

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

May 26, 2020

Commission met in regular session in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m. 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 (via teleconference), members of the public (by teleconference only) and members of the press.

COVID-19 UPDATE: Public Health Officer Diedre Serene reported no active cases in Marion County at this time, and recommended that the County move forward as outlined in Governor Kelly's modified Phase 2.

- Serene reiterated previous advice to stay home when sick, wear a mask in public, wash hands frequently and practice social distancing.
- Nursing homes were discussed, and the effect on residents when they are not allowed to have visitors.
- Emergency Mgmt. Dir. Randy Frank noted that if the Governor doesn't sign the current legislation on her desk that the disaster declaration will end at 11:59 p.m. on 5/26/2020 and no further supplies will be able to be requested under the disaster.
- Frank reported that he has applied for a grant to strengthen the County's IT system / backup capabilities including a redundant off site server.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Dallke moved to approve the minutes of May 18th. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- The Kansas Travel Guide listings were discussed. Each Commissioner will try to get the information out to businesses and attractions in their districts.
- The Board directed Spencer to hold off on drafting a letter to the Corps of Engineers until after June 1st, as portions of the reservoir are reportedly slated to open.

REGISTER OF DEEDS: Register of Deeds Rebecca Wingfield presented bids for digitizing the manual tract books:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Time Frame for Completion</u>
Mid Continent Micrographics	\$13,695.00	End of June, 2020
Salina Blueprint	\$13,000.00	2021
US Imaging	\$13,753.50	Mid-July, 2020

Wingfield's preference was to utilize US Imaging. After discussion, Gehring moved to approve an amount not to exceed \$13,753.50 (superseding previous action approving up to \$13,500.00). Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK COVID GRANT (CDBG-CV) PUBLIC HEARING: Chr. Gehring opened the public hearing regarding the CDBG-CV grant application. Present via teleconference was Michelle McDowell with the South Central Kansas Economic Development District (SCKEDD) and members of the public.

- McDowell, who is serving as the grant writer for Marion County asked several clarifying questions regarding the grant application itself. Previous information was reviewed.
- Chr. Gehring opened the floor for public comments: Korie Hatton asked whether their new business would qualify for the program. They initially hired an employee who would qualify as LMI (low to moderate income), and then let them go due to COVID-19 forcing the business to close. The employee has since taken a different position. If the Hatton's hire a new employee to fill that vacancy and that new individual is also under the LMI level, would the business qualify? Michelle McDowell indicated that the County will need to seek clarification from the Department of Commerce in regard to that specific scenario. Spencer indicated that she would follow up with Hatton once the answer is known.
- Chr. Gehring closed the public comment portion of the meeting.
- The Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report, Statement of Assurances and Certifications, Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan, and Determination of Level of Review were reviewed by the Board.
- Grant administrator proposals received from Ranson Citycode Financial and South Central Kansas Economic Development District (SCKEDD) were reviewed. Both proposals included a \$15,000.00 fee for grant administration. Spencer noted that the request for proposals indicated a potential selection date of May 29, 2020. Co. Counselor Brad Jantz noted that as long as the application period was already closed, there should be no legal issue with selecting the grant administrator early. After discussion, Crofoot moved to appoint SCKEDD as the grant administrator (for the CDBG-CV program). Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0 with 4 in favor and Becker abstaining due to conflict of interest because he is on the SCKEDD Board. (Abstention counted with majority prevailing.)
- Gehring moved to move forward with the CDBG-CV grant application and to sign the associated documents. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- The public hearing was closed. Commission reconvened in regular session.

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May 26, 2020, Continued

CO. TREASURER: Co. Treasurer Jeannine Bateman reported that 93% of the taxes have been collected, which is the same percentage as this time last year.

LEASE PURCHASE BIDS – MOWER & TRACTOR: Lease purchase bids were reviewed in the amount of \$50,075.00:

	<u>3 year</u>	<u>5 year</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Community National Bank, Burns	2.29%	2.34%	\$100.00
Marion National Bank, Marion	1.84%	2.07%	\$100.00

Becker moved to accept the bid from Marion National for a three year lease purchase at 1.84%. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 4-1 with Novak opposed.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Co. Engineer Brice Goebel joined by teleconference and presented area fuel bids for review:

	<u>Area 1 1,400 gals.</u>	<u>Area 2 1,950 gals.</u>	<u>Area 3 1,950 gals.</u>
Epp's Service, Elbing	1.1015 = \$1,542.10	1.2050 = \$2,349.75	1.0915 = \$2,128.43
Coop Grain, Hillsboro	1.1109 = \$1,555.26	1.2209 = \$2,380.76	1.1109 = \$2,166.26
MFA Oil, Tampa	1.1400 = \$1,596.00	1.1400 = \$2,223.00	1.1400 = \$2,223.00

Gehring moved to accept the bid from Epp's for Areas 1 and 3 and the bid from MFA for Area 2. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Goebel reported on upcoming and ongoing projects.
- Goebel plans to take an NHI Course to become certified on bridge inspections.

PLANNING/ZONING/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: Dir. Sharon Omstead joined by teleconference. Task Order No. Three for Engineering Solutions and Design to perform additional groundwater monitoring at a cost of \$2,910.00 was presented for approval. Gehring moved to approve Task Order No. Three for sampling four groundwater wells at the Marion County Landfill. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Novak moved to recess into executive session to discuss matters of litigation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (2) for attorney/client consultation with the Board, Jantz, and Omstead present for 15 minutes. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.
- Dallke asked if a company presents an application for the Doyle 4 project whether it could potentially be developed. Omstead noted that it would have to be an extension of an existing project.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: Dallke noted that it was nice to be able to attend the meeting in person again. Novak said that the public also needs to be allowed to attend in person. Due to social distancing requirements, the Board discussed setting up an additional area in the hallway where the public can view the meeting.

- Novak inquired whether any progress has been made on the proposed Hillsboro EMS station. Jantz indicated nothing new to report. EMS Dir. Travis Parmley said he has been in communication with city officials, but that there was a time delay due to the health emergency.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW: Gehring moved to recess into executive session to conduct an employee performance review pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and Co. Engineer Brice Goebel present for 15 minutes. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with no action.

Gehring moved to adjourn. Novak seconded and motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Jonah Gehring, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk