

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

December 9, 2019

Commission met in regular session in Commission chambers at the Marion County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m. with Chr. Kent Becker, Comm. Dianne R. Novak, Comm. Randy Dallke, Comm. Dave Crofoot, and Comm. Jonah Gehring present. Also present was Co. Clerk Tina Spencer. Present for portions of the meeting were Marcy Hostetler, Co. Counselor Brad Jantz, members of the public, and members of the press.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** Sheriff Rob Craft joined the session. Becker moved to recess into executive session to discuss courthouse security - ongoing investigation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (13) for matters related to security with the Board, Craft and Spencer present (for 10 minutes) until 9:10 a.m. with open session to resume in Commission chambers following the closed session. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0. Open session resumed with a motion by Becker that the County solicit bids from private security firms for securing the Courthouse. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.

- Novak requested an addition to the minutes of December 2<sup>nd</sup>, to clarify that the December 31<sup>st</sup> meeting would be for payday and regular business. Gehring moved to approve the minutes of December 2<sup>nd</sup> as amended. Novak seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Change orders affecting the 2019 and prior years' tax rolls were reviewed and signed by the Board.
- A Notice of Intent form for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in relation to the transfer station construction project and potential storm water runoff was signed by Chr. Becker.
- North Central Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging (NCFHAAA) sent a written nomination of Joyce Barkman to fulfill an unexpired term on their Board, from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Becker moved to approve the nomination of Joyce Barkman to the NCFHAAA Board. Gehring seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- A salary change sheet was signed for Brandy Ankenman – appointment as Interim Weed/HHW/Transfer Station/Recycling Director from \$2,356.00/mo. to \$2,950.00/mo. effective 11/21/1019.

**ROAD & BRIDGE:** Co. Engineer Brice Goebel indicated that he has reviewed the information from the post-construction inventory provided by Kirkham Michael on the Diamond Vista haul routes and agrees with their assessment.

- Goebel and Crofoot attended the Florence City meeting to discuss the shared road issue. Goebel indicated that the County and the City will participate in a cost-share and he will pursue a memorandum of agreement/understanding through the Co. Counselor.
- Goebel asked for permission to utilize a local engineer for redesign of a culvert on 290<sup>th</sup>. No decision was made. Goebel will bring back a cost estimate for additional discussion.
- Several vehicles/pieces of equipment are being listed for sale on Purple Wave. Goebel asked the Board whether they would like to sell the tourism bus, which is rarely used. Becker suggested that Marion and Hillsboro economic development be contacted to gauge their interest level.
- 330th road was discussed.

**AMBULANCE:** Dir. Travis Parmley informed the Board about a recent self-report to the Kansas Board of EMS for duties performed without an existing protocol. There is no penalty, and the KBEMS accepted the local corrective action that was taken by Parmley and the service.

- Peabody 4<sup>th</sup> Fire District has proposed moving the ambulance from the fire station to a different building. Parmley was in favor due to location and other factors. After discussion, Crofoot moved that Parmley should negotiate a long-term lease with Fire District #4 as discussed. Dallke seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- Several heart monitors owned by the County are going to be obsolete at the end of 2020. Parmley will look for the best way to replace them, including grants.
- A County Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) class was discussed. Parmley proposed paying Josh Clevenger \$1,300.00 to teach the class, with a minimum of 10 students. Dallke made a motion to support the formation of an EMR class as outlined by Parmley. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 5-0.
- City of Marion Administrator Roger Holter thanked Parmley for his assistance and leadership during a house-fire event last week in Marion.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY:** Co. Attorney Joel Ensey presented a quarterly update. The department has handled 200 criminal cases so far this year, and juvenile and care/treatment cases are increasing. Ensey indicated some frustration with existing computer system differences between District Court and the County Attorney's office which currently requires double entry of all cases.

**TRANSFER STATION PROJECT ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DISCUSSION:** Randy Purdue and Leon Osborne of Kaw Valley Engineering and City of Marion Administrator Roger Holter were present to discuss the specifications of the

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December 9, 2019, Continued

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DISCUSSION, CTD.:** project to relocate overhead power lines underground in conjunction with the Transfer Station building project. The City is concerned with the size of wire specified in the plans, as well as the potential for two 8 hour power lapses during the project. After discussion, Purdue agreed to prepare a change order to be applied to the project (once the bid is approved) to reduce the size of the electric service line, and to add language requiring no more than a two-hour power outage during the cutover to the new system.

**MARION COUNTY RESCUE EQUIPMENT REQUEST:** Hillsboro Fire Chief Ben Steketee and Marion Fire Chief Preston Williams joined the session to present a 2019 rescue equipment request for primary units. The total amount requested for all primary units was \$24,745.12. Novak moved to approve the requested expenditures. Becker seconded and motion carried 5-0.

**COMMISSION DISCUSSION – REORGANIZATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION:** Planning/Zoning/Env. Health Dir. Sharon Omstead joined the session. The structure of the Planning Commission was discussed. Several options were considered with no decision. The topic was tabled until the Co. Counselor could be present.

- **Windfarm Moratorium:** Novak requested that a moratorium be implemented for future wind projects in Marion County. After a lengthy discussion, the topic was placed on the agenda for December 16<sup>th</sup>. Co. Counselor Brad Jantz joined the session at 11:17 a.m.
- The reorganization of the Planning Commission was discussed again with Counselor Jantz present. After additional discussion, Dallke moved to restructure the Marion County Planning Commission to 11 members, with two members being appointed from each Commissioner district and a single at large member to be selected by the Board through an application process. Becker seconded and motion carried 4-1 with Gehring opposed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Sean Crabb suggested that another microphone be purchased to pass through the crowd for comments to be picked up better by the camera.

**COUNTY COUNSELOR:** Counselor Jantz presented a revised letter to be sent to citizens who were offered a settlement by Expedition Wind, and the Commissioners signed the letter for distribution. Pat Pelstring was present to discuss the settlement offers and the steps that the project has taken to be responsive to non-participating landowners. Pelstring apologized for not communicating with the County prior to sending out the offers. Session recessed until 1:00 p.m. Comm. Dallke did not return for the afternoon session.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD EVALUATIONS:** Becker moved to recess into executive session for a department head evaluation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and EMS Dir. Travis Parmley (for 15 minutes) until 1:15 p.m. with open session to resume in Commission chambers following the closed session. Novak seconded and motion carried 4-0. Open session resumed with no action.

- Becker moved to recess into executive session for a department head evaluation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and Park & Lake Supt. Isaac Hett (for 15 minutes) until 1:30 p.m. with open session to resume in Commission chambers following the closed session. Novak seconded and motion carried 4-0. Open session resumed with no action.
- Becker moved to recess into executive session for a department head evaluation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and Health Dept. Admin. Diedre Serene (for 5 minutes) until 1:35 p.m. with open session to resume in Commission chambers following the closed session. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 4-0. Open session resumed with no action.
- Becker moved to recess into executive session for a department head evaluation pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319b (1) for personnel matters of non-elected personnel with the Board and Dept. on Aging Dir. Gayla Ratzlaff (for 5 minutes) until 1:42 p.m. with open session to resume in Commission chambers following the closed session. Novak seconded and motion carried 4-0. Open session resumed with no action.

Becker moved to adjourn. Crofoot seconded and motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

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Kent Becker, Chairman

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