

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

November 13, 2023

CANVASS 2023 CITY/SCHOOL GENERAL ELECTION: Commission met in special session at 11:00 a.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. David Mueller, Comm. Kent Becker, Comm. Dave Crofoot, and Comm. Randy Dallke present. Comm. Jonah Gehring joined the session at 11:36 a.m. The purpose of the meeting was to canvass the November 7, 2023, General Election. Also present were Co. Clerk Tina Spencer, Election Clerk Michelle Looper, and Deputy Co. Clerk Ashley Herpich. Present for portions of the meeting were members of the public and members of the press.

Preliminary results were provided for review. Spencer reviewed the Election Summary Report. Provisional ballot situations were reviewed. Becker moved to accept provisional ballots eligible to be counted. Dallke seconded and motion carried 4-0.

- Provisional ballots were opened and scanned. Write-in votes were reviewed and recorded by the Canvassing Board. Results by precinct were reviewed and provisional votes were added into the vote totals by precinct.
- Mueller moved to recess until 12:30 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- The canvass resumed with a tie breaker for Lehigh and Peabody City Council seats. Kendall Unrau was drawn as the winning candidate for Lehigh. James Philpott was drawn as the winner of the tie breaker for Peabody.
- Gehring moved to accept and certify the results. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Mueller moved to adjourn the canvass. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Canvass adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

David Mueller, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk

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Commission met in regular session at 12:38 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: There were no public comments.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Supt. Steve Hudson, Shop Supervisor Tom Holub, and Adm. Coordinator John Beal were present for department business. The Board agreed to allow Marion County Firefighters' Association to perform preliminary burning of certain ditches as requested with the appropriate notifications in place.

- Zac Thackston with the City of Peabody's public works department requested County support for street repairs within the City limits. The Board suggested that Hudson and Thackston come up with specific shared projects to be presented to the Board for review and approval, as appropriate.
- Salary sheets were signed: Victoria James – remove interim pay for additional duties due to additional staff being hired from \$3,168.00/mo. to \$3,122.00/mo., effective 10/23/2023; John Beal – from \$2,940.00/mo. to \$3,513.00/mo. – change from Equipment Operator to Administrative Coordinator, effective 11/6/2023.
- Holub presented a list of equipment that is infrequently utilized by the department and requested permission to sell the Bomag asphalt recycler, crack sealer, shoulder machine, Ventura flail mower, and Road Groom. After discussion, Becker moved to list the five items for sale. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss job performance of a specific employee pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board, Jantz, Spencer, Hudson, and Holub present for 15 minutes until 1:25 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.
- Upcoming and ongoing department projects and activities were discussed.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Cash balances of County funds were reviewed by the Board. Gehring moved to approve the minutes of October 31st and November 6th. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- The Board was notified that the Emergency Management Director made an emergency purchase of four truck tires at an overall cost of about \$1,300.00. One tire had been badly damaged, and it was more reasonable to purchase all four tires at the same time. Becker said all Commissioners should have been notified of the purchase.

COUGHLIN COMPANY – ROAD PROJECT DISCUSSION: Ted Weber and Brice Goebel, with the Coughlin Company, attended via teleconference to discuss some breakdown on road projects completed last year. Weber expressed concern about the breakdowns and discussed possible causes. Hudson noted that County crews have removed the weak areas and built up the base with crushed concrete and rock. The areas will be monitored over the winter. Hudson and Weber will discuss potential next repair steps early next spring.

CO. COUNSELOR: Co. Counselor Brad Jantz listed various legal matters that he recommended addressing by the end of the year, including job description review, contractual and policy matters.

- Dallke raised the issue of a possible moratorium on wind energy project expansion.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: Dallke suggested that the Board consider whether to implement additional sales tax to fund infrastructure.

- Crofoot suggested bringing in a general contractor to discuss potentially less expensive building options for the health department project. The Board did not support bringing in a contractor at this time since the County has agreed to move forward with services from Alloy Architecture.
- A special meeting to conduct interviews of County Administrator applicants was set for Wednesday, November 15th beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Mueller moved to adjourn. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

David Mueller, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk