

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

September 11, 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,

JoDee Copple, County Treasurer/Payroll Clerk

Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer

Heather Maddox, County Clerk

Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg

Karen Ballou

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

Mortimer asked to have a moment of silence in remembrance of the tragedy that happened 22 years ago.

Michelle Campbell came into the meeting. Karl Leech arrived.

County Departments:

Clerk

Maddox asked to go into executive session with the commissioners and Michelle Campbell.

On a motion by Commissioner Mortimer seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 10-minute executive session for non-elected to discuss employment including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg, Maddox and Campbell. To return at 8:38. No decision was made.

Maddox discussed going to the museum board meeting on September 19, at 4pm at the museum.

Malmberg attended an appreciation dinner for the fair board on Wednesday September 6th. Malmberg discussed the State Statute about smoking in public buildings with the fair board.

Appraiser

Truette McQueen came into the meeting to discuss the flood plain plans received from FEMA.

McQueen said they need to put out a 20-day notice that there will be a hearing about the maps, afterwards a vote by the commission will take place. McQueen presented a list of constituents who will be getting a letter, letting them know that they are back in the flood plain. These people have received a LOMA, so they don't have to carry flood insurance. McQueen said there will be a resolution to accept the new flood plain.

McQueen gave the commission a map of a drone flight plan in Ottawa County for Fort Riley.

McQueen discussed with the commission that he has been contacted about re-zoning the county to return to not allowing slaughterhouses in the future. McQueen said he would like to keep it zoned for slaughterhouses, but add a limit on how many can be slaughtered. Mortimer said he would call around and ask other slaughter plants what animals they process and how many a day. Malmberg will help call around to entities for the same.

McQueen left the meeting.

Road and Bridge

Mortimer called in Chris Smith and Joe Mullen to discuss the west bound lane on the Doering curve that was recently made straight.

Smith said that APAC fog sealed it. APAC said that the defects on the road are due to farmers jumping the barricades and driving on it before it was ready. Smith said he is going to get with APAC to discuss what they can do to fix this. Wolf asked for future if we would not pay in full until the project is satisfactory. Smith said this is a state funded project and it is a match funding, so there wouldn't be a way to withhold the payment. Mullen and Smith had been in contact with the state about the issues and they are not happy with the work APAC has done either. Smith will have the state get with APAC to discuss how they are going fix it. Smith has not signed off on the project. Smith and Mullen left the meeting

Thornton came into the meeting.

Sheriff

Prisoner count Saline County, 12 and Ottawa County 6. Total 18 inmates.

Russ Thornton updated the commission on jail issues with the kitchen, he said that Coleman capped the sewage pipes, and is replacing grease traps in the kitchen. They are waiting on a new grease trap to install. Tentatively they are looking at the 20th of September, for restarting of Benchmark Food Services, because of the addition of inmates from Saline County. Thornton said he would like to see the starting wages go up by \$1.50 to keep competitive with other jails in the surrounding areas. Malmberg asked what insurance benefits for employees in the surrounding counties were. Saline County pays for employees only. Mortimer asked what Thornton's budget allow for raises. Thornton said that this year he could handle it, but next year they would have to discuss what to do. Wolf said when

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

September 11, 2023

income is there it will be okay. Mortimer would like Thornton to look at the budget and let the commission know what it will allow. Thornton updated the commission on a grant for security for the jail that was denied. Mortimer contacted Michaela with the 800 MGHZ radios and she said that the radios should be in by October.

Attorney

Richard Buck went over a drone resolution for the sheriff's department.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved Resolution 23-14 establishing the county as an aircraft operator.

Buck reviewed a credit card policy with the commission. Maddox would like time to look it over. Commission will address again next week.

Buck asked to go into executive session with Sheriff Thornton.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 10-minute executive session for attorney-client privilege to discuss litigation including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg, Buck, and Thornton. To return at 10:14am. No decision was made.

Thornton left the meeting.

Human Resources discussed PPE for the Sheriff's office. Commissioners would like to discuss it with the sheriff. Maddox will reach out to Thornton to put him on the September 25th agenda.

Maddox gave the commission the sign off for the annual audit, so they can send the final copies to Ottawa County.

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved the September 5th, 2023 minutes as presented.

Claims for Approval: Totaling \$ 125,669.94

County General	\$18,873.87
Vehicle	\$69.75
Road & Bridge	\$3,075.20
Solid Waste	\$8,986.56
Ottawa Co 911	\$791.38
Noxious Weed	\$541.39
Aging	\$50.78
Bennington TWP Road	\$12,250.00
Law Enforcement Center Capital	\$66,499.69
Sheridan TWP Road	\$7,840.00
County Health	\$1,221.86
Appraiser	\$924.55
FD#3 Delphos General	\$302.20
Jail Commissary	\$150.50
Law Enforcement Center	\$4,092.21

Wolf and Malmberg went with Road and Bridge to look at the Doering Curve Repair.

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: Special Solid Waste committee meeting September 27th at

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes
September 11, 2023

7pm in the courthouse basement meeting room.

Commissioners will have a work session, on September 27th at 5:30 pm in the commissioners' room.

With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 11:35am on motion by Malmberg and seconded by Wolf. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 18th day of September 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

Dawn Wolf, Vice-Chairman

D.D. Malmberg, Member

Scott Mortimer, Chairman

ATTEST:

Heather Maddox, County Clerk