

Minutes of Proceeding  
Ottawa County Board of Commissioners  
September 8, 2020

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, Second District Commissioner James P. Kay, Third District Commissioner Karen S. Brumbaugh, and County Clerk Mary Arganbright.

Commissioner Brumbaugh opened the meeting in prayer and then led the group in the flag salute.

Mary Arganbright, Ottawa County Clerk, gave the board minutes to review from August 31, 2020. Commissioner Wolf moved to accept the August 31, 2020, minutes as read. Commissioner Kay seconded. Motion carried, 3-0. Mary gave the commissioners an abatement to review, which was approved. Mary gave the commissioners her estimate for two security cameras that will be needed to put on the two election drop boxes that will be installed outside the courthouse. The estimate is for \$3,863.50 from R & L Fire Security. She has turned it in to Marie Ballou, SPARK Committee Member, to be reimbursed through SPARK funding. Mary gave the board a copy of a letter received from Brandon Cochran, Bennington Fire/EMS, about the polling place at the Bennington Fire/EMS station. Their guidelines were discussed, and Mary said that she would make a copy for the General Election Board Worker's, however, she could not be there to guarantee that everything is being followed. Commissioner Wolf suggested hiring a volunteer fireman to be there on election day to make sure their recommendations would be followed. Mary said that she would follow up on that. Mary discussed President's Trump's Executive Order deferring payroll taxes temporarily. She said that the order runs from September 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020, and the taxes must be paid back during the period of January 1, 2021 and April 30, 2021, through increased withholdings. After discussion and hearing what other counties are doing, it was decided to do nothing at this time.

Commissioner Brumbaugh discussed the decision last week to change the holiday pay for Monday's when the Museum is closed for the curator. After discussion, Commissioner Brumbaugh moved to rescind the motion from August 31, 2020, to change the policy for the Museum curator for Monday's when the Museum is closed to 7 hours. Commissioner Wolf seconded. In discussion, Commissioner Kay said that here they go again, going against the Museum boards recommendation. Commissioner Brumbaugh said that she was concerned about changing a policy for 1 person/department, and then another department coming up and wanting something changed for them. Commissioner Wolf said that if rescinded, she would like to address it to work out without having to change the county policy. Motion carried, 2-1, with Commissioner Brumbaugh and Commissioner Wolf voting Aye, and Commissioner Kay voting Nay. The curator will still get paid the 7 hours holiday pay for Labor Day falling on a Monday as already approved. Commissioner Brumbaugh will get with the Museum curator and discuss other options.

Marie Ballou, Emergency Management Coordinator, SPARK Committee Member, met with the board and said that the State has developed an opportunity utilizing Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to support a Rural Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Enhancement Grant Program. Currently the basement of the jail is the EOC Center, and there are issues with water leakage, so she would like to make the basement meeting room the EOC Center. The group discussed enhancements to the basement that she would need to do. The commissioners approved. Marie reviewed the reimbursement and direct aid spending plan for Ottawa County and what has been approved and expenses the state needs documentation on.

Greg Dockins, Road & Bridge Administrator, reported on what crews were doing. Greg said that they are working on the Wells Road this morning. He said that mowers are out, and they have to mow the old landfill once a year, so that is being done as well. Commissioner Wolf moved to go into executive session at 9:01 a.m. for ten minutes to discuss non-elected personnel to protect the privacy of the employee. Commissioner Kay seconded. Motion carried, 3-0. Those present were the commissioners and Greg Dockins. They returned to regular session at 9:11 a.m. No decision was made.

Keith Coleman, Sheriff, gave prisoner count of Saline County 45 and Ottawa County 5. Keith reported that the washing machine is leaking, and he will be looking into it. Keith said that he will be promoting a correction officer, Jerry Ziolkowski, to deputy sheriff.

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With no further business before the board, Commissioner Wolf moved to adjourn at 10:08 a.m. Commissioner Kay seconded. Motion carried, 3-0.