Minutes of the March 6, 2026
Joplin Citizen's Committee: Proposition Police & Fire

CALL TO ORDER
The regular meeting of March 6, 2026, Citizen's Committee: Proposition Police & Fire was called to order by Chair CB Eastman at 7:28 am and second by Dottie Murphy.

Roll Call: Committee Members Present: CB Eastman, Dottie Murphy, Jhan Hurn, Payton Layne, Bob Loudermilk, Fred Palmer, Dan Pekarek, Ryan Stanley, Terry Wachter & Greg Wilkerson

Absent: Luke Gibson, Drew Kimble, Anthony Monteleone, Kim Cox and Chris Stockton.

City Employees Present: Nick Edwards, Drew Douglas, Felicia Urban, Gerald Ezell, Richard Pearson, Brian Lewis, Leslie Haase, Thomas Bowin, Adam Grimes, Charles Copple and Josh Bard.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: CB Eastman motioned to approve minutes as is, Dottie Murphy second the motion. All in favor to pass minutes unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Overview of Citizen's Committee: Updates were provided regarding scheduled speaking engagements and outreach opportunities. A revised speaking engagement sheet was distributed, and members were encouraged to review it and notify the group if additional events should be added or if they wished to sign up for an available opportunity. Attention was given to a potential engagement with the Women's Club scheduled for March 12 at 5:30 p.m., and volunteers were identified to attend.

An update on fundraising was provided. Approximately $4,700 has recently been raised, though final reporting was still being confirmed due to travel during the week. The campaign currently has approximately $3,120 available, which includes remaining funds from a previous campaign and recent fundraising proceeds. Discussion followed regarding the need to prioritize expenditures, including the cost of large campaign signs and other promotional materials.

Committee members discussed campaign signage. The 48x24 signs have been ordered and updated to reflect the April 7 election date. Approximately 35-yard signs remain available, and there was discussion about replacing yard signs in high-traffic areas with larger signs where appropriate. Some yard signs have been distributed without recorded locations, and efforts are underway to identify and document those placements. Members also discussed potential new sign locations and the possibility of placing signs in high-traffic areas with property owner permission.

Flyers for the campaign are available at several locations, including the Chamber office and the Fraternal Order of Police office. Additional flyers are available for distribution, and members were encouraged to pick them up and share them throughout the community.

The committee also discussed a potential digital advertising campaign that could include social media promotion and text messaging outreach. Estimated costs and potential funding sources were

reviewed, including the possibility of support from a political action committee. No final decision was made pending confirmation of available funds and contributions.

An update was provided regarding campaign materials. An additional 3,000 printed cards have been produced at a discounted cost of approximately $1,020 and are ready for pickup and distribution. Members agreed these would support upcoming outreach efforts.

Plans for upcoming campaign activities were reviewed, including a Saturday morning gathering and neighborhood outreach. Members also discussed increasing engagement through letters to the editor in the local newspaper, with several already submitted and more planned.

Additional marketing opportunities were discussed, including billboards, digital signage, and social media sharing of campaign photos and videos. Members were encouraged to continue posting campaign-related content and engaging in the community online.

Questions were raised about ensuring the official ballot language for the proposition is easily accessible to voters. It was suggested that the language be linked through the campaign's QR code or posted on an official website so voters can review it directly. The committee emphasized the importance of clear and simple messaging, including highlighting the April 7 election date and the focus on police and fire services.

The meeting concluded with reminders that the election is approaching quickly, and that continued outreach, fundraising, and community engagement are critical in the coming weeks. Members were thanked for their participation and efforts.

A motion was made by Ryan Stanley to move $2,500 to IAFF pack for the funding of the social media advertising that will go out in 3 different waves. Fred Palmer second the motion. All in favor of passing the motion unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 am.

Submitted,

Felicia Urban

Felicia Urban, Secretary