

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

February 26, 2024

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

PUBLIC FORUM: Chris Guhr asked what information is used to determine wind turbine setbacks. Guhr is concerned for the safety of the public.

Engineer Darrin Nuefeld with EBH presented the “Excellence in Paving” award to the Board.

Comm. Jonah Gehring arrived at 12:36 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Gehring moved to approve the minutes of February 20th. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Change orders affecting 2023 and prior years’ tax rolls were reviewed and signed by the Board.
 - Suggestions on how to review change orders, included emailing and/or a small work session before each meeting to review.
- Board consensus is for the administrator to be allowed to review and approve job descriptions and salary sheets. The Board would like a report on all informational changes.
- Spencer would like guidance on how the Board would like to review the health insurance budget projections. The Board would like to see the dollar amount for the employee contribution stay the same and the impact on the county. Also, if the percentage stays the same, how the impact will be for the county and the employees.
- Spencer informed the Board of a work session added to the February 29th payday meeting.

EMS DIRECTOR DISCUSSION: Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss EMS director position pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board, Spencer, and Chuck Kenney present for 10 minutes until 1:15 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

Gehring moved to hire Charles Kenney as Marion County EMS Director effective February 26, 2024, with an annual salary of \$82,308.00 (\$6,859.00/mo.) Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss contract negotiation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (2) for consultation with our attorney in matters deemed privileged under attorney/client privilege with the Board, Jantz, and Spencer present for 10 minutes until 1:28 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Dir. Marcy Hostetler gave an update on the spill by Durham on Saturday, February 24, 2024.

- Hostetler informed the Board that Governor Kelly declared a disaster proclamation at 10:23 a.m. for potential wildland fire threat.
- Storm Fury of the Plains for storm spotter training will be held on March 14th.
- Red Cross will be doing a shelter fundamentals class on March 16th.

Equipment storage and options for the red P.S.A.P. trailer were discussed. Mueller moved to allow Marcy to proceed with returning the communications equipment out of the red trailer and allow it to be a multipurpose trailer for the county. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss contract negotiation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (2) for consultation with our attorney in matters deemed privileged under attorney/client privilege with the Board, Jantz, Spencer, and Hostetler present for 10 minutes until 2:00 p.m. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

COUNTY COUNSELOR: Jantz provided updates with ongoing legal matters and tasks.

Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (2) for consultation with our attorney in matters deemed privileged under attorney/client privilege with the Board, Jantz, and Spencer present for 10 minutes until 2:22 p.m. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

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February 26, 2024, Continued

Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss contract negotiation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (2) for consultation with our attorney in matters deemed privileged under attorney/client privilege with the Board, Jantz, and Spencer present for 5 minutes until 2:28 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

The meeting recessed until 2:35 p.m.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Superintendent Steve Hudson, Admin Coordinator John Beal, and Kenny Blain, President of CFS Engineers were present. Blain presented options and cost estimates on the 6-mile project for 290th road and how to proceed with the HRRR grant. The county could shorten the project to 2 miles (K15 East to Jade Rd) for the estimated cost of \$1,597,000.00 with the county obligation of \$797,000.00 or shorten the project to 3 miles (K15 East to Kanza Rd) for the estimated cost of \$2,396,000.00 with the county obligation of \$1,596,000.00. The HRRR is a safety program that requires widening roads, excluding bridges.

Mueller moved to recess into executive session to discuss personnel performance pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters non-elected personnel with the Board, Spencer, and Hudson present for 10 minutes until 3:20 p.m. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: There were no commission comments.

Gehring moved to adjourn. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

David Mueller, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Ashley Herpich, County Clerk