

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

December 27, 2022

CANVASS OF MARION CITY SPECIAL ELECTION: The Commission met as the Board of County Canvassers at 11:00 a.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. David Mueller, Comm. Jonah Gehring, Comm. Kent Becker, Comm. Dave Crofoot, and Comm. Randy Dallke present. Also present were Co. Clerk Tina Spencer, Deputy Co. Clerk Ashley Herpich, Election Clerk Michelle Looper, and members of the press.

- Preliminary election night results from the December 20th Marion City Special Election were reviewed.
- Gehring moved to count a provisional ballot. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Results were updated. The final result was 270 no and 25 yes. Gehring moved to certify the results. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Dallke moved to adjourn. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0. Canvass adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING: 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, Comm. Dave Crofoot, and Comm. Randy Dallke 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 FORUM: Don Reimer was present to discuss a violation letter he received from Planning/Zoning/Environmental Health Dir. Sharon Omstead regarding several homemade signs placed in County right-of-way. Reimer said the signs were placed to make drivers aware of potentially unsafe road conditions. The Board said they would discuss the road concerns with Co. Engineer Brice Goebel and the County could place appropriate signage as needed, and Reimer's signs must be removed. Reimer suggested strategically placing concrete traffic barriers to divert water across the concrete low-water crossing slab to help with flooding.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Change orders affecting 2022 and prior year taxes were reviewed and signed by the Board.

- Becker moved to approve the minutes of December 19th as written. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Salary changes were signed: Rachel Hogan – new Paramedic at \$18.08/hour effective 12/21/2022; Savannah Hicks, from \$15.98/hour to \$17.24/hour – promotion to Lead Dispatcher effective 12/14/2022; Rebecca Curtis – change from Interim Lead Dispatcher to Lead Dispatcher effective 12/14/2022 (no change in pay).

HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUILDING DISCUSSION: Dir. Krista Schneider reported that St. Luke has asked for the County to vacate two rooms currently occupied by Emergency Management by spring 2023. The Health Department will also need to move out at some point, but no specific timeframe has been requested by St. Luke. Several potential building sites on current County property were discussed with no action. Schneider noted that to utilize grant funds for a new (or renovated) building for the health department, an architect and / or engineer must be involved in the project.

- After discussion, Crofoot moved to proceed with sending a request for qualifications (for architectural / engineering services) for the Marion County Health Department. Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0. Goebel was asked to assist Schneider with the development of the RFQ.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Dir. Marcy Hostetler presented an award letter from Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) for grant funds in the amount of \$28,500.00 for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). Gehring moved to approve and accept EMPG funds. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Hostetler noted that a computer is needed for the department. Gehring moved to approve a purchase not to exceed \$2,500.00. After discussion about the County's policy, Gehring rescinded his motion. The Board gave Hostetler the go-ahead to seek bids.
- Hostetler presented a list of projects / activities completed from October to December 2022 (not including response activities). The Board commended Hostetler for pre-staging warming stations in several communities ahead of the severe winter weather.

PLANNING/ZONING/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: Dir. Sharon Omstead presented quotes for a new laptop and a new tablet:

Lenovo ThinkPad Laptop	\$1,310.09
ProBook Laptop	\$1,458.12
Surface Pro Tablet + Keyboard	\$1,180.74
Surface Pro 8 touchscreen	\$1,024.39 (not including keyboard)
Surface Pro 7	\$ 831.99
Galaxy TabActive4 Pro10	\$1,169.90

Omstead requested approval of the Lenovo Think Pad Laptop and the Surface Pro Tablet + Keyboard. Dallke moved to approve Omstead's request (at \$1,310.09 for the laptop and \$1,180.74 for the tablet). Crofoot seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

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December 27, 2022, Continued

PLANNING/ZONING/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, CONTINUED: Omstead provided an update on the Sunflower Wind project.

- Omstead noted 2023 meeting dates and Planning Commission Board upcoming vacancies. Commissioners will need to be prepared with new appointees for January 2023.

PROPOSED BUILDING PLAN – 1240 COMMERCIAL: A draft floor plan of the County property located at 1240 Commercial Drive in Marion was reviewed, and included space for Road & Bridge administrative offices, Planning & Zoning, and Emergency Management. After review and discussion, Becker moved to have Road & Bridge, Planning & Zoning & Emergency Management staff produce more detailed drawings to present back to the Board for review and potential use for seeking bids for the project. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.

PLANNING/ZONING/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (2) for consultation with our attorney on matters deemed privileged under attorney/client privilege with the Board, Jantz, Omstead, and Spencer present for five minutes until 2:06 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Co. Engineer Brice Goebel was present for department business.

- Mueller moved to approve utility permit 2022-22 for Evergy (for transmission lines in various locations). Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- A year-end recap report showing 2022 expenses for different project categories was presented to the Board.
- Projects for 2023 were discussed with no official action.
- Bridges in Peabody and Florence were discussed. These are bridges formerly maintained by KDOT. There is some question about who is responsible for the bridges now, and whether the County has any involvement. After discussion, Gehring noted a section of roadway in Goessel in a similar situation. The Board directed Jantz and Goebel to schedule a meeting between KDOT and the Board to discuss.
- Development of a policy for cattle crossings was discussed. Jantz was directed to investigate the difference regarding rural vs. range designations for use in a potential future policy.
- The road discussed earlier with Mr. Reimer was discussed with Goebel. After discussion, the Board agreed to have Commissioner Dallke and Goebel visit with Mr. Reimer to figure out the course of action for maintenance.

SECURITY DISCUSSION: Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss courthouse security pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (13) for matters related to security measures with the Board, Jantz, and Spencer present for 10 minutes until 3:17 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

- Mueller moved to approve security work proposed by 4PC Security Technologies in the courthouse annex in the amount of \$8,195.90. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Gehring moved to have staff work with 4PC to identify key elements / options for additional security measures at a cost not to exceed \$12,000.00. Crofoot seconded. Becker offered an amendment to include the amount be paid from risk management. Gehring accepted the proposed amendment and included it in his motion, and Crofoot reaffirmed his second. Motion carried 5-0.

GENERATOR DISCUSSION: Cost estimates for emergency generators at various locations were discussed, including the Marion and Hillsboro EMS Stations, the courthouse annex building, the building at 1240 Commercial Drive, and EMS stations at Peabody and Tampa (neither of which are buildings owned by the County).

- Dallke moved to seek bids for generators at the Marion and Hillsboro EMS stations. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Gehring moved to seek bids for installation of a manual transfer switch with a PB 30 inlet for the Peabody and Tampa EMS stations. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. It was noted that an agreement with those building owners would be required prior to any work being initiated.

COUNTY COUNSELOR: The Rescue Agreement presented by Fire District #2 at the previous meeting was discussed. Jantz would like to re-draft all the rescue agreements in the future; however, to be consistent with other departments already serving as primary rescue units he recommended approval of the proposed agreement. Gehring moved to approve the primary rescue truck agreement with Marion County Fire District #2 (Goessel). Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

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December 27, 2022, Continued

COUNTY COUNSELOR, CONTINUED: A proposed easement for Marion County for a historical kiosk for the Santa Fe Trail located in the northwest quarter of Section 33-17-02 was presented for review and approval by the Board. Becker moved to accept the easement for the Santa Fe Trail kiosk on 320th. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: Dallke reiterated his previous comments that the voice of the public is important, and that he still supports a vote of the public regarding a County Administrator.

Mueller moved to adjourn. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

David Mueller, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk