

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

January 22, 2024

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

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Larry Smith, owner of Hillsboro Self Storage, expressed concern about not being admitted into the County's Neighborhood Revitalization (NR) program for their most recent building project. Hillsboro City Administrator Matt Stiles and Joy Smith were also present. Stiles explained the city's permitting process and said that their practice is to remind individuals who are building to apply for the NR program with the County. In this instance, the Smiths did not apply within the timeframe required by the County. Stiles commented that the Smiths have made a significant building investment within the City of Hillsboro. After additional discussion, the Board determined it necessary to research the most recent Board action regarding the NR program application process. After that occurs the Board will consider the matter further.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Dallke moved to approve the minutes of January 16<sup>th</sup>. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Becker moved to approve encumbrances against the 2023 budget (in the amount of \$177,681.65). Mueller seconded and motion carried 5-0 with Gehring and Crofoot abstaining due to conflict of interest (abstentions counted with majority prevailing).
- Salary sheets were signed: Tina Spencer from \$5,989.00/mo. to \$8,333.00/mo. - change from Co. Clerk to Co. Administrator effective 2/1/2024; Ashley Herpich from \$3,808.00/mo. to \$5,264.00/mo. - change from Deputy Co. Clerk to County Clerk effective 2/1/2024; Christian Ward at \$2,855.00/mo. - new Equipment Operator I effective 1/18/2024.

**AMBULANCE:** Interim Dir. Chuck Kenney joined the session. Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss job performance of a specific individual pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board, Kenney, Herpich, and Jantz present for 15 minutes until 1:15 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

- The COVID ambulance ordered in February, 2022, was discussed. Kenney will follow up regarding the expected timeframe for delivery.
- Kenney noted that he will be working on an equipment replacement plan.

**KPERS / KP&F DISCUSSION:** Paige Ashley with KPERS presented information about the Kansas Police & Fire (KP&F) retirement system.

**PLANNING/ZONING/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:** Dir. Sharon Omstead presented information about the LEPP grant conditions and process. After discussion, Gehring made a motion to move forward with the grant, accept the terms and conditions, and authorize the Chairman to sign the paperwork. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

**PARK & LAKE:** Supt. Isaac Hett presented year-end reports for the Park & Lake and the Bait Shop. Charging a sponsorship or small fee for the heated dock was discussed. Gehring and Hett were asked to work together to present a sponsorship idea involving local businesses.

- Hett reported on upcoming and ongoing maintenance and upgrade projects.

**COUNTY COUNSELOR:** Co. Counselor Brad Jantz presented draft forms for individuals to apply for a tax receipt for charitable donation of time and materials during the recent winter weather emergency. After discussion, Gehring moved to proceed with the process of application for tax receipt for in-kind donation for those who went to extraordinary efforts to assist others during the disaster declared storm period. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Jantz mentioned the Doyle Watershed mitigation project and is working on developing some sort of agreement.
- Jantz noted that funds may be available to offset County costs to redirect traffic at the dam at the Marion Reservoir.
- Jantz requested guidance regarding the County's intended approach for abandoned items in outdoor storage at the Park & Lake. The Board was in favor of scrapping the items (instead of trying to sell them at auction).

**WINTER WEATHER DISCUSSION:** The Board discussed paying cash overtime in lieu of comp time to road crews that worked extra hours during the weather emergency. After discussion, Becker moved that Marion County pay cash overtime for overtime hours worked (in lieu of comp time) for non-exempt Road & Bridge personnel working overtime due to the winter weather emergency during the declared disaster period of January 9<sup>th</sup> through January 24<sup>th</sup>. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

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

January 22, 2024, continued

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Gehring moved to approve a request for FMLA leave for a qualified individual. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Change orders affecting 2023 and prior years' tax rolls were reviewed and signed by the Board.

**COMMISSION COMMENTS:** Dallke cautioned County Department Heads to properly vet individuals they hire.

- Mueller thanked everyone who pulled together to help during the winter weather emergency.

Mueller moved to adjourn. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

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

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