STATE OF KANSAS
MEADE COUNTY
2025

AMENDED
CERTIFICATE

TO THE CLERK OF MEADE COUNTY, STATE OF KANSAS
WE, THE UNDERSIGNED OFFICERS OF
COUNTY OF MEADE

CERTIFY THAT: (1) THE HEARING MENTIONED IN THE ATTACHED PUBLICATION WAS HELD; (2) AFTER THE BUDGET HEARING THIS BUDGET WAS DULY APPROVED AND ADOPTED AS THE MAXIMUM EXPENDITURE AND (3) THE AMOUNT(S) OF 2024 AD VALOREM TAX FOR THE VARIOUS FUNDS FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025.

			2025 AMENDED BUDGET		
TABLE OF CONTENTS:		PAGE NO.	AMOUNT OF 2024 TAX THAT WAS LEVIED	ADOPTED 2025 EXPENDITURES	PROPOSED AMENDED 2025
FUND	K.S.A.				
UTILITY	19-3435a	1	0	500,000	520,000
TOTALS			0	500,000	520,000
SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS		1			

ASSISTED BY:
HAY - RICE & ASSOCIATES, CHARTERED
P O BOX 2707
LIBERAL KS 67905-2707

Clair Bengle
Janna Frydenda

ATTEST: 12/30, 2025

COUNTY CLERK

GOVERNING BODY

STATE OF KANSAS
MEADE COUNTY
2025

ADOPTED BUDGET

MEADE COUNTY UTILITY	CODE	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL 2023	CURRENT YEAR ESTIMATE 2024	PROPOSED BUDGET YEAR 2025
UNENCUMBERED CASH BALANCE, JANUARY 1		332,588	183,931	109,146
RECEIPTS:				
SALES TO USERS		459,429	390,000	390,000
SALE OF CONTAINERS		2,893	1,215	854
OTHER		12,007		
REIMBUSRSEMENT LABOR				
TOTAL RECEIPTS		474,329	391,215	390,854
RESOURCES AVAILABLE		806,917	575,146	500,000
EXPENDITURES:				
OPERATIONS:				
PERSONAL SERVICES		191,773	195,000	205,000
COMMODITIES		123,839	100,000	100,000
CONTRACTUAL		73,893	80,000	80,000
CAPITAL OUTLAY		233,481	91,000	115,000
OTHER				
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		622,986	466,000	500,000
UNENCUMBERED CASH BALANCE, DECEMBER 31		183,931	109,146	0
BUDGET AUTHORITY		540,000	530,000	

Notice of Budget Hearing for Amending the
2025 Budget
The governing body of
MEADE COUNTY
will meet on the day of December 30, 2025 at 9:00 AM at Meade County Courthouse for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed amended use of funds.

Detailed budget information is available at County Clerk's Office
and will be available at this hearing.

Summary of Amendments

Fund	2,025 Adopted Budget: Actual Tax Rate	2,025 Adopted Budget: Amount of Tax that was Levied	2,025 Adopted Budget: Expenditures	2,025 Proposed Amended Expenditures
UTILITY	0.000	0	500,000	520,000

Amber Holstead
Official Title: County Clerk

Sheriff

Continued from Front Page

stated.

However, he added that the cash would be anything but a slush fund.

"First of all we have to pay an attorney fee, and whatever costs like the legal advertisement, we have to pay all that off," Ritter noted. "Then we put that money into an asset forfeiture fund, which there are limitations on what we can spend that money on."

Ritter added that such funds were regulated by state officials.

"They require us to report an asset forfeiture case," he added. "We track what we spend the money on. We have to report that to the state, so there's some accountability there."

The Sheriff said his office has been able to use forfeiture funds in the past. "Typically we use it for equipment and training that normally wouldn't be budgeted," he said.

Most recently, the Meade County Sheriff's Office has used forfeiture funds to pay for office upgrades. "All the improvements to our office since 2021, whether it be carpet, whether it be desks, adding security features to our office, has all been asset forfeiture money," Ritter said. "I'm pretty proud of that because it means we're not using taxpayers' money for those things."

Asset forfeiture funds have also been used to help with some ongoing operations of the Sheriff's Office.

"Our K-9 was purchased with asset forfeiture money," the Sheriff added. "Our K-9 is supported by asset forfeiture money."

At just over $90,000, Ritter noted the significance of this most recent drug-fund seizure. "I think it's the largest we've had since I've been sheriff," he said. "Typically we've seen anywhere between 10 and 25, maybe 30-thousand. We've gotten one seizure of $50,000 in the last five years."

The Sheriff credited the skill and dedication of his officers in making the November 22 traffic stop and subsequent seizure.

"I think the difference is deputies having the experience to recognize when there's criminal activity on a traffic stop, being able to interpret body language and also put together clues of deception," he said.

"Over the last five years our deputies have been given the opportunity to glean that experience, learn from it, and learn from mistakes so there's success going forward."

City security concerns, Ritter declined to identify the Meade County officer who made the November 22 stop that resulted in the cash seizure.

2025

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Amber Holstead
Official Title: County Clerk

Some things in life are still free!!

We welcome the following items at no charge:

- Wedding announcements
- Engagement announcements
- Anniversaries
- Cards showers for those over 80 years of age
- Birth announcements
- Obituaries
- Letters to the Editor
- Club news
- Graduations
- Honor rolls
- Team victories (or good tries)
- Accidents
- Special church services
- School functions
- Upcoming events

Meade County News

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