

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

September 13, 2021

Commission met in regular session at 12:30 p.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. Randy Dallke, Comm. David Mueller, Comm. Dave Crofoot, Comm. Kent Becker, and Comm. Jonah Gehring present. Also present were Co. Clerk Tina Spencer and Co. Counselor Brad Jantz. Present for portions of the meeting were County staff, members of the public, and members of the press.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Tom Britain commented that the transfer station set-up is awkward, and expressed concern about potential accidents since there is no drive-up or drive-through option, and everyone is expected to back up to the doors to unload their trash.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Supplements affecting the 2021 valuation were reviewed by the Board.

- Notice was received that the Marion County Appraiser's Office is in substantial compliance with state requirements.
- Salary sheets were signed: Audra Waner, new Noxious Weed/HHW Operations Specialist at \$2,536.00/mo. effective 9/7/2021; Kim Ross, new Program Assistant – Health Dept. at \$2,300.00/mo. effective 9/7/2021; Landis Goodman, new Deputy Sheriff at \$17.84/hour effective 9/8/2021.
- Mueller moved to approve an application for (Clayton Jantz to participate in) a youth hunt (at the former Marion County landfill). Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Dallke moved to approve Pay Application #2 (to NF Construction for the heated dock project) in the amount of \$9,900.00. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Dallke moved to approve payables in the amount of \$55,000.00 (check #54546. Voided check #54545). Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- The upcoming Kansas Association of Counties conference will be held from October 18-20 in Overland Park. Crofoot and Mueller would like to attend.
- Dallke moved to change the County Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. to Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Dallke moved to appoint Comm. Crofoot as the voting delegate for KAC, and Comm. Mueller as the alternate. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Dallke moved to appoint Mueller as the voting delegate for the KCAMP meeting and Crofoot as the alternate. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Dallke moved to appoint Crofoot as the voting delegate for the KWORCC meeting and Mueller as the alternate. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

**ROAD & BRIDGE:** Co. Engineer Brice Goebel said that the company that installed the new fuel pumps has not completed requested repairs to the spill buckets, and that the electronic reporting is still not functional. Dallke moved to hold the check for Hoidale for the gas pumps until the issues are resolved. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0. Counselor Jantz was directed to communicate with the vendor.

- The concrete crushing contract, overages, and potential late fees were discussed. K-DOT has agreed to accept some of the material as payment-in-kind. Dallke moved to recess into executive session to discuss contract negotiation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (2) for consultation with our attorney on matters deemed privileged under attorney/client privilege for 10 minutes with the Board, Jantz, Spencer, and Goebel present. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with a motion by Gehring to pay the contractor for the overage based on the larger drone tonnage calculation less damages (for late completion) based on the contract. Mueller seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
- The Board directed Goebel to barricade the parking lot at the Pilsen shop during the upcoming Father Kapaun event in Pilsen to reserve it for emergency use.
- The contractor for the 330<sup>th</sup> project repaired the damaged chip-seal area previously discussed at no cost to the County.
- Goebel noted that the department is experiencing staffing difficulties.
- Upcoming grant applications for the KDOT Cost Share and Local Bridge Improvement programs were discussed. Mueller moved to apply for the KDOT Cost Share program for a mill/overlay project on 290<sup>th</sup> (14.5 miles from Highway K-15 to Highway 77) at an approximate cost of \$3.6 Million with a 60/40 cost share (State 60%, County 40%). Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Goebel announced that the first FEMA reimbursement for the 2019 flooding has been approved in the amount of \$7,628.31.
- Goebel requested an executive session for five minutes to discuss personnel/performance. Dallke moved to recess into executive session for five minutes to discuss personnel/performance pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board, Goebel, and Jantz present for five minutes. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

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September 13, 2021, Continued

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** Admin. Diedre Serene presented a COVID-19 update reporting 54 active cases, one current hospitalization and 25 vital-statistics confirmed deaths.

- A memorandum of support for Tabor College developing a non-congregate housing area for COVID-related isolation and quarantine was provided for Board information.
- Serene requested the carry-over / payment for 116.5 hours of unused vacation. Dallke moved to recess into executive session to discuss personnel/performance pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board, Jantz, Serene, and Spencer present for five minutes. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with a motion by Crofoot to make a one-time exception to the rules and to pay 116.50 vacation hours (to Serene) due to not being able to take vacation for the last 18 months due to the COVID crisis, with no precedent being set. Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0. (Dallke clarified that it was 12 months, not 18 months.)
- The job description for the Health Department Director / Health Officer with Serene's comments / suggestions were provided to the Board for review. A new Health Officer will need to be appointed prior to Serene's departure. A work session was scheduled for Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.
- Emergency Management Dir. Randy Frank joined the session to clarify the reason for the memorandum of support for Tabor College. It is needed in order for the college to be able to apply for federal funding through the County's Emergency Management department.

**PARK & LAKE:** Supt. Isaac Hett reported that he will not pursue a Heritage Trust Fund Grant application in 2021, but will begin gathering information and look at applying in 2022.

- K-State is interested in allowing the NRCS students to resume studies of the Park & Lake this year.
- The heated dock project is moving forward, and the estimates for the repairs to the dam are expected this week.

**CO. APPRAISER:** Co. Appraiser Nikki Reid and Asst. Appraiser Carl Miller joined the session to explain the reporting provided by the State's Property Valuation Division which indicated that, even though the office is in substantial compliance with 96.9 points out of a possible 97 points, the commercial/industrial category median ratio and confidence intervals were not in the acceptable range. Miller said that in his opinion this is likely due to certain specific commercial sales that were included by the State as valid, but were not reflected appropriately.

**PERSONNEL DISCUSSION:** Dallke moved to recess into executive session to discuss personnel/performance pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board, Jantz, and Spencer present for 10 minutes until 3:18 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

- The County's shared leave policy was reviewed. Dallke moved to recess into executive session to discuss personnel/performance pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel for five minutes with the Board, Jantz, and Spencer present (from 3:23 p.m. to 3:28 p.m.). Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**COMMISSION COMMENTS:** The regional Commission held in Clay Center on September 7<sup>th</sup> was discussed. Upcoming projects / priorities of the Board were discussed with no action. Dallke noted that Clay County has designated 1.5 mills each year for courthouse improvements / maintenance.

Dallke moved to adjourn. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

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Randy Dallke, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk