

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

October 7, 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
Karl Leech
Jerry Ayers
Rick Shupe
Carla Grund
Jeff Ebel, County Attorney
Daune Morris
JoDee Copple, Treasurer
Michelle Campbell, HR

Heather Maddox, County Clerk
Stephanie Watkins, Deputy Clerk

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

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved the September 30th, 2024, minutes as corrected.

Claims for Approval: Totaling \$79,956.33

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|------------------------|-------------|
| County General | \$59,825.86 |
| Road & Bridge | \$5,769.07 |
| Solid Waste | \$1,543.30 |
| Noxious Weed | \$156.90 |
| County Health | \$545.07 |
| Law Enforcement Center | \$232.10 |
| Aging | \$52.74 |
| Culver TWP Road | \$426.40 |
| Historical | \$530.04 |
| Employee Benefits | \$875.00 |
| F.D. #2 MPLS GEN | \$2,437.85 |
| Appraiser | \$101.60 |
| Ottawa County 911 Fund | \$357.40 |
| Election | \$1,603.00 |

Commissioner Malmberg moved to correct September 30th, 2024, minutes to remove the executive session with payroll/HR Michelle Campbell and clerk Heather Maddox. This executive session violated Kansas Open Meetings Act.

Discussion – during last week's executive session the clerk had asked to be paid out for the rest of her term because she wished to be done with her office duties.

Malmberg Moved to accept the resignation of the county Clerk effective September 30, 2024, without pay. Commissioner Mortimer seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

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Maddox was not present during this discussion.

Wolf called Maddox up to the meeting and asked about the progress of the election, where we were with the property taxes, solid waste corrections for unbilled entities on 2023 taxes and why there was a penalty of almost \$4,500 to the IRS for late payment of payroll withholding. Maddox asked if Wolf wanted her resignation to which she replied, "Yes, please."

Maddox left to get her letter of resignation.

Discussion took place on where the County goes from here.

Public Comment:

Carla Grund suggested not to make plans without the resignation letter before considering any new appointment. Carla Grund asked the Commission if the Deputy would take over the responsibilities of the County Clerk. The answer was yes.

Jeff Ebel, County Attorney, brought in the resignation of the County Clerk, Heather Maddox.

Commissioner Malmberg moved to strike out the date of September 30, 2024 for the resignation of the County Clerk and change to October 08, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. Motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Malmberg asked the IT Department to have the files backed-up in the County Clerk's office.

Jerry Ayres

Jerry Ayres called Bryan Caskey, State of Kansas Director of Elections, and asked about election duties not getting completed on time. Jerry volunteered to cover the clerk's office on Monday's while the deputy is in commissioner meetings.

County Departments:

It was moved for the Deputy Clerk to receive election pay for the last three pay periods of this year. Malmberg moved, Wolf seconded, approved unanimously.

Public Works

Chris Smith, Joe Mullen, and Truette McQueen came into the meeting to speak to the commission about a pickup truck that could be transferred from the Road and Bridge Department to the Appraiser's Department. Malmberg moved for the Appraiser's Department to purchase the pickup from the Road and Bridge Department for \$26,500.00 Wolf seconded, passed unanimously.

Malmberg moved for commission to take a 15-minute break, Mortimer seconded, passed unanimously.

Facility Maintenance

Keith Coleman came into the meeting to speak with the commission about videoing. The quote presented for videoing was from Solid Rock Audio for \$13,061.49.

Coleman is getting quotes for the fire alarm system to be updated.

Human Resources

Malmberg moved to implement a safety belt policy. Wolf 2nd motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Treasurer

JoDee Copple gave the commissioners the Loyd Group's official documentation of the 2025 Budget. Chairperson Wolf Signed it.

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Sheriff

Prisoner count Ottawa County 6.

Malmberg moved to pay the bills for October 7th Mortimer 2nd. Motion passed.

Upcoming Meetings Commission will attend:

Ottawa County Republican meeting will be attended by all commissioners on October 20th, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 on motion by Malmberg and seconded by Mortimer. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this ___ day of ___ 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

Dawn Wolf, Chairman

D.D. Malmberg, Member

Scott Mortimer, Member

ATTEST:

Stephanie Watkins, County Clerk