

# Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

## August 7, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in Suite 201 at the Ottawa County Courthouse.

### **Those present were:**

First District Commissioner Dawn Wolf,

Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer

Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg

JoDee Copple, County Treasurer/Payroll Clerk

Heather Maddox, County Clerk

Karl Leech, EMS Director

Levi Ebert constituent, Chris Smith Road and Bridge Administrator, Joe Mullen Road Supervisor, and Sara Hodges Health Director were present.

Commissioner Mortimer called the meeting to order at 8:00 am and Wolf led the group in opening prayer, followed by the flag salute.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 5-minute executive session for non-elected personnel to discuss a department accident including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg, Smith, Mullen, and Campbell. To return at 8:07am.

Smith and Mullen left the meeting.

### **Public Comment:**

Commission addressed Levi Ebert. Ebert discussed with the commission some concerns with the Fair board. Ebert wanted to know if the fair board was under the commission. Maddox said they should have bylaws and it would tell you in there. Ebert said he looked on the county website and it said the commission appointed the fair board. Commissioners said they have never appointed any fair board members. Wolf asked Ebert if he was looking to get on the fair board. Ebert said he would like changes to the fair Livestock sale. He said it should be done by the board and not run by the extension office. Ebert said he has discovered that the extension office is handling the money from the livestock auction. Wolf asked if he felt like there is something going wrong with the processes. Ebert said there is a gray area due to the 4-H laws there should be no solicitation, and this seems to be what the extension office is doing. Malmberg stated that all premium money is paid out by the Fair Board Treasurer to the 4-H clubs. Commission gave Ebert the bylaws for the fair board. Ebert also said the Fair Board meetings should be in a public place and the Commission should appoint board members. Ebert thinks there need to be changes with the board, as there are currently ten board members and out of those ten, eight have direct financial involvement with the president. Ebert thanked the commissioners for the conversation and left the meeting.

Commissioner Mortimer wanted to let Karl Leech, EMS know he was proud of the Minneapolis EMS response time to calls.

### **County Departments:**

#### **Museum Board**

Jana VanMeter, Jim Kay, Jerry Schmidt, Margaret McGavran, and Ray McGavran came into the commission meeting to discuss hiring a replacement part time assistant. VanMeter read the job description for the position. The museum board would like to advertise for the job on the website and in the newspaper.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to hire an assistant to the curator for the museum, for up to 20 hours a week.

Human Resources, Michelle Campbell will get this ad in the newspaper and on the County Facebook page.

VanMeter, R. McGavran, Kay, M. McGavran and Schmidt left the meeting.

#### **Health Department**

Sara Hodges, Health Director asked the commission to sign off on a workforce grant to go towards wages at the Health Department. Hodges left the meeting.

#### **Clerk**

Maddox discussed with the commission about hiring an election assistant for her office to get someone trained in elections before the 2024 elections.

On a motion by Commissioner Mortimer seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 5-minute executive session for non-elected to discuss personnel including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg and Maddox. To return at 8:40am.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved

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the election office to hire a part time election assistant to help from September 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 through December 1<sup>st</sup> 2023.

Commissioner Mortimer left the meeting at 9:10am.

### **Facilities Maintenance**

Commission discussed old business of the camera system in the courthouse. Commission approved the carpet tiles in the break room.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved to add 4 additional cameras for the cost of \$4,592.42 out of ARPA.

### **Emergency Management**

Marie Ballou, Emergency Management let the commission know that the redistricting of the fire departments and ambulance does not cost if the district being transferred doesn't move boundary lines.

### **Sheriff**

Prisoner count for Saline County 6, and Ottawa County 4 for a total of 10 prisoners.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved the July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 minutes as presented.

### **Claims for Approval: Totaling \$36,863.59**

County General	\$10,602.78
Aging	\$664.25
Road & Bridge	\$16,967.66
FD #2 MPLS Gen	\$350.00
Ottawa Co 911	\$791.38
Building Fund	\$4727.00
Noxious Weed	\$617.16
FD O&L Gen	\$12.00
Law Enforcement Center	\$1,170.26
County Health	\$747.66
Election	\$213.44

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved the claims as presented.

**Upcoming Meetings Commission will attend: Wolf will be going to Road and Bridge to meet with some of the employees to introduce herself on Wednesday August 9th.**

**Wolf will be attending a cyber security training in Wichita on August 9<sup>th</sup> as well.**

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With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 11:43am on motion by Malmberg and seconded by Wolf. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Wolf, Vice-Chairman

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D.D. Malmberg, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Mortimer, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Heather Maddox, County Clerk