

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

October 23, 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,
Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer
Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg

JoDee Copple, County Treasurer/Payroll Clerk
Heather Maddox, County Clerk
Michelle Campbell, Human Resources

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

Karl Leech came into the meeting.

Commissioner Malmberg and Commissioner Wolf went to the Museum Board meeting. The Museum Board questioned whether the county owned the artifacts in the museum. Malmberg said that the artifacts were owned by the County not the Museum Board. Wolf said the current museum building was brought up about who owned the current building. Malmberg said the register of Deeds has the deed that the current building is in the county's name.

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved the October 16, 2023 minutes as presented.

Maddox discussed with the commission about ballots having to be reordered and stopping early voting for the time being until the new ballots come in. Maddox let the commission know that USD 239 certified voting plan-c, but it should have been certified as voting plan-b. Maddox and the USD 239 board clerk have worked together to get it fixed. Maddox received the new ballots Monday afternoon and will start Voting again on Wednesday.

Claims for Approval: Totaling \$236,595.94

County General	\$26,252.03
ARPA	\$24,230.00
Road & Bridge	\$100,423.91
Solid Waste	\$25,326.39
Vehicle	\$164.58
Election Capital Outlay	\$48,077.00
Election	\$117.97
Noxious Weed	\$456.39
Aging	\$1,168.04
Blaine Twp	\$850.00
Cetner Twp	\$2,554.51
Richland Twp	\$3,427.11
Historical	\$78.73
County Health	\$2,921.43
Appraiser	\$75.00
Law Enforcement Center	\$472.85

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

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County Departments:

Sheriff

Prisoner count Saline County, 25 and Ottawa County 5. Total 30 inmates.

District Court

Todd Heitschmidt came into the commissioner's meeting to get a signature of the approved 2024 budget for the 28th Judicial District Court.

Register of Deeds

Marilyn Heck came into the commissioner's meeting to discuss if a software bill can be paid out of the computer budget for the Deeds office.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved to pay the register of deed program of Aumentum out of the computer budget in the amount \$4,777.60.

Heck asked if the commission would like to have the next Register of Deeds speak with them after the election, to discuss with Commissioners what software would be used in 2025.

Treasurer

JoDee Copple discussed the Christmas Party. Copple asked the commission if they will approve support for the Veterans from November 6th-12th. Commission would like to show support for all the Veterans and use green lights at the front door entrance for the week.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved to spend up to \$25,000 coming out of ARPA funds, for a Mesonent tower and system and the County Attorney will be the contact with Kansas State University. During discussion it was said by the commissioners that this will be a great benefit for the community and ag producers for disasters such as drought.

Noxious Weed

Kenny Baccus came into the meeting and asked for an executive session including Heather Maddox, JoDee Copple, and Michelle Campbell.

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 5-minute executive session for Personnel-Exception to discuss non-elected including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg, Baccus, Copple, Campbell, and Maddox. To return at 9:36 am.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to give the assistant noxious weed a \$0.50 cent raise for passing his general applicator's test effective immediately. After passing the 9-A test he will receive a raise in the amount of \$0.25. After passing the Category-6 test he will receive a raise in the amount of \$0.25.

Baccus gave the commission his 2 weeks notice and resignation. Baccus said he appreciates the commission giving him the opportunity for having him the last 23 years.

Commission thanked Baccus for serving in Ottawa County. Baccus said he would be available via phone for any question.

Road and Bridge

Chris Smith came into the meeting to talk about the River Project on Rifle Rd. Smith will get back with commission. Malmberg discussed the shoulder rock on 170th. Smith said they have looked at it and he would like to get it fixed this year.

Commissioner Wolf asked Smith about striping old-81. The white line on the side of the road isn't there. Smith said he called the striping company and they discussed that it wouldn't be an issue to get the 3-4 miles that Wolf talked about done.

Commissioner Malmberg brought up the credit card policy. HR Campbell will make changes and will bring back to the commission to approve.

Commissioner Mortimer texted Commissioner Wolf an article from Saline County about solid waste fees.

Commissioner Wolf printed the article for the commission and Maddox.

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With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 am on motion by Malmberg and seconded by Wolf. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 30th day of October 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