

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

May 6, 2024

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

JoDee Copple, Treasurer

Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer

Heather Maddox, County Clerk

Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg

Stephanie Watkins, Deputy Clerk

Brandon Copple

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

County Departments:

Sheriff

Prisoner count Ottawa County 4.

Zoning

Truette McQueen asked the commission to appoint Joshua Hulse, Gary Keating, and Robert Jilka to the Zoning board again.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved to reappoint Joshua Hulse, Gary Keating, and Robert Jilka for another 3-year term on the Zoning board.

Truette asked the commission if he could hire for a third position in the Appraiser's Office. Commissioners asked if it was in his budget. This will bring his employees to three and a half employees.

Richard Buck, Attorney came into the meeting at 8:17a.m. Chris Smith and Joe Mullen came into the meeting at 8:19a.m.

Road and Bridge

Chris Smith, discussed with the commission about an easement right of way in Wells.

County Counselor

Buck discussed the updated burn resolution with the commissioners.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved Resolution 24-08 establishing regulations, required procedures and penalties for open burning within Ottawa County. This resolution will repeal former Resolution 16-24.

Hannah Bett, Deputy Administrator from Saline County on behalf of Saline County Sanitarian came into the meeting. Bett wanted to make sure the commission knew that the Legislature passed a law that each county can appoint their own coroner. Dr. Dupy has been the shared coroner between Ottawa and Saline County. Bett stated that she talked with Dupy and he only has around 10-15 people in Ottawa county per year, so he would be willing to continue this service with Ottawa County. Malmberg would like to see if there is someone in county that would like to be the coroner. Mortimer will reach out to Todd Wilson and see if he knows anyone. Bett discussed with the commissioners about the sanitarian budget. Bett said that Ottawa county pays Saline County \$12,000 a year right now. Bett is proposing Ottawa County pay a percentage of time they spend in Ottawa County and divide that by the time they spend in all counties served. Malmberg asked what does the sanitarian department budget now? Bett said the budget is set at \$186,144 and Saline County does not see that they will lower the budget. Bett said this is a shared district with Lincoln, Ottawa, and Ellsworth counties. Bett said that Ellsworth is paying a portion in the amount of \$12,500 and Lincoln is paying a portion in the amount of \$13,500. Wolf asked what the proposal is for Ottawa County. The new fee for Ottawa County would be \$58,000 minus the fees collected up from \$12,000. Bett said she would like to subtract the fees they collect for permits in the county and update the commissioners on a final number. Bett will email the proposal to the commission.

Clerk

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

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved the April 29th, 2024 minutes as corrected.

Human Resources

Michelle Campbell would like to get shirts for employee appreciation this year instead of a meal.

The amount will be \$616.80.

Claims for Approval: Totaling \$150,189.55

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County General	\$31,853.82
Road & Bridge	\$5,955.29
Special Bridge	\$33,750.00
Solid Waste	\$27,000.00
Noxious Weed	\$5,368.71
County Health	\$34.22
Law Enforcement Center	\$89.99
Payroll Clearing	\$570.00
Concord TWP Road	\$7,939.30
Sherman TWP Road	\$2,273.42
Historical	\$454.24
F.D. #2 MPLS General	\$34,431.36
Ottawa County 911 Fund	\$357.40
Election	\$111.80

Cade Resnik came into the meeting at 9:56 a.m. Resnik discussed with the commission about the meeting room calendar. Resnik stated that last year there was discussion about making the calendar electronic. Resnik would like to see this carried out if a department would be willing to take it. Maddox said the department heads all have access to the employee calendar on Outlook. It wouldn't be hard for anyone to take a phone call and add someone to the meeting room calendar. Commission would like to see this happen if departments are willing. Maddox asked if June 1st would be a good time to turn the meeting room calendar over so they can get a new policy made up and get the department heads updated. Resnik agreed.

The group talked about the Mesonet system and its progress. Wolf will get with Brad Homman, the previous Dickinson County Administrator about helping the commission come up with a way to video the meetings.

Upcoming Meetings Commission will attend:

Commission attended the Burn meeting in the Courthouse basement on Thursday May 2nd.

Commission attended the FEMA meeting in the basement meeting room Thursday May 9th at 1:00 p.m.

With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m. on motion by Mortimer and seconded by Wolf. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 13th day of May 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

Dawn Wolf, Chairman

D.D. Malmberg, Member

Scott Mortimer, Member

ATTEST:

Heather Maddox, County Clerk