

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

November 14, 2022

Commission met in regular session at 12:30 p.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. David Mueller, Comm. Jonah Gehring, Comm. Kent Becker, and Comm. Dave Crofoot present. Comm. Randy Dallke joined the session at 12:59 p.m. Also present was Co. Clerk Tina Spencer. Present for portions of the meeting were County staff, members of the public, and members of the press.

PUBLIC FORUM: There were no public comments.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Gehring moved to approve the minutes of October 24th. Becker seconded and motion carried 4-0.

- Gehring moved to approve spending an additional \$584.00 on the purchase of the new vehicle for the Appraiser's Office. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 4-0.
- Gehring moved to approve early checks in the amount of \$1,642,160.54. Becker seconded and motion carried 4-0.
- Gehring moved to approve the lease-purchase agreement with Community National Bank and to authorize the Chairman to sign. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 4-0.
 - Salary sheets were signed for: Curt Hasart - new EMS Director at \$5,833.00/month effective 11/15/2022; Marcy Hostetler – change from Interim Emergency Management Director at \$22.25/hour to Emergency Management Director at \$5,417.00/month effective 10/24/2022; Matthew Regier – change from Deputy / K-9 Office to Patrol Sergeant from \$19.31/hour to \$20.23/hour effective 10/28/2022; Jamie Shirley – from \$4,132.00/month to \$3,756.00/month – remove interim duties effective 12/21/2022; Charles Kenney – from \$21.43/hour to \$19.48/hour – remove interim duties effective 12/21/2022.
- Mueller reported that a recent training exercise with the mobile communications tower revealed a problem with the equipment, which is in the process of being fixed.

COUNTY TREASURER: Co. Treasurer Susan Berg reported that the cash position of the County as of September 30, 2022, was \$27,187,215.26. A comparison of interest earned in 2021 vs. 2022 was provided for review. Berg updated the Board on the status of the office renovation which is currently underway.

SHERIFF: Sheriff Jeff Soyez and Undersheriff Larry Starkey joined the session. Mueller 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, Soyez, Starkey, and Spencer present for 15 minutes until 1:10 p.m. Gehring seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Comm. Dallke joined the session in progress. Open session resumed with a motion by Gehring to pay out 160 hours of vacation to Larry Starkey. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

PARK & LAKE: Supt. Isaac Hett presented an update on the dam repair project. The Department of Agriculture required an additional inspection of the tower and tube known as the “burp hole”. The estimated cost was presented as \$2,700.00. The required inspection has been completed and the project is waiting for final approval.

- Hett provided a new agreement for the Community Fisheries Assistance Program (CFAP). After discussion, Becker moved to approve a new five-year contract with the Department of Wildlife and Parks for the CFAP program. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.

COUNTY ATTORNEY: Co. Attorney Joel Ensey and Office Manager Karen Selznick joined the session. Ensey provided a conceptual drawing for mutual access/co-occupancy of the annex building for the Co. Attorney's Office and the Ambulance Department. The Board requested that Ensey meet with the new EMS Director to verify the needs of the Ambulance Department and asked Spencer to gather information regarding possible cameras/secured access system prior to final approval.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Dir. Krista Schneider provided an update on the Health Fair and other department activities.

- Schneider noted that to apply for grants to assist with the purchase or remodel of a new facility, architectural drawings are required. The Board was not ready to have Schneider move forward with any drawings, because multiple options are still being considered.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Co. Engineer Brice Goebel reported that the County has been approved to receive a \$1,000,000.00 economic development grant to resurface 4.5 miles on 290th.

- Goebel presented a single transport fuel bid from MFA Oil in the amount of \$29,999.75. Gehring moved to accept the bid. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- After discussion, Mueller moved to authorize the purchase of a used “Road Groom” implement from Chase County in the amount of \$4,730.00. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

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November 14, 2022, Continued

ROAD & BRIDGE, CONTINUED: Mueller moved to approve road crossing permit 22-3A for Moundridge Telephone Company (expanding the previously approved project area). Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Mueller moved to approve road crossing permits 22-9 to 22-20 for EPC Services (to install temporary construction entrances for installation of transmission lines at multiple locations). Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Potential roads for micro-surfacing in 2023 were discussed with no action.
- Safety was discussed and was noted as a high priority of the Board of Commissioners.
- Becker reported he has received several positive comments about the recent patching on 290th and work on Goldenrod.
- Mueller 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, Goebel, and Spencer present for 20 minutes until 3:00 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.
- Dallke said he received a complaint from a landowner whose fence was damaged by the County during tree-trimming. Goebel will contact the individual to arrange for repairs.

CO. COUNSELOR: Ambulance Department Office Manager Jamie Shirley joined the session. Mueller 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 with the Board, Shirley, Co. Counselor Brad Jantz (by phone) and Spencer present for 15 minutes until 3:20 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. The Board returned to open session because Jantz could not be reached on the phone. The session recessed until the time allotted for the executive session expired.

PERSONNEL DISCUSSION: Mueller 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 and Spencer present for five minutes until 3:35 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with a motion by Dallke to set the salary of the Deputy Emergency Management Director at step K of the pay plan, correcting the placement previously approved. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Mueller 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 only the Board present for 15 minutes until 3:50 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

PUBLIC FORUM: There were no public comments.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: Dallke said that the world is changing, and that the Board increased wages in the ambulance department for a reason. Dallke requested that the Co. Clerk provide the projected budget impact for that change. Other departments are also concerned about wages. Dallke commented that the Board has a tough job ahead to balance employee needs (wages, etc.) with the needs of the taxpayers.

Becker moved to adjourn. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk

David Mueller, Chairman