

Rawlins County organization records

In order for an unorganized county to be recognized by the state of Kansas, a certain number of householders/legal electors had to petition the governor. The governor would appoint a census taker. Initially, unorganized counties were required to document that they had at least 600 inhabitants in order to be recognized as a county by the state legislature. Over time the number of residents needed to organize a county changed to 1500 and later to 2500 residents. The census was submitted to the governor who then issued a proclamation indicating that the requirements had been met, appointing county commissioners and a county clerk, and naming a county seat. Not all of these documents are available for each county.

Included in this file is the governor's proclamation appointing county officials and designating Atwood as the temporary county seat.

Creator: Kansas. Secretary of State

Date: 1881

Callnumber: Kansas. Secretary of State's Office, County Organization files, ca. 1861-1912

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

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National Paper
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Proclamation:

Organizing the County of Rawlins and
locating the temporary County seat.


Whereas a memorial signed by 265 house-
holders, residents of Rawlins County, Kansas
and legal electors of the State, whose signatures
have been duly attested by the affidavits
of these householders thereof, showing that
said County had fifteen hundred inhabitants
and praying for the organization of the same,
said affidavits setting forth that they
had reason to, and did believe said mem-
orial to be true, and

Whereas, it appears from actual enumer-
ation by census returns duly made and
certified according to law by an officer
regularly appointed, commissioned and
qualified that there are fifteen hundred
and fifty-four bonafide inhabitants in
said County of Rawlins,

Now therefore, Know Ye, that I John P.
St John, Governor of the State of Kansas,
by authority of law vested in me, have
appointed and commissioned Lorenz Demmer,
August C. Blume, and Herman Case County Commis-
sioners and Wm R. Shirley, a County Clerk, for said
County of Rawlins, and do hereby de-
signate and declare the town of
Atwood as the temporary County
Seat;

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In testimony whereof
I have hereunto sub-
scribed my name,
and affixed the Great
Seal of the State, at the
City of Topeka, the 25
day of May AD 1889.

John P. McJohn
Governor.

By the Governor,
James Smith
Secretary of State.

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NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE	REMARKS
			
<i>Filed June 20, 1881</i>			
<i>James Smith</i>			
<i>Secy of State</i>			
<i>June 20 1881</i>			
<i>J.S.</i>			