

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

January 16, 2024

Commission met in regular session at 12:30 p.m. in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse with Comm. Jonah Gehring, Comm. Kent Becker, and Comm. Randy Dallke present in person. Chr. David Mueller was present via teleconference. Comm. Dave Crofoot was absent. Comm. Gehring chaired the meeting. Also present was Co. Clerk Tina Spencer. Present for portions of the meeting were Co. Counselor Brad Jantz (via phone), County staff, members of the public, and members of the press.

**PUBLIC FORUM:** There were no public comments.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Becker moved to approve the agenda (with the addition of an executive session for personnel performance and a discussion about the winter weather emergency). Gehring seconded and motion carried 4-0.

- Change orders affecting 2023 and prior years' tax rolls were reviewed and signed by the Board.
- Becker moved to approve the minutes of January 8<sup>th</sup>. Dallke seconded and motion carried 4-0.
- Mueller moved to approve the agreement between KDOT and Marion County for the High-Risk Rural Roads Project on 290<sup>th</sup>. Becker seconded and motion carried 4-0.
- Salary sheets were signed for: Jonathan Benavidez, new Equipment Operator I in R&B Blacktop at \$2,744.00/mo. effective 1/9/2024; Coby Hayes, new Facilities & Technology Operations Manager at \$7,917.00/mo. effective 1/16/2024; Michella Klenda, rehired part-time Appraiser II at \$17.65/hour effective 1/12/2024; Byron McDonald, new Deputy Sheriff at \$21.64/hour effective 1/16/2024.
- Gehring moved to approve Pay Application #3 for the 1240 Commercial renovation in the amount of \$67,844.08. Dallke seconded and motion carried 4-0.
- Dallke moved to approve Resolution 2024-03 declaring a state of local disaster emergency for Marion County, Kansas for a winter weather emergency (from January 9<sup>th</sup> through January 16<sup>th</sup>). Becker seconded and motion carried 4-0.
- Dallke moved to approve Resolution 2024-04, extending the state of local disaster emergency for Marion County for the winter weather emergency (from January 17<sup>th</sup> until January 24<sup>th</sup>). Gehring seconded and motion carried 4-0.
- A draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for Construction Manager At Risk services for the health department building project was reviewed and discussed. A proposed timeline accompanying the RFP was also reviewed. Gehring suggested some text edits to the RFP for clarification. Mueller moved to approve the RFP with the proposed changes, and utilizing the timeline discussed. Dallke seconded and motion carried 3-1 with Becker opposed.

**DEPARTMENT ON AGING:** Dir. Lu Turk reported that the Senior Citizens of Marion County Board has approved adding a viewing window from the Department on Aging office space into the main area of the center. Turk will seek quotes.

- Turk reported on upcoming and ongoing department activities.
- Meal sites have been closed due to weather. Turk expressed concern and a desire to find a way to continue to provide meals to shut-ins during inclement weather.

**APPRAISER:** Co. Appraiser Nikki Reid updated the Board on upcoming and ongoing department activities. Reid reported that the department has been granted an extension from the State for mailing valuation notices due to short staffing and a slower than expected turnaround for ag changes from the mapping vendor. The extension is from March 1<sup>st</sup> to March 15<sup>th</sup>.

- The Neighborhood Revitalization program was discussed with no action. A work session on the topic will be added to an upcoming agenda.

**MARION COUNTY FOOD BANK:** Gene Winkler provided an update to the Board about the activities of the Food Bank, including financial / operating information for 2023.

**BOARD DISCUSSION – WINTER WEATHER EMERGENCY:** Co. Counselor Brad Jantz joined the session via telephone. The Board expressed thanks to all who assisted (and continue to assist) during the winter weather emergency in Marion County, including road crews, emergency responders and other personnel. Private citizens including farmers, ranchers, and other individuals have been instrumental in helping neighbors and others.

- The Board discussed ways to thank and / or compensate private individuals who assisted. Mueller noted that many of those he had spoken to didn't wish to be compensated but were concerned about conditions once the snow melts. Providing rock was discussed. Development of a tax receipt for donation of time and fuel was also discussed.
- The Board discussed paying cash overtime to road crews instead of comp time.
- Dallke noted that road crews in equipment need room to work and reminded the public to let them by.
- Gehring said if individuals must abandon their vehicle, they should leave their name and contact information in view.

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
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January 16, 2024, continued

**PERSONNEL DISCUSSION:** Dallke moved to recess into executive session to discuss the job performance of a specific individual pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and Spencer present until 2:40 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 4-0. Open session resumed with no action.

