

# Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

February 20, 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,

Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer

Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg

Heather Maddox, County Clerk

Stephanie Watkins, Deputy Clerk

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

Karl Leech came into the meeting at 8:05 a.m.

## **County Departments:**

### **Register of Deeds**

Marilyn Heck, came into the meeting at 8:25 a.m. Heck gave the commission the spread sheet of what recording fees the Deeds office has brought in for this year. Heck discussed with the commission on her research if switching to the CIC software. Heck let the commission know that her software now is Aumentum and the support is \$4,500 and CIC support will be around the same if it is implemented. Commission would like to do more research and discuss at a later date. Heck left the meeting at 8:41 a.m.

Russ Thornton came into the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

### **Sheriff**

Russ Thornton, came into the meeting to discuss the School Resource Officer. Thornton gave the commission the Memorandum of Understanding between USD 239, USD 240 and Ottawa County for one year. Thornton discussed the salary that the SRO will make. USD 240 will give 40%, USD 239 will give 27%, and the county will give 33%. This does not include benefits, gear, phone, and car that the County will pay. Wolf asked when the SRO will take vacation days, or if they are sick for a long period of time who will cover. Thornton said the Sheriff's department will have to step in. Tyler VanCoevern, Under Sheriff came into the meeting at 8:51 a.m. Thornton said they would like to see this up and going next school year, by then maybe one of the 3 entities will be able to secure a grant. Malmberg said they discussed with the USD's paying for fuel. Malmberg said they are providing the vehicle, maintenance on the vehicle, insurance and the equipment. Commission wants it to be discussed with the USD's that they will pay for gas. Thornton said he didn't discuss this gas portion with the USD's. Malmberg asked who will hire this person. Thornton said it will be a joint interview between him and the schools. Thornton discussed meals at the jail. Thornton said he reached out to the Hospital, and they didn't think they could help. Thornton also discussed with the Golden Wheel and meals would be \$7.00 each. Thornton discussed it would cost \$5,300 for Steel to come in and fix the doors in the jail. Commission discussed radios and when they will be in.

Thornton, and VanCoevern left the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

Prisoner count Ottawa County 11.

### **Public Works**

Chris Smith and Joe Mullen came in at 9:28 a.m. Smith talked about rock with the commissioners. Smith said work is being done on the river project. Smith said that he is going to send a Noxious Weed Employee for training. Coleman came in at 9:33 a.m. Commission discussed mowers with Smith. Malmberg asked Smith to shut off the hot spot that the weed department doesn't use anymore. Smith, Campbell, and Mullen left at 9:49 a.m.

### **Maintenance**

Keith Coleman talked about battery backups in the server room. He asked to order a new one. He stated it is for the county server, in the amount of \$694.50, Commissioners agreed. Coleman did some research on the wall behind the Blue Store that is adjoining with Wanda's Wonders and Addison Daily building. Coleman will plan on attending the next museum meeting. Coleman left the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

### **Clerk**

Heather Maddox gave bills to the commissioners. Mortimer called Dave Sweat, Minneapolis Mayor about the city bill for January for the Museum. Dawn opened mail from PCS Technologies. Maddox handed Wolf abatements. Maddox handed Malmberg the CIC breakdown for the Register of Deeds office; this shows how the software would work in their office. Maddox said that it was all about imaging.

Brandon Copple and Betty Aloyl came into the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

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Copple discussed his concerns with the museum move, the jail being an Ottawa County holding facility only, and employees that had to be let go.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved the February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 minutes as corrected.

Michelle Campbell came into the meeting at 11:27 and discussed county emails changing from .org to .gov.

The commission would like to have an employee appreciation lunch on a Saturday.

### **Claims for Approval: Totaling \$263,636.46**

County General	\$173,969.09
Road & Bridge	\$14,638.42
F.D. #3 DEL GENERAL	\$3,383.25
Noxious Weed	\$883.88
County Health	\$3,541.99
Law Enforcement Center	\$175.48
Hospital Dept Service	\$25,150.00
Aging	\$643.20
Grant TWP Road	\$29,850.00
Historical	\$71.79
Technology Fund/CLERK	\$141.62
Ottawa County 911 Fund	\$329.40
Election	\$13.95
Culver TWP Road	\$2,414.67
Garfield TWP Road	\$8,429.72

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

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to make Scott Mortimer the County Public Information Officer.

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With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m. on motion by Wolf and seconded by Malmberg. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 26th day of February 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Wolf, Chairman

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D.D. Malmberg, Member

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Scott Mortimer, Member

ATTEST:

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Heather Maddox, County Clerk