

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARION COUNTY, KS**

March 1, 2021

Commission met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Vice Chr. Dave Crofoot, Comm. Kent Becker, Comm. David Mueller, and Comm. Jonah Gehring present. Chr. Randy Dallke joined the session at 9:25 a.m. Also present was Co. Clerk Tina Spencer. Present for portions of the meeting were Co. Counselor Brad Jantz, County staff, members of the public, and members of the press.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Crofoot moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mueller seconded and motion carried 4-0.

- A written COVID-19 update from Health Officer Diedre Serene was presented. The 14-day positivity rate is now seven percent.
- Information about recommended exterior repairs to the courthouse was reviewed. A report and proposal from Reno-Dry was reviewed. No action was taken.
- Becker moved to approve the minutes of February 26th. Mueller seconded and motion carried 4-0.
- Change orders affecting 2020 and prior years' tax rolls were reviewed and signed by the Board.
- Chr. Dallke joined the session.
- Health and dental insurance rates for employees were discussed. Crofoot moved to keep the employee contribution dollar amount the same as last year for all plans. Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Becker provided an update from the South-Central Kansas Economic Development District (SCKEDD). CDBG grants, microloans, and weatherization were discussed with no action.
- Marion County still has \$27,492.90 in CDBG-CV grant funds available for businesses and \$25,123.33 for meal programs. The Board requested that emails be sent to City officials and that the information be posted again on County social media to see if there is any interest. Any unused funds must be returned to the State.

SHERIFF: Sheriff Robert Craft was present for department business.

- Becker moved to approve the carryover of unused vacation hours for Dave Huntley and Jim Philpott to be used within 120 days. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Craft reported that the upgraded video system at the jail is working well.
- Craft is considering adding a redundant system for the 800 MHz radios on the County-owned tower. Cost information is being researched.
- Craft requested additional jail staff be budgeted, and that the wages for Corrections Officers be increased. No action was taken.
- Craft requested an executive session to discuss employee matters pertaining to a medical/shared leave request. Dallke moved to recess into executive session to discuss personnel/medical matters pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board, Craft and Spencer included for 10 minutes from 10:07 a.m. until 10:17 a.m. with open session to resume in Commission chambers following the closed session. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Co. Engineer Brice Goebel presented area fuel bids for review:

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3
	1,400 gals.	1,950 gals.	1,950 gals.
Epp's Service, Elbing	2.2690 = \$3,176.60	2.3920 = \$4,664.40	2.2590 = \$4,405.05
MFA Oil, Lincolnville	2.4330 = \$3,406.20	2.4230 = \$4,724.85	2.4530 = \$4,783.35

Dallke moved to approve the bid from Epp's Service for all three areas (for a total of \$12,246.05). Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Dallke moved to approve Pay Est. #1 for NF Construction (for the NRCS/EWP project) in the amount of \$47,340.00. Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0.

Tree Trimming Bids: Bids for tree trimming along blacktop roads were reviewed:

Arbor Masters	\$33,140.00
Pasture Cleaning Solutions	\$77,050.00
Elcon Services, Inc.	\$41,291.00

Gehring moved to accept the bid from Arbor Masters in the amount of \$33,140.00. Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0.

Locations for potential rock storage sites were reviewed with no action.

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March 1, 2021, Continued

LEADERSHIP MARION COUNTY: Angie Tatro, Dir. of Central Kansas Community Foundation and Racquel Thiesen of the Kansas Learning Center presented a basic overview of Leadership Marion County's background, funding structure, and the possibility of restructuring and reinstating the program was discussed. Also present were Hillsboro Economic Development Dir. Anthony Roy and Marion Economic Development Dir. Randy Collett. Co. Counselor Brad Jantz joined the session at 11:01 a.m. After discussion, Becker moved to go ahead with the process of resuming the program (allowing a core group to meet and look at options to reorganize and bring back to the Board for approval). Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Michael Sigel asked about the County's policy regarding road maintenance for businesses. Sigel said he has several oil leases located on roads that are often impassible. For the amount of taxes he pays, he said he should be able to have access to those leases. Chr. Dallke suggested that a discussion be added to an upcoming agenda to review.

- Brian Jones (virtual attendee) typed a question to Sheriff Craft asking his opinion about qualified immunity for law enforcement officers. Since Sheriff Craft was no longer in attendance when the comment was read, the Board requested it be forwarded to him by Spencer.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: Gehring suggested that the County require everyone attending the meetings remotely to enter their first and last names. The rest of the Board agreed. Jantz said he would do some research regarding the ability to compel people to disclose the information in order to attend.

DEPARTMENT HEAD EVALUATIONS: Dallke moved to recess into executive session for personnel/performance (to prepare department head evaluations) pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and Spencer present (with Spencer to leave while the session is in progress) for 45 minutes until 12:33 p.m. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

Dallke moved to adjourn. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

Randy Dallke, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk