
OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

DECEMBER 30, 2024

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Dawn Wolf, First District

Commissioner Scott Mortimer, Second District

Commissioner DD Malmberg, Third District

Staff Present:

Tammi Cox, County Clerk; JoDee Copple, County Treasurer

Others Present:

Carla Grund, Duane Morris, Karl Leech

1. Call To Order

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

2. Public Forum

Carla Grund stated she appreciated the new Commissioner orientation coming up on January 13th. She requested to attend the budget training through KAC in Topeka as an incoming Commissioner. Duane Morris stated he would also like to attend as an incoming new Commissioner. It was the consensus of the Commission to have them attend.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION – To approve the agenda

MOTION BY– Commissioner Malmberg

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

AMENDMENT – To approve the agenda, adding item Alcohol Tax and Transient Tax

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

MOTION PASSED 3-0

4. Museum Budget

Jim Kay, Museum Board, discussed the museum budget, stating he wanted to transfer an additional \$17,000.00 to the capital outlay fund. This would be in addition to the \$5,000.00 already budgeted for a total of \$22,000.00. Commissioner Wolf asked if they have the funds to transfer. JoDee Copple, County

Treasurer, stated they would not have enough for their cash carryover. If they do not have enough for cash carryover, they will be short in their 2025 budget. Commissioner Wolf asked about ARPA. JoDee Copple, stated the funds are already spent and in the county capital outlay fund.

5. Solid Waste Update

Chris Smith, Road and Bridge Director, stated the next step is to approve a resolution with the Solid Waste Plan. Tammi Cox, County Clerk, will help draw up a resolution to be presented next meeting. Tammi Cox also presented the solid waste exemptions. Each application was reviewed, and a staff recommendation was given.

MOTION – To follow staff recommendations on presented solid waste exemptions

MOTION BY– Commissioner Wolf

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

MOTION PASSED 3-0

6. Kansas Natural Resource Coalition

The Commission discussed the Kansas Natural Resource Coalition membership. The membership fee is \$5,000.00. Commissioner Malmberg gave an overview of the Kansas Natural Resource Coalition. The Kansas Natural Resource Coalition is a coalition of counties that monitors and, when appropriate, intervenes to reduce the impact of the federal government's overreach when it impacts member counties in the area of natural resources and land use.

7. Kansas Association of Counties Membership

Tammi Cox, County Clerk, presented the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) annual membership dues of \$2,314.51. Commissioner Wolf stated we utilize KAC and their services including their legal services; it's important to keep the membership.

MOTION – To approve to pay for the Kansas Association of Counties Membership fee for 2025.

MOTION BY– Commissioner Wolf

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

MOTION PASSED 3-0

8. IT Backup

JoDee Copple, County Treasurer, discussed email backup. She stated she originally was quoted an additional three dollars per account; however, wants to clarify if that meets the needs of the County and if it is for just email or for all backups.

9. ARPA Funds/Capital Outlay

JoDee Copple, County Treasurer, stated the remaining ARPA funds have been processed in the general capital outlay fund. There are currently three leases at the bank; two will be paid off in 2025 and one will end in 2028. It had previously been discussed to use the \$101,000.00 that was transferred from ARPA to pay on the higher interest loan that will not be paid until 2028. That amount would cover less

than one year of payment. Commissioner Mortimer stated we should talk to the Road and Bridge Director, and let him decide how he would like it to be handled.

10. Approval of Accounts Payable, Payroll, and Correction Orders

MOTION – To approve the accounts payable

MOTION BY– Commissioner Wolf

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

MOTION PASSED 3-0

MOTION – To approve payroll

MOTION BY– Commissioner Wolf

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

MOTION PASSED 3-0

MOTION – To approve correction orders

MOTION BY– Commissioner Wolf

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

MOTION PASSED 3-0

11. Sheriff Department Update

Sheriff Russell Thornton discussed raising prices for parole violators. He stated currently the charge is \$45.00, but the billable rate has gone up to \$107. He discussed booking and jail fees with the City of Minneapolis and discussed changing the rate from \$45.00 per day to \$55.00 per day. Currently the City of Minneapolis pays \$1,800.00 per month for dispatch services. Sheriff Russell Thornton also discussed criteria for becoming a secure care juvenile facility and what that would entail. Currently juveniles go to either Junction City or Riley County.

12. Approval of Commission Minutes

MOTION – To approve the minutes for December 16, 2024

MOTION BY– Commissioner Malmberg

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Wolf

MOTION PASSED 3-0

MOTION – To approve the minutes for December 23, 2024

MOTION BY– Commissioner Malmberg

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Wolf

MOTION PASSED 3-0

13. Alcohol Tax and Transient Tax

The Commission discussed alcohol and transient tax with Jeff Ebel, County Attorney. There is not currently a tax for either, but it is something the Commission has wanted to implement. Jeff Ebel asked

if the city currently charges a tax, and the Commission stated no. Commissioner Malmberg stated the process has been started but has not been completed. Commissioner Wolf stated this would be critical to help Ottawa County.

14. Adjournment

MOTION – To adjourn the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

MOTION BY– Commissioner Mortimer

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Malmberg

MOTION PASSED 3-0

ADOPTED this ___ day of ___ 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

Dawn Wolf, Chairman

D.D. Malmberg, Member

Scott Mortimer, Member

ATTEST:

Tammi Cox, County Clerk