

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

March 9, 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, and Comm. Dianne R. Novak present. Comm. Dave Crofoot was absent. Also present were Co. Clerk Tina Spencer, members of the public, and members of the press. Co. Counselor Brad Jantz was present for portions of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADMINISTRATIVE: Gehring moved to approve the minutes of March 2nd. Dallke seconded and motion carried 4-0.

- Additional banking paperwork for the transfer station lease purchase was signed by Chr. Gehring.
- Change orders affecting 2019 and prior years' tax rolls were reviewed and signed by the Board.
- Salary sheets were signed: Marcy Hostetler – from \$2,164.00/mo. to \$2,773.00/mo. – position change to Emergency Preparedness Coordinator effective 2/24/2020; Timothy Vogel, EMT - from \$12.12/hour to \$12.25/hour – six month raise effective 3/9/2020; Robert Loos, Paramedic - from \$15.40/hour to \$15.50/hour – one year raise effective 2/22/2020; Charles Kenney, Paramedic - from \$15.15/hour to \$15.25/hour – six month raise effective 2/29/2020.

WEED/HHW/TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLING: Dir. Josh Housman presented bids for rubber skid steer tires:

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|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| Setco | Idabel, OK | \$4,951.79 |
| Rod's Tire & Service, | Hillsboro | \$5,050.00 |

After discussion, Novak moved to accept the bid from Rod's in the amount of \$5,050.00 for the tires. Becker seconded and motion carried 4-0.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Co. Engineer Brice Goebel presented transport fuel bids for review:

| | Tank #3 4,000 gals. | Tank #1 1,500 gals. | Unleaded 2,500 gals. | Total |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| MFA Oil, Tampa | 1.7009 | 1.4459 | 1.4192 | \$12,520.45 |
| Epp's Service, Elbing | 1.6970 | 1.4370 | 1.5140 | \$12,728.50 |
| Coop Grain, Hillsboro | 1.7567 | 1.5007 | 1.5608 | \$13,179.85 |

Gehring moved to approve the bid from MFA Oil for transport fuel (in the amount of \$12,520.45). Dallke seconded and motion carried 4-0.

Salary sheets were signed for Gale Lowry at \$12.00/hour – new part-time seasonal employee in Road & Bridge (Blacktop) effective 2/24/2020; Antone Vinduska at \$10.00/hour - new part-time seasonal employee in Road & Bridge (Blacktop) effective 2/24/2020.

- Gehring moved to approve the purchase of a Rome disk at a price not to exceed \$7,000.00. Novak seconded and motion carried 4-0.
- Goebel indicated that after reviewing hauling bids, two contractors have been selected to haul rock from four different quarries.
- Enforcement of County road right-of-way was discussed. Goebel suggested preparation through surveys or purchasing equipment and software that would assist in locating and marking rights-of-way. No decision was made.
- Quotes for a two inch overlay on two miles of 90th were reviewed:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Cornejo & Sons, LLC, Wichita | \$239,263.50 |
| APAC-Kansas, Inc., Shears Division, Wichita | \$296,049.50 |

After discussion Goebel was asked to follow up next week with the additional cost to go to a three inch overlay.

- Goebel indicated that the City of Goessel has asked whether the County might contribute toward continuing the overlay through town.
- Goebel reported that BNSF Railroad is working toward a project to add a siding, and would like the County to consider vacating Alamo between 240th and 250th.
- Goebel requested an executive session to discuss personnel performance for five minutes. Gehring moved to recess into executive session for five minutes to discuss personnel/performance pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with Goebel and the Board present (from 10:13 a.m. to 10:18 a.m.). Dallke seconded and motion carried 4-0. Open session resumed with no action.
- The weight limit on a bridge near property owned by Van and Linda Peters was discussed.

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March 9, 2020, Continued

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE: Results from employee surveys were reviewed. Additional high deductible/health savings account options from BCBS were also received. After discussion, Dallke moved to utilize Sally (Tatro with Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.) to provide options from two different companies for coverage comparable to our current plans. Becker seconded. After discussion, Dallke amended his motion to state that Aetna and United be the two companies. Becker re-affirmed his second. Motion carried 4-0.

The Board agreed that the intent behind seeking other options is to look for more affordable coverage and to keep coverage levels and out of pocket expenses similar to the current plans offered by the County, and providing the smoothest transition possible if the County changes insurance companies.

CO. COUNSELOR: A tentative time and date to meet with Jeffrey Pimer of Enel Green Power to finalize the details of the Diamond Vista RMA was set for Tuesday, March 17th at 8:00 a.m. in Commission chambers.

- The previous action to close one mile of 360th between Bison and Chisholm Trail in Logan Township was discussed. Jantz noted that he has prepared a resolution and a draft lease for surface rights to be utilized by the adjoining property owner, but wanted to verify the Board's intentions prior to adoption. Closure vs. vacation was discussed again. The consensus was for Jantz to prepare the documents based on the action taken by the Board on February 24th to close the road and prepare a lease document to allow the use of the right-of-way by the property owner.
- Gehring moved to recess into executive session for five minutes to discuss personnel/performance pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and Jantz present (from 12:01 p.m. to 12:06 p.m.). Dallke seconded and motion carried 4-0. Open session resumed with no action.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Linda Peters apologized if previous remarks made in open session about an employee were inappropriate and asked for guidance from Jantz regarding the subject. Jantz noted that general comments about problems and departments are fine, but when it crosses over to individual employees and specific performance, then that should be handled in executive session to protect the employees' right to privacy.

- Peters asked whether all comments made at road hearings should be weighed equally regardless of whether a true "hardship" exists regarding the closure. Jantz noted that everything has to be considered, but especially whether a hardship to those using the road most often is caused by closure.
- Tom Britain asked about when Commissioners give themselves a bonus outside the pay plan if it is misuse of public funds. Jantz said he wouldn't call it misuse of public funds, but it should be addressed in the pay plan. Britain said he would like to see justice. Jantz said he would review it again and would probably prepare something in writing.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Gehring said he is glad to be moving forward with looking at health insurance options.

- Novak asked when the tax sale would be discussed again. It is on the agenda later in March.
- Gehring said construction is beginning on the transfer station project.
- Becker mentioned recycling. Gehring said that the City of Goessel wants to get back to having its recycling picked up (or to bring it themselves). More recycling centers are closing and communities are going back to sorting and looking for markets for individual products.
- Novak brought up first amendment rights and further discussion took place.
- Dallke said there is a road that was being worked, and due to rain that fell afterward, it is in bad condition. Dallke noted that it should be discussed with the Co. Engineer. Van Peters noted that he already had a conversation with the Co. Engineer and there is potentially a plan to take care of it.
- Novak stated appreciation for Jantz not charging mileage to the County.

Dallke moved to adjourn. Becker seconded and motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Jonah Gehring, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk