questions or comments from the public.

Motion 1: Steinkuehler moved that the Board approve this nomination for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Second: Kelly. 8 votes to approve.
Motion 2: Steinkuehler moved that the Board recommend the SHPO forward this nomination to the Keeper for listing in the National Register with revisions to adding deed restrictions. The property meets the eligibility requirements under Criterion A & C: Community Planning and Development, Architecture. Second: Kelly. 8 votes to approve.

IX. Other Business

None

X. Announcements

Ringler reminded the board that the next meeting is October 3, 2026, in person, in Johnson County.

XI. Adjournment

Dr. Wynn moved to adjourn the meeting. Second: Dr. Price. 8 votes to approve. The meeting was adjourned at 12:41 pm.

By signing the minutes, I am verifying that they have been reviewed and approved by the Historic Sites Board of Review at a public meeting.



October 3, 2024

Date Minutes Approved **National Register Coordinator Signature**