Becker moved to adjourn. Dallke seconded and motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Mueller, Chairman

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

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

January 16, 2024, continued

**DISASTER PROCLAMATION RESOLUTION 2024 03  
DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY FOR MARION COUNTY, KANSAS**

**WHEREAS**, on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024, the Board of Commissioners of Marion County, Kansas, finds that certain conditions caused, or eminently threatened to cause wide-spread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property in disaster proportion. Winter weather conditions existed in Marion County. The combination of heavy snow, blowing snow, low temperatures and gusty winds increased the risk of a Winter Weather Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, such conditions created obstructions which endangered health, safety and welfare of persons and property within the border of Marion County, Kansas; and

**WHEREAS**, under the authority granted pursuant to Marion County Resolution 2019-02, David Mueller, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners issued a verbal disaster declaration at 0400 hours on January 9, 2024.

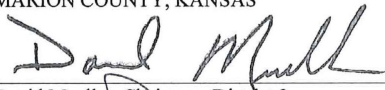
**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Commissioners of Marion County, Kansas does hereby proclaim:

1. That pursuant to K.S.A. 48-932, that a State of Local Disaster Emergency exists within Marion County, Kansas.
2. That the area within the borders of Marion County, Kansas covered by this proclamation is the entire area of Marion County, Kansas.
3. That the Board of County Commissioners shall have all the rights and/or powers to perform such functions as are vested in said Board by and through the provisions of the Kansas Emergency Preparedness Act of 1975.


**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that this disaster emergency declaration shall remain in effect for a period of one (1) week from the initial verbal declaration, unless terminated earlier or renewed by consent of the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Kansas, and that the verbal declaration issued in relation to this event is hereby ratified by the full Board.

So, proclaimed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MARION COUNTY, KANSAS

  
David Mueller, Chairman, District 2

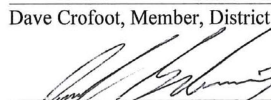
☒ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

  
Kent Becker, Member, District 1

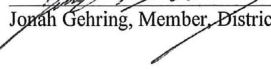
☒ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

  
Randy Dalko, Member, District 3

☒ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

  
Dave Crofoot, Member, District 4

☐ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

  
Jonah Gehring, Member, District 5

☒ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

ATTEST:

  
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk



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

January 16, 2024, continued

**DISASTER PROCLAMATION RESOLUTION 2024-04  
DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY FOR MARION COUNTY, KANSAS**

**WHEREAS**, on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024, the Board of Commissioners of Marion County, Kansas, finds that certain conditions still exist which may cause or eminently threaten to cause wide-spread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property in disaster proportion. Winter weather conditions in Marion County. The combination of heavy snow, blowing snow, low temperatures and gusty winds continue to increase the risk of a Winter Weather Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, such conditions have created obstructions which endangered health, safety and welfare of persons and property within the border of Marion County, Kansas; and

**WHEREAS**, under the authority granted pursuant to Marion County Resolution 2019-02, David Mueller, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners issued a verbal disaster declaration at 0400 hours on January 9, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the disaster declaration was ratified by the whole board on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, dangerous conditions continue to be present in Marion County;

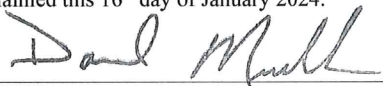
**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Commissioners of Marion County, Kansas does hereby proclaim:

1. That pursuant to K.S.A. 48-932, that a State of Local Disaster Emergency exists within Marion County, Kansas.
2. That the area within the borders of Marion County, Kansas covered by this proclamation is the entire area of Marion County, Kansas.
3. That the Board of County Commissioners shall have all the rights and/or powers to perform such functions as are vested in said Board by and through the provisions of the Kansas Emergency Preparedness Act of 1975.

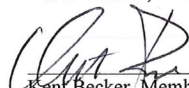
**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that this disaster emergency declaration shall remain in effect for a period of one (1) week from the expiration of the initial declaration, unless terminated earlier or renewed by consent of the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Kansas, and that the verbal declaration issued in relation to this event is hereby ratified by the full Board.

So, proclaimed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

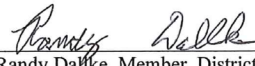
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MARION COUNTY, KANSAS

  
David Mueller, Chairman, District 2

☒ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

  
Kent Becker, Member, District 1

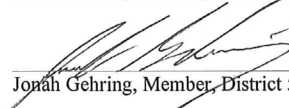
☒ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

  
Randy Dalfke, Member, District 3

☒ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Crofoot, Member, District 4

☐ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

  
Jonah Gehring, Member, District 5

☒ Yea  
☐ Nay  
☐ Abstain

ATTEST:

  
Fina D. Spencer, County Clerk

