

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

August 17, 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 Co. Clerk Tina Spencer. Present for portions of the meeting were Co. Counselor Brad Jantz, County staff, members of the public, and members of the press.

COVID-19 UPDATE: Health Officer Diedre Serene reported 61 total cases, two active, in Marion County.

ADMINISTRATIVE: The Clerk's Report for July was provided for review.

- Salary sheets were signed: CJ Perry – one year raise from \$17.36/hour to \$17.69/hour effective 7/31/2020; Charla Duerksen – new part-time RN at \$25.00/hour effective 7/27/2020; Stacey Pedersen – new part-time RN at \$25.00/hour effective 7/5/2020; Amanda McReynolds – six month raise \$2,267.00/mo. to \$2,310.00/mo. effective 8/10/2020.
- An agreement with the City of Florence for trash pickup at the Park & Lake which was approved on 8/10/2020 with a term of one year was signed by the Board.
- Dallke moved to approve a CDO Agreement (to allow Dept. on Aging Dir. Gayla Ratzlaff to continue to assist with Medicare and Medicaid services as a certified application counselor) and to authorize the Chairman to sign. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Gehring moved to approve the minutes of August 6th. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Becker moved to approve the minutes of August 10th as written. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0. Becker moved to approve the minutes of August 14th. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0 with Novak abstaining due to absence. (Abstention counted with majority prevailing.)
- Gehring moved to pay out existing comp time hours to Mike Hurst. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. (98.25 hours to be paid from Courthouse personnel services line.)
- Becker moved to entertain bids for liability insurance. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.

CITIZEN CONCERN: Bill Harmon expressed concerns about comments made by Road & Bridge staff when he called in a road maintenance request and commented that maintenance in his area seems very inconsistent in recent years. Harmon also expressed concerns regarding a low water crossing on 300th between Highway 77 and Xavier. Co. Engineer Brice Goebel was also present. No action was taken.

- After Harmon left the session, Goebel provided photos of the low water crossing and indicated a cost to remove it and raise the road would be in excess of \$160,000.00. After discussion, Goebel agreed to clear out some vegetation in the waterway during cold weather, and possibly put some rip-rap down to keep the area from eroding.

Transport fuel bids were reviewed:	Tank #3 3,000 gals.	Tank #1 2,000 gals.	Unleaded 3,000 gals.	Total
Epp's Service, Elbing	1.5587	1.3015	1.4918	\$11,754.50
Coop Grain, Hillsboro	1.6004	1.3444	1.5122	\$12,026.60
MFA Oil	1.6332	1.3823	1.5640	\$12,356.20

Gehring moved to accept Goebel's recommendation and award the bid to Epp's Service (in the amount of \$11,754.50). Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

WEED HHW / TRANSFER STATION / RECYCLING: Dir. Josh Housman presented the five year solid waste management plan for approval. Gehring moved to approve the solid waste management plan five year worksheet. Novak seconded and motion carried 5-0.

KANSAS TRAVEL GUIDE: Randy Collett requested funding for a ½ page ad in the Kansas Travel Guide promoting Marion County and the Santa Fe Trail. Crofoot moved to purchase a ½ page ad in the 2021 travel magazine promoting Marion County and the Santa Fe Trail (in the amount of \$3,867.00 to be paid from Transient Guest Tax). Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

SPARK PLAN APPROVAL: Scot Loyd of Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd, Rusty Allen, SPARK Committee Chairman, and several other members of the SPARK Committee joined the meeting virtually. Co. Treasurer Jeannine Bateman was present in person. The reimbursements and proposed direct aid plan were reviewed. After discussion, Gehring moved to approve the Direct Aid Plan and Reimbursements as presented by the SPARK Committee and to allow County funds to be disbursed for PPE (personal protective equipment) prior to State approval. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

Co. Counselor Brad Jantz joined the session.

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August 17, 2020, Continued

COMMISSION DISCUSSION – ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE: Gehring moved to recess into executive session to discuss acquisition of real estate pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (6) for preliminary discussion of acquisition of real estate with the Board, Jantz, and Spencer present for 15 minutes (until 11:15 a.m.) Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Crofoot asked whether when a department head leaves they re-evaluate their personnel prior to their last day. Spencer noted that is not current practice. The Co. Appraiser position was discussed briefly with no action.

- Dallke asked Jantz whether it would be proper for the County to issue a letter in support of the south windfarm. Jantz noted that it would be better to wait due to ongoing litigation.
- Novak commented that no building permits have been issued on the project. Once the Planning and Zoning Department issues building permits the company can decide whether or not to move forward, but the law suit is not necessarily holding up the project.

CO. COUNSELOR: Jantz reported that an individual who owns property in Florence is asking to deed a property in need of repair to Marion County. The Board suggested that it be deeded to the City of Florence or to the Marion City land bank. Jantz will follow up with the individual with those suggestions.

- Dallke commented that the City of Peabody has several derelict properties that need to be addressed, and one of them is owned by Marion County.

Gehring moved to adjourn. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Jonah Gehring, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk