

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

November 23, 2020

Commission met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. Jonah Gehring, Comm. Kent Becker, Comm. Randy Dallke, Comm. Dave Crofoot, and Comm. Dianne R. Novak present. Also present were Co. Clerk Tina Spencer and Co. Commissioner-Elect David Mueller. Present for portions of the meeting (in person and via teleconference) were County staff, members of the public, and members of the press.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

COVID UPDATE: Health Officer Diedre Serene provided a COVID update and gave guidance regarding safely gathering for Thanksgiving.

ADMINISTRATIVE: The agenda was amended to remove the Weed/HHW/Transfer Station/Recycling scheduled time and to add an executive session for personnel/performance and a discussion about the Marion County Food Bank.

- A correction was made to the SPARK payables approved on November 17th – the total was reduced by \$0.50 for a revised total of \$406,616.12. (voided check #50183, and approved check #'s 50184-50220).
- A list of County equipment sold on Purple Wave was provided for Board review.
- Dallke moved to approve the minutes of November 13th. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0. Becker moved to approve the minutes of November 16th as written. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- A form appointing Cherry Miller as KPES Designated Agent for Marion County was signed by Chairman Gehring.
- Gehring moved to approve contracts with Stanfield Roofing (for previously approved roof repair/replacement projects) pending changing the date payable to the next available payday. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Gehring moved to approve \$346,490.58 in SPARK payables. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 4-1 with Dallke opposed. (Check #'s 50221-50230.)
- After discussion, Gehring moved to approve a second round of CDBG funding for previously approved businesses with businesses with five or less full-time equivalent employees eligible for (round two funding) up to \$5,000.00 and businesses with six or more full time equivalent employees eligible for (round two funding) up to \$10,000.00. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Dallke moved to approve Hatton's Hometown Hardware for CDBG Grant Funding for up to \$5,000.00. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. After passing the motion, the Board clarified that Hatton's Hometown Hardware would also be eligible for the second-round funding previously approved.

TRANSFER STATION PROJECT UPDATE: Randy Purdue with Kaw Valley Engineering provided a project update. The walk-through is tentatively scheduled for Friday, November 27th at 1:00 p.m. Dallke stated he will try to attend. Purdue indicated that the County should be receiving reimbursement of some costs associated with the remediation of contaminated soil on the site from the Kansas Department of Health & Environment.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Co. Engineer Brice Goebel was present for department business. Goebel requested permission to use heavier material on the first level of the double chip seal for Nighthawk (limestone or chat). The Board expressed no opposition.

BID OPENING – LYON CREEK AND COTTONWOOD RIVER STREAMBANK STABILIZATION: As of the deadline, no bids were received in the Clerk's Office. The Board directed Goebel to repeat the bid process with bids due on December 14th.

FOOD BANK REQUEST: Crofoot indicated that the Marion County Food Bank has asked the County to waive construction/demolition waste disposal fees for the building currently being torn down on the site of their future new-build. After discussion, Becker moved to waive construction/demolition disposal fees for the Marion County Foodbank for that building only. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.

PERSONNEL DISCUSSION: Gehring 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 present for 10 minutes (until 10:30 a.m.). Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

PLANNING/ZONING/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: Dir. Sharon Omstead joined via teleconference. A request for a one-year time extension on an existing CUP for Every to build an electrical substation was presented. Gehring moved to approve a one-year extension for Every. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Omstead indicated that proposed revised language to Article 27 of the County's Zoning Regulations is waiting for legal Counsel review / approval. Novak requested a red-line version be provided when the final language is provided for approval.

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November 23, 2020, Continued

ADMINISTRATIVE: Salary sheets were signed: Wanda Manickam, change from part-time to full-time Registered Nurse effective 10/21/2020 (no change in hourly rate); Jo Ottensmeier – one year raise from \$2,777.00/mo. to \$2,830.00/mo. effective 11/4/2020; Ronald Woerz – six-month raise from \$2,267.00/mo. to \$2,310.00/mo. effective 10/21/2020; Fred Philpott – one year raise from \$2,534.00/mo. to \$2,583.00/mo. effective 10/21/2020; Glen George – one-year raise from \$2,534.00/mo. to \$2,583.00/mo. effective 10/21/2020.

BID OPENING – LYON CREEK AND COTTONWOOD RIVER STREAMBANK STABILIZATION: Co. Engineer Brice Goebel returned to the session and indicated that a bid from a local contractor had been e-mailed before the deadline, but was not received in the County Clerk's Office. The Board indicated that if the bid could be confirmed received timely that it will be considered on November 30th.

COMMISSION RESPONSE/ACTION REGARDING GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-68: After discussion, Gehring moved to opt in to Governor's Executive Order 20-68 (establishing a face coverings protocol). Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: Gehring commented that regardless whether people agree or disagree with the action taken by the Commission, their end goal has to be to not overwhelm medical staff and hospitals.

- Becker indicated that a mask mandate decision was never political, but was about trust in the citizenry to do what is right, to wear a mask in public, social distance, and wash hands frequently.
- Dallke noted that he didn't agree with wearing masks at first, but does see there is a problem with hospitals filling up, and it was time for the Board to address it.
- Crofoot thanked the Board for voting yes on opting in to the Order. He commented that he strongly supports mask wearing, and indicated that he lost two friends over the weekend in other states, and that we need to protect each other.
- Gehring noted that the Kansas Hospital Association dashboard is very valuable and contains regional information.
- Novak commented that she read the Executive Order thoroughly and approved it because it contained no enforcement. She said she continues to have full trust in Marion County residents to do the right thing.
- Novak expressed extreme exasperation over an editorial that was published in the Marion County Record.

Dallke moved to adjourn. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Jonah Gehring, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk