

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

February 28, 2022

Commission met in special session for payday and other business at 9:00 a.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. David Mueller, Comm. Kent Becker, Comm. Randy Dallke, Comm. Dave Crofoot, and Comm. Jonah Gehring present. 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.

**SALES TAX:** Sales tax for the month of December, 2021 has been received in the amount of \$87,209.94.

**PAYDAY:** Gehring moved to approve pay application #8 for the EMS Station in the amount of \$22,401.20. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- A detailed list of expenditures by fund was reviewed. The monthly comp time report was reviewed. Gehring moved to approve payments to Western Associates in the amount of \$48.00. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0 with Crofoot abstaining due to conflict of interest (abstention counted with majority prevailing).
- Becker moved to approve payment to Elcon Electric in the amount of \$290.00 for courthouse LED lamps. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0 with Gehring abstaining due to conflict of interest (abstention counted with majority prevailing).
- The Commission requested that the invoices for Western Associates and Elcon be included in the Commission packet in the future. Gehring moved to approve the grand total payday figure in the amount of \$1,205,312.60 (including payroll at \$558,585.71). Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0 (check #'s 50569-50778; voided check #'s 50599, 50734).

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Change orders affecting the 2021 tax roll were reviewed and signed by the Board.

- Chr. Mueller signed the BCBS health insurance renewal.
- An additional administrative session was added to the end of the agenda.
- Dallke moved to approve the minutes of February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- The timing and process for compiling the department inventory were discussed. Changes are needed in order to better comply with statutory requirements and for tighter internal control. Gehring moved to approve the 2021 inventory. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

**HEALTH DEPT.:** Dir. Krista Schneider joined the session to request permission to attend a free leadership conference for Public Health officials. Gehring moved to allow Schneider to attend the conference. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- A job description for a Registered Dietician was presented for approval. Dallke moved to approve the job description. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Schneider noted that the County's Dietician is retiring at the end of March.
- Schneider reported that the CDC is changing guidance regarding masking, and that the County's number of active COVID-19 cases are down. Reporting by the Health Department will likely be reduced to once per week.
- Schneider said that home testing kits are available at the Health Department.

**ENCUMBRANCES:** Gehring moved to cancel encumbrances in the amount of \$66,970.13. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:** Spencer presented information about an optional "gun shield" policy and asked whether the Board would like to add it as an optional benefit as part of the legal shield / identity theft package. After discussion, Gehring moved to allow the gun shield policy to be offered as part of the County's benefit package at the employee's cost. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- The County paid life insurance benefit was discussed. Spencer noted that the coverage of \$5,000.00 has been in place for many years and asked whether the Board might wish to increase the benefit amount. The Board was generally in favor of increasing the benefit, but wanted to see the overall annual budget impact.
- The employee / County contribution amounts for health insurance were discussed. A draft rate sheet with no increase to employees was presented for review. The Board was also interested in increasing the County contribution toward family coverage if the budget allows. Spencer will prepare costing for review.

**ACTIVE 911 BUDGET DISCUSSION:** Spencer noted that the County has been paying for Active 911 subscriptions for some of the fire districts for the last several years. The amount is under \$300.00/year per district. Spencer asked whether the County should continue to pay the subscriptions or whether the districts should begin including them in their budget since it is an ongoing annual expense. After discussion, Mueller moved that the County pay this year, but the fire districts budget for the expense in the future. Dallke seconded and motion carried 4-1 with Gehring opposed.

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February 28, 2022, Continued

**WORK SESSION - ROAD POLICY DISCUSSION:** Co. Engineer Brice Goebel joined the session to discuss policies related to road maintenance. No action was taken.

**ROAD & BRIDGE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS:** Goebel reported that the County did not receive the local bridge improvement plan grant award for Holly/90<sup>th</sup>.

- Department activities were discussed with no action. Goebel left the session.

**PROPERTY ACQUISITION DISCUSSION:** Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss acquisition of real estate pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (6) for preliminary discussion of acquisition of real estate with the Board and Spencer present for 10 minutes (from 10:55 a.m. until 11:05 a.m.). Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0. Co. Counselor joined the session at 11:04 a.m.

- Open session resumed with a motion by Mueller to recess into executive session to discuss acquisition of real estate pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (6) for preliminary discussion of acquisition of real estate with the Board, Jantz, and Spencer present for 10 minutes (from 11:06 a.m. until 11:16 a.m.). Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Open session resumed with a motion by Mueller to authorize Co. Counselor Brad Jantz to negotiate a possible property purchase. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

**WORK SESSION – ROAD POLICY DISCUSSION:** Road maintenance policies were discussed further. Goebel rejoined the session at 11:46 a.m. Jantz will provide the Board with one or two general policies for review and further discussion.

**ROAD & BRIDGE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS:** Area Fuel Bids were reviewed:

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3
	1,400 gals.	1,950 gals.	1,950 gals.
MFA Oil, Lincolnville	3.4830 = \$4,876.20	3.4530 = \$6,733.35	3.4830 = \$6,791.85
Epp's Service, Elbing	3.1790 = \$4,450.60	3.2490 = \$6,335.55	3.1690 = \$6,179.55

Gehring moved to award the bid to Epp's Service for Areas one, two, and three. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Goebel asked whether the Board would be interested in purchasing two used motor graders that have come to a dealer from a township. Discussion ensued regarding purchasing two new graders vs. the two used graders. Dallke moved to look at doing a lease-purchase for the two used units. Gehring indicated that he is more interested in moving forward with new units. Dallke rescinded his motion. The topic will be discussed further at the next meeting.
- Becker noted that the County should be listing the old units that are being replaced for sale as soon as possible.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Jantz indicated that a revised contract is expected from Kelly Law for services related to the County real estate tax foreclosure sale.

- It was unclear whether the motion previously made regarding property acquisition was done at the appropriate time. Therefore, the motion and vote were restated. Mueller moved to authorize Co. Counselor Brad Jantz to negotiate a possible property purchase. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

Gehring moved to adjourn. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

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David Mueller, Chairman

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