

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

January 17, 2023

Commission met in regular session at 12:30 p.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. David Mueller and Comm. Jonah Gehring present via teleconference and Comm. Kent Becker, Comm. Dave Crofoot, and Comm. Randy Dallke present in person. 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. Vice-Chr. Crofoot presided over the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM: There were no public comments.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Gehring moved to approve the minutes of January 9th. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Change orders affecting 2022 and prior years' tax rolls were reviewed and signed by the Board.
- Crofoot moved to approve early checks in the amount of \$5,540.09. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. (Checks #47091-47093.)

SHERIFF: Sheriff Jeff Soyez joined the session. A proposed job description title change from Criminal Investigator to Detective was presented for approval. Gehring moved to approve the title change. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Soyez reported that he has hired Steven Janzen as Detective. Due to his years of experience, Soyez requested a starting wage of \$23.10/hour. Gehring moved to approve the requested wage for Steven Janzen. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- A request for salary approval for Bruce Burke was tabled until the next meeting.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Dir. Marcy Hostetler presented computer bids:

Dell Precision 5570	\$3,448.43
HP ZBook Fury 17 G8	\$2,365.11
Lenovo ThinkPad P17 Gen 2	\$2,200.93

Hostetler's preference based on specifications was the HP ZBook. Dallke moved to approve the purchase of the HP in the amount of \$2,365.11. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- A transition plan to move the Emergency Management office out of the space owned by St. Luke Hospital was reviewed.

MARION COUNTY FOOD BANK: Gene Winkler and Gerry Henderson joined the meeting to thank the Board for their ongoing support of the food bank. Winkler provided statistics for the year 2022.

ROAD & BRIDGE – KANZA ROAD PROJECT BID REVIEW: Co. Engineer Brice Goebel and Darin Neufeld of EBH Engineering joined the meeting. Neufeld presented the as-read bids from the previous meeting:

<u>Base Bid With County Providing Crushed Concrete</u>	
Wildcat Construction Co., Inc.	\$2,444,650.00
Morgan Brothers Construction, Inc.	\$2,764,970.00
Vogts Parga Construction, LLC	\$2,495,474.00
Smoky Hill LLC	\$2,801,775.00
Andale Construction, Inc.	\$2,693,152.53

Neufeld indicated that Wildcat Construction was the low bidder and recommended their bid be accepted. Gehring moved to go with Neufeld's recommendation and award the bid to Wildcat Construction in the amount of \$2,444,650.00. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Neufeld noted that the company plans to start the job mid-April.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Goebel presented utility permit 23-1 for Atmos Energy to bore under 290th approximately 1.5 miles west of Lincolnville. Crofoot moved to approve permit 23-1. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Goebel reported that the cost to stockpile enough micro-surfacing material for 17 miles of roadway would be approximately \$144,500.00 (\$8,500.00 per mile using 180 tons/mile at \$47.25/ton). No action was taken.
- USD 408 has asked the County to donate two long, steel h-pile beams for use in mounting a new score board at the softball field. Goebel was asked to provide information regarding the approximate value of the beams.
- A proposal from Vance Brothers to micro-surface 40 miles of roadway in 2023 was presented in the amount of \$2,520,000.00. Gehring moved to approve, pending review by the Co. Counselor. Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0.

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January 17, 2023, Continued

APPRAISER: Co. Appraiser Nicole Reid updated the Board on department activities. Reid reported that a recent court case regarding the valuation of equipment attached to grain elevators could have an impact on valuation within the County. Several Cooperative Grain locations in Marion County have appealed their valuation based on this ruling.

- Reid and one staff member will be attending Eagleview training in Austin at no cost to the County.
- Reid requested an executive session to discuss personnel/performance. Crofoot 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, Reid, and Spencer present for 10 minutes until 2:17 p.m. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with a motion by Crofoot to extend the time for Brian Frese and Mike Hurst to take unused vacation hours until March 20, 2023.

SECURITY DISCUSSION: Crofoot moved to recess into executive session to discuss courthouse annex security measures pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (13) for matters of security with the Board and Spencer present for 10 minutes until 2:30 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Open session resumed with a motion to approve proposed security measures for the annex building at a cost of \$18,941.15 (from 4PC Security Technologies). Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

PERSONNEL DISCUSSIONS: Crofoot moved to recess into executive session to review an FMLA leave request 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 2:38 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with a motion by Crofoot to approve FMLA leave for an eligible employee. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Crofoot 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 20 minutes until 3:00 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Open session resumed with a motion by Crofoot 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 20 minutes until 3:25 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Open session resumed with a motion by Crofoot 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 20 minutes until 3:45 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.
- The County's pay plan was discussed. Gehring moved to drop the bottom four steps of the pay plan and add four steps to the top. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 4-1 with Dallke opposed.
- Spencer recommended that the Administrative Specialist III positions in the Sheriff's Office, Ambulance Department, and Health Department be changed from pay grade G to pay grade H on the County's pay plan. Gehring moved to accept the recommendation and move the positions accordingly. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Raises for elected officials were discussed. Mueller moved that all (County) elected officials receive a \$2.00/hour raise plus one step excluding the Board of Commissioners (effective on January pay period). Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Dallke moved to set an annual salary for County Commissioners at \$20,000.00 / year and require health insurance premiums to be paid (in full) by any Commissioner on the County's plan. Dallke withdrew his motion.

Becker moved to adjourn. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Dave Crofoot, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk