

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

February 8, 2021

Commission met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. Randy Dallke, Comm. Kent Becker, Comm. David Mueller, 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.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Dallke moved to allow all County employees (office and others) to dress according to weather conditions (for example jeans/warm clothing) as long as it doesn't violate any other part of the policy (no ripped or low riding jeans, offensive / inappropriate language on clothing, etc.) for the next two weeks. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- A written COVID update was read. No new cases were reported since the last press release on Friday, February 5th. The current positivity rate is 11.6%. Press releases will now be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Vaccine PODs are continuing through February and into March.
- Dallke moved to approve a one-time budget allocation for Prairie View in the amount of \$93,798.00 for the 2021 budget year. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Change orders affecting 2020 and prior years' tax rolls were reviewed and signed by the Board. Dallke abstained from signing change orders on several specific properties in which he has a direct conflict of interest.
- Gehring moved to approve the minutes of February 1st. Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Dallke moved to approve an early check (#52877) for \$3,890.01. Gehring seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
- Mueller moved to proceed with the proposal presented by WSU for strategic planning including surveying the department heads (at a total cost of \$2,600.00). Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Gehring moved to approve a proposal by Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd to prepare the 2022 budget at a cost of \$23,395.00. Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Co. Engineer Brice Goebel was present for department business. Current and upcoming department projects were discussed. Cattle guards, rock storage, bridge damage reimbursement, and culvert purchases were all discussed with no action.

- Dallke moved to participate in the (KDOT) Federal Exchange program (for 2021) to receive \$109,536.03. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL: Claudio Faundez with BCBS presented the County's renewal for health and dental insurance. Rates reflected only a slight increase (less than 1% on all plans). Crofoot moved to accept the May, 2021 renewal as presented. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.

REGISTER OF DEEDS: Register of Deeds Rebecca Wingfield was present for a department update.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION – CHANGE OF MEETING TIMES: Co. Counselor Brad Jantz was present via teleconference. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was to have Jantz draft a resolution to change regular meetings to Monday afternoons, except for payday meetings, which would remain in the morning the last working day of each month.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Dir. Randy Frank presented vehicle bids:

Midway Motors, McPherson	2021 Dodge Ram	\$34,012.00
Midway Motors, McPherson	2021 Ford F250	\$34,860.00
Midway Motors, Hillsboro	withdrew bid	
Hillsboro Ford, Hillsboro	withdrew bid	

After discussion, Mueller moved to authorize the Emergency Management Dir. to purchase a 2021 Dodge Ram pickup (from Midway Motors in McPherson) for \$34,012. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 3-2 with Becker and Gehring opposed.

WEED/HHW/TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLING: Dir. Josh Housman requested permission to purchase an item to donate to the County Weed Directors Association to use for a fundraiser for their scholarship fund at the State convention. After discussion, Becker moved to allow Housman to direct up to \$150.00 from the Weed Department budget toward the scholarship fund. Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: Mueller reported that he completed the online training for new Commissioners and is in the process of taking a 4-part training series on public health. He also attended a KAC legislative update webinar in regard to HB2142.

- Dallke commented that the County needs to do whatever is necessary to keep employees safe in the cold weather.

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February 8, 2021, Continued

Session recessed until 1:00 p.m.

PAY PLAN PROJECT DISCUSSION: Malayna Halverson Maes and Dr. Victoria McGrath of McGrath Human Resources Group reviewed the approach taken when developing a pay plan for Marion County in 2017-2018. Options to update the plan for potential implementation were reviewed. The Board agreed that the County should not spend additional funds to update the plan unless there is a commitment to implement.

Crofoot moved to proceed with an update of the salary schedules, and to include new positions at a cost of \$3,200.00. Becker seconded and motion carried 4-1 with Gehring opposed (because he desired a more comprehensive update).

SPARK: Gehring moved to approve the SPARK CRF Report (due 2/10/2021). Mueller seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Gehring moved to adjourn. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Randy Dallke, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk