

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

August 14, 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	

Dan Denning, Pastor with Hall Wesleyan came into the commission meeting.

Commissioner Mortimer called the meeting to order at 8:00 am and Denning 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 the August 7th, 2023 minutes as presented.

Claims for Approval: Totaling \$130,084.12

County General	\$15,712.77
Covid Relief Fund	\$61,029.29
Road & Bridge	\$17,788.10
Special Bridge	\$15,209.85
Solid Waste	\$8,644.68
Ottawa Count 911 Fund	\$329.40
Vehicle	\$62.95
Noxious Weed	\$799.07
Aging	\$1,091.25
Historical	\$94.02
County Health	\$6,444.66
Appraiser	\$581.58
Employee Benefits	\$31.00
FD #1 O&L General	\$54.16
FD #2 MPLS General	\$522.34
FD #3 Delphos General	\$71.95
Law Enforcement Center	\$1,617.05

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

Commissioner Wolf attended a cybersecurity meeting in Wichita, Tuesday the 8th of August. Wolf also had a meet and greet with the Ottawa County Road and Bridge department.

County Departments:

Sheriff

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

Russ Thornton, Sheriff came into the commissioners meeting to discuss a bid he received for a storage unit. This will be split between the jail budget and the sheriff's budget. Thornton also discussed with the commission about a night incentive.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by split vote the Board approved a \$2.00 an hour night differential for the jailers for Ottawa county from 10pm-6pam starting with the September pay period.

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During discussion Malmberg said she would like to do more research before voting. Wolf said she wants the jail up and going as soon as possible. Wolf Yea, Mortimer Yea, Malmberg Nay. Thornton left the meeting.

Facilities Maintenance

Keith Coleman came into the meeting and asked the commission for an executive session.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 10-minute executive session for non-elected to discuss employee including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg and Coleman. To return at 9:14am. No decision made.

Keith discussed with the commission about the parking lot getting changed from the specs at the Sheriff's Department sidewalk and it is now not ADA compliant. Coleman said he is trying to get bids to cut out this section and get it repoured back to cement. The sidewalk needs to be ADA compliant and it isn't with this change by adding asphalt to this section of sidewalk.

Coleman left the meeting.

Emergency Management

Marie Ballou came into the meeting to discuss the EMPG grant with the commissioners. She asked the commission to sign off on the application. Wolf discussed with Ballou about what cybersecurity measures that we take. Ballou said most of this is with the IT department. Ballou left the meeting. Wolf sent a text to IT to get LockIT on the agenda

Road and Bridge

Chris Smith Road and Bridge Administrator, Joe Mullen Road Supervisor and CAT Representative Jeff Bender were present. Bender discussed the difference between leasing the graders for 5 years compared to 7 years. Malmberg said she wasn't sure why we were talking about this subject, she thought that the discussion was supposed to be on how we can save the county money with interest rates and leases. Smith said he would like to discuss all options at this point so we don't have to keep having meetings over the same issues. Mortimer said we don't want to cut ties with CAT, we just need some way to lower the costs. Malmberg asked Smith if they could run with 9 graders, as the commissioners have discussed previously. Smith said they discussed in the department that if there are retirees that would work, but we don't want to move things around right now. Malmberg asked how we get to 9 when the time comes. Bender said keep it with the 7 year lease plus the premiere package. Wolf said if we start keeping them 7 years and not 5 years then we could have years we don't upgrade and we save that money to lease out-right without having a loan. This would save money by not having the interest expense on \$250,000 plus for each grader. Bender said yes, but then you have to keep them under hours so there is a better trade in on them. Mortimer asked what the commissioners thought. Wolf would like to see how many are on the 7-year plan. Bender said the ones this year are on 7 years. Smith said he doesn't want to get out of the Premier warranty with the graders. Smith said there will be trouble when they all reach 7,000 hours at one time. Mortimer would like for Smith and Bender to find out dates on when the 5-year notes and the 7-Year notes are up and bring it back to the commission to discuss how to move forward. Smith, Mullen and Bender left the meeting.

Human Resources

Michelle Campbell asked the commission for an executive session to include Jana VanMeter and JoDee Copple.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 10-minute executive session for non-elected to discuss insurance including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg, VanMeter, and Copple. To return at 10:33am. No decision made.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to allow the Museum Curator to work a minimum of 32-40 hours given current circumstances through the end of the 2023 year. Jana VanMeter left the meeting.

Clerk

Heather Maddox asked the commission if they would still like to start up the Elected Officials meetings again. The consensus was yes; to look towards the last quarter of the year.

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With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 11:25pm on motion by Malmberg and seconded by Wolf. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 21st day of August 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