

Minutes of Proceeding  
Ottawa County Board of Commissioners  
August 02, 2021

Office of the Ottawa County Clerk  
8:00 a.m.  
Regular Session

The Board of Commissioners met in regular session with First District Commissioner Dawn Wolf, via phone, Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer, Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg, and Candy Sauers, Deputy County Clerk.

JoDee Cople, Ottawa County Treasurer, and Vicki Jensen, were observers.

Katrina Pollet opened the meeting in prayer. Commissioner Mortimer led the group in the flag salute.

Candy Sauers, Deputy County Clerk, gave the Commissioners the minutes from July 26, 2021. Commissioner Wolf made a motion to approve the July 26, 2021, minutes. Commissioner Mortimer seconded. Motion carried, 3-0. She gave the Commissioners claims registers to approve.

Commissioner Malmberg said that Ottawa County Corrections officers, Tyler VanCoven and Aaron Zeigler wacknowledged at the North Central Regional Planning Committee meeting she went to last week for their participation in the Special Response Team (S.R.T.) Commissioner Malmberg discussed the possible grant for cameras lights and locks at the courthouse.

Katrina Pollet, Human Resources, was an observer.

JoDee Cople, Ottawa County Treasurer, met with the board to go over wages for her office. JoDee asked the Commissioners to approve an increase of wages of her Deputy treasurer, from \$16 per hour to \$17.50 per hour, and the wages of her Motor Vehicle clerk from \$13 per hour to \$14 per hour. JoDee also asked for an increase in her salary of \$5000 per year. Commissioner Malmberg asked JoDee which funds the motor vehicle clerk wages come from. JoDee said that her salary, and her deputy's salary comes from the Treasurer's salary budget line, while her motor vehicle clerks salary comes from the motor vehicle fund. Commissioner Wolf said that while she does agree with increasing the staff wages, she did not agree with increasing anyone's salary in the courthouse by \$5000.00 at this time. JoDee stated it was unfair that she has been with her department for over 10 years and would not receive an increase, although she heard the new County Clerk would be starting at a higher salary with no experience, of between \$40,000-\$50,000. Commissioner Malmberg asked JoDee about the money from the motor vehicle fund that she receives annually in addition to her salary, by statue. Katrina Pollet, Human Resources, said that money cannot be factored into the Treasurer's salary budget. Commissioner Malmberg wanted to note that she felt road worker and custodian salaries should not be compared to the starting wages of other departments, as it was discussed in the previous week. Commissioner Malmberg asked where the salary range came from for the new Clerk's salary as she had just seen the salary of a Clerk starting out in Ottawa County is \$33,820, and she did not recall the group discussing a higher salary. Katrina stated she had told them the previous week that it would be hard to find a clerk for under \$40,000. Commissioner Wolf asked the candidate-elect for the position, Vicki Jensen, how much experience she had in the Clerk's office. Vicki said she had none. She said she had I.T. and software experience, along with some account payable experience. Commissioner Wolf said that the Election officer would receive an additional amount of money each year, from the election fund, and that should be taken into account when setting the Clerk's budget. Katrina gave the Commissioners a copy of Statue 19-503. Commissioner Wolf made a motion to increase the wages of Missy Witt, Deputy Treasurer, to \$17.50 per hour, to increase the wages of Renee Lyne, Motor Vehicle Clerk, to \$14 per hour, and to increase the salary of the Treasurer by \$3000 from her current salary of \$37,380 per year. The motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to increase the wages of Missy Witt, Deputy Treasurer, to \$17.50 per hour, and to increase the wages of Renee Lyne, Motor Vehicle Clerk, to \$14 per hour. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 2-1, with Commission Malmberg voting nay.

There was no one present for public comment from 8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Keith Coleman, Ottawa County Sheriff, gave prisoner count of Saline County 30, Sedgwick County 12, and Ottawa County 7. The group discussed a Sanitation Violation notice they received regarding the dumping of sewage in a waterway in Ottawa County. Keith

is going to look into the situation and contact the party involved.

Greg Dockins, Road & Bridge Administrator, reported on what crews were doing. Commissioner Malmberg informed Greg of a call she received from Brad Thurston about a timeline for working on 210 and Mulberry Road. Greg reported that he had checked into that area and they will get to it as soon as they can. Commissioner Malmberg asked Greg to look into the drainage system south of Culver. Greg reported that Chris Smith, Assistant Road and Bridge Supervisor, looked at the culvert and reported it was too small to drain water.

Larry Sharp, KCAMP representative, met with the board to give an update on risk management services utilized by the county for the past 4 years.

Sara Hodges, Health/Aging Administrator, met with the board to give a monthly update. Commissioner Malmberg said she would like to see minutes from all meetings the county provides funding for. The group discussed a Covid update. Currently the county is seeing an increase in positive covid testing. All positive results are being sent to the lab for strain testing.

Richard Buck, Ottawa County Attorney, met with the Commissioners to establish a capital outlay reserve fund. Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to accept Resolution 21-25 to establish a capital outlay reserve fund. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion Carried, 3-0. The group discussed the upcoming meeting on August 23, 2021 in regards to questions about fire district budgets. The board decided to have the fire districts meet with them on August 9, 2021 to go over any questions they still have regarding budgets.

Commissioner Mortimer made a motion to go into executive session to discuss confidential data related to financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations at 11:19 a.m. for 5 minutes. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 3-0. Those present were the Commissioners, Candy Sauer, and JoDee Copple. The group returned to regular session at 11:24 a.m. No decision made.

With no further business before the board Commissioner Mortimer moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:27 a.m. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 3-0.