

# Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

January 3rd, 2022

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

Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg

County Clerk, Heather Maddox

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

Mortimer asked Copple if she knew what all the wage study would entail, if this would be comparing our wages to the bigger cities, because if so, we wouldn't want to continue with getting the wage study done. Copple read the paper she got from Kansas Sate about the wage study. Mortimer would like to discuss this further.

Malmberg opened mail from the Army Corp of Engineers.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved the December 19th, 2022 minutes as presented.

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved the January 28th, 2022 minutes as presented

**Claims for Approval: Totaling \$58,723.85**

County General	\$2,714.06
Road & Bridge	\$10,388.29
Election	\$736.12
Noxious Weed	\$642.67
Blaine TWP	\$17,510.60
Fountain TWP	\$7,630.12
Ottawa TWP	\$279.98
Sherman TWP	\$10,255.00
Historical	\$739.98
County Health	\$2,160.00
Jail Commissary	\$337.48
Law Enforcement Center	\$5,329.55

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

**Public Comment: None**

**County Departments:**

**Sheriff**

Prisoner count for Ottawa County 4, Saline County 19, Sedgwick 19, for a total of 42  
Sheriff Thornton gave Maddox a letter to give to the commission.

**Road and Bridge**

Chris Smith, Road and Bridge Administrator, asked the commission how he should proceed with

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replacing his old position, Road and Bridge supervisor. Commission said they would like to get an email out to the employees to see if anyone in house is interested in the position first. Malmberg asked Smith what he found out with the landowners on Laramie Rd. Smith said that all the owners he talked to said they would like to see the bridge replaced. He said this would affect EMS and Fire Responses. Commission agreed. Smith said there is a 400 traffic count a day. Malmberg asked Smith if he talked to Scouler about how this would affect them. Smith said he hasn't but is going to go out and discuss with Schouler this week. Malmberg asked if the department had any overtime during the weekend from the ice and snow. Smith said that there were two employees that worked 7 hours of overtime.

## **Museum Board**

James Kay, Leland Davis, Jana VanMeter, Jerry Schmidt, and Jerry Carson came into the meeting at 8:59am.

On a motion by Commissioner Mortimer seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 5-minute executive session for non-elected personnel to discuss new employee including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg, James Kay, Leland Davis, Jana VanMeter, Jerry Schmidt, and Jerry Carson.

No decision was made.

Jana discussed with the commission on what their next steps are for moving forward, they would like to get a contractor hired, VanMeter asked the commission if they would be willing to help the project with ARPA funds, Davis said \$100,000 would be helpful. Wolf said that if there are grants then the county would be happy to help with APRA funds. VanMeter let the commission know that there is a 9-person board.

Mortimer called Sara Hodges with the Health Department and asked her to look into the Ottawa County Health Director, and the Ottawa County Health Officer so they can get them appointed next week.

## **Treasurer/Payroll**

JoDee Copple, Treasurer/Payroll Clerk asked the commission to sign off on payroll.

Commission discussed the solid waste contract.

## **Clerk**

Heather Maddox, Ottawa County clerk gave the commissioners the claims register to sign off on.

**Upcoming Meetings Commission will attend:** Commission will have a work session on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 8am in the Commissioners room. The commission will attend the Hospital Board Meeting January 16<sup>th</sup> at noon. January 23<sup>rd</sup> Commission will visit the landfill

### **Facilities Maintenance**

Keith Coleman, Facilities maintenance manager, Malmberg told Coleman that the commission is discussing a policy that all maintenance be brought to Coleman before hiring any outside companies to fix things that the maintenance is capable of doing. Coleman discussed updating the thermostats in the courthouse and lighting in the parking lot. Coleman talked about door locks.

Commission Called Dave Hardesty to come talk about the sold waste contract.

Dave and Cheryle Hardesty came into the commission meeting at 10:30am. Malmberg said that she spoke with Dave Hardesty about what the county is responsible for. Wolf said that she wasn't aware the proposed increase was 25.5% increase. Mortimer said that we all agreed on this raise. Mortimer said that things went up more than 25% all over. Hardesty said that as a whole, things for the land fill have gone up 35%. Hardesty said in the last 9 years they have had an increase of only \$4,600. In 2018 it was discussed to increase by \$1000 to pay the pollution insurance. Wolf asked if they could go to \$4000 increase instead of the \$5000. Hardesty said he would have to think about it. Hardesty said they are starting it with the \$5000 increase. Mortimer said they should get it caught up from what they took a hit on. Wolf said we obviously need you unless the county wants to be in the trash business at this time. On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved to go into contract for the upkeep of the landfill for the amounts of \$5,000 monthly increase for the 1<sup>st</sup> year and the \$2,500 monthly increase for years 2-5.

Commission went over the starting pay scale.

Mortimer left the meeting at 12:07 pm.

Commission continued going over wage rates for 2023.

With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 1:14 pm on motion by Wolf and

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seconded by Malmberg. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 9th day of January 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Wolf, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
D.D. Malmberg, Chairman

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Scott Mortimer, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

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Heather Maddox, County Clerk