

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

September 21, 2020

Commission met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. Jonah Gehring, Comm. Kent Becker, Comm. Randy Dallke, Comm. Dave Crofoot, and Comm. Dianne R. Novak present. Also present was Deputy Co. Clerk Ashley Herpich. (Co. Clerk Tina Spencer joined the meeting at 11:00 a.m.) Present for portions of the meeting were Co. Counselor Brad Jantz, County staff, members of the public, and members of the press.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**COVID-19 UPDATE:** Health Officer Diedre Serene reported one active case in Marion County at this time.

- Nursing homes were discussed. Becker expressed concern regarding residents not being allowed to have visitors at this time. The Board directed that a meeting be arranged between the long-term care facilities, the Commission, and state and/or federal legislators.
- Serene reported that she has received a grant to cover the salary of a lab technician through the end of 2020 in the amount of \$28,881.96. Dallke moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the grant agreement. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Change orders affecting the 2019 and prior years' tax rolls were reviewed and signed by the Board. Supplements affecting 2020 value were reviewed by the Board.

- Payables for September 21, 2020 were presented for approval. Gehring moved to approve payment to Western Associates in the amount of \$485.00 for N-95 masks. Dallke seconded. Motion carried 4-1 with 3 in favor, Novak opposed, and Crofoot abstaining due to conflict of interest (abstention counted with majority prevailing). Gehring moved to approve total payables in the amount of \$181,124.13. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0. (Check #'s 49662-49668.)
- Payables for September 22, 2020 – reimbursing the County and other entities for COVID-19 expenses submitted through **SPARK** – were presented for approval. Gehring moved to approve (SPARK) payables in the amount of \$117,263.40. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. (Check #'s 49669-49674.)
- Salary sheets were signed for Ashley Herpich – position change from Deputy Co. Clerk / Personnel to Deputy Co. Clerk / Accounts Payable – no change in pay, effective 9/21/2020 and Cherry Miller – promotion to Payroll / Personnel Clerk from \$2,658.00/mo. to \$2,936.00/mo. effective 9/21/2020.
- Gehring moved to approve a maximum of three County department heads to participate in NACO's High Performance Leadership course. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Gehring moved to approve Pay Estimate #7 (for the transfer station project) in the amount of \$246,433.50. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

**ROAD & BRIDGE:** Co. Engineer Brice Goebel was present for department business. Current and upcoming projects were reviewed.

- Transportation Alternative funding for the old limestone bridge (near Centre school) has been approved. The Board was not ready to move forward with the project because it is not a heavily traveled road. No action was taken.
- US Stone has opened a new quarry in Chase County. This has increased truck traffic across 240<sup>th</sup> and 250<sup>th</sup> in Marion County. The topic may come up for future discussion in regard to limiting traffic or developing an agreement with US Stone regarding haul routes.
- Crofoot moved that the Chairman sign the Code of Conduct (for project #057-C 5069-01 KDOT HRRR program). Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Chr. Gehring signed the Code of Conduct.
- Salary sheets were signed: Luke Dawson – full time Equipment Operator One (rehire) at \$2,267.00/mo. effective 8/18/2020; Preston Williams – R&B Maintenance – six month raise from \$2,723.00/mo. to \$2,749.00/mo. effective 9/16/2020.

**AMBULANCE:** Dir. Travis Parmley presented quarterly financial reports and write-offs for approval. Becker moved to approve write-offs totaling \$6,639.11. Novak seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Run statistics for June, July, and August were reviewed. COVID-19 has caused a decrease in the number of transports, which has affected revenue. A payment from CMS has been received to help offset shortfalls.

HVAC quotes for the Marion EMS station were reviewed:

Flaming's Inc. - Change to a new, larger unit and add return air vents to the bedrooms -	\$8,124.00
Swan's Refrigeration - Install two mini-split units in bedrooms – (not including electric) -	\$3,771.40

No decision was made. Parmley was directed to assign specs and re-bid the project.

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September 21, 2020, Continued

**AMBULANCE, CONTINUED:** Vehicle bids were reviewed:

Hillsboro Ford	2021 Ford Explorer	\$34,342.00
Midway Motors	2021 Dodge Durango	\$33,887.00

Gehring moved to accept the bid for the 2021 Dodge Durango in the amount of \$33,887.00. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 3-2 with Becker and Dallke opposed.

- The Florence ambulance was discussed with no action.
- Parmley requested guidance regarding essential personnel residing in other Counties being asked to quarantine due to potential COVID-19 exposure. The Board agreed that as long as all pertinent laws are being followed, the essential employee should be allowed to come to work.

**WEED/HHW/TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLING:** Dir. Josh Housman indicated that a company is bringing in out-of-county trash. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was not to accept out-of-county trash at this time. Dallke noted that all procedures, billings, etc. should be reviewed prior to the completion of the new facility.

**EMPLOYMENT INTERVIEW:** Gehring moved to recess into executive session to conduct an employment interview pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and the applicant present for 30 minutes, until 12:00 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with a motion by Gehring to recess into executive session to continue the employment interview pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and the applicant present for 10 minutes (until 12:11 p.m.). Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

**WEBSITE TRANSITION:** Lloyd Davies, Great Plains Computers & Networking, joined the session via teleconference. The County's technology committee has voted to transition from Aumentim to CivicPlus for the County website platform. After discussion, Becker moved to transition from Aumentim to CivicPlus at a cost of \$11,000.00 plus \$3,000.00 annual maintenance to be paid from the AS400 line item in the 2020 budget. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0. Chr. Gehring signed the License and Service Agreement. Crofoot encouraged Davies to purchase other similar domain names to protect the County.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Jesse Hopkins-Hoel provided an update on the Expedition Wind project. They are negotiating with a contractor and beginning late-stage design. A preliminary meeting to discuss haul routes (initially scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>) will have to be rescheduled due to a schedule conflict.

**COMMISSION COMMENTS:** Gehring asked what is being done with the tourism bus owned by the County. After discussion, Crofoot moved to list the bus (for sale) on Purple Wave. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Becker expressed a desire for Kaw Valley Engineering to be more transparent regarding progress on the transfer station building project.
- Novak requested time to be scheduled on the payday agenda for the Commission to discuss the County Appraiser position.

**EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE REVIEW:** Gehring moved to recess into executive session to prepare an employee performance review pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with only the Board present for 15 minutes (until 12:55 p.m.). Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with a motion by Gehring to recess into executive session to continue the employee performance review pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with only the Board present for 10 minutes (until 1:08 p.m.) Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action. Gehring moved to recess into executive session to discuss an employee performance review pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and Spencer present for 10 minutes. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

Gehring moved to adjourn. Novak seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

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Jonah Gehring, Chairman

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