

Minutes of Proceeding
Ottawa County Board of Commissioners
December 14, 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 Wolf opened the meeting in prayer and then led the group in the flag salute.

D. D. Malmberg, Third District Commissioner-Elect, was present.

Mary Arganbright, Ottawa County Clerk, gave the board the minutes from December 7, 2020. Commissioner Kay moved to approve the December 7, 2020, minutes. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 3-0. Mary gave the board vouchers to review. Mary gave the commissioners the Lease-Purchase Agreement for two, 2020 Caterpillar motor graders, for \$288,754, for 5-years, at 2.080%. The commissioners signed the Lease. Mary gave the commissioners abatements to review. Commissioner Kay moved to approve the solid waste exemption for Rural Fire Department #2 for the house located at 108 E 3rd St., Minneapolis. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 3-0. Mary gave the board the Official Abstract of Votes Cast for the General Election to sign, in which they did.

Sara Hodges, Health/Aging Administrator, on behalf of Marie Ballou, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented COVID-19 expenses, what has been spent, and what needs to be spent. All subgrantees must have funds spent by December 14, 2020. Sara gave the board information from Long McArthur on the new vehicle Marie requested last week. She had a quote for a 2017 Expedition for around \$33,000, Long McArthur. Marie was working on getting other quotes. Sara said that Long McArthur was looking for a Ford Explorer for her department. Sara reported that she had hired Andie Lott for the RN position at the Health Department. Sara discussed the starting wage with the board, of \$19.45. She would like to start her out at \$23.00 or a minimum of \$22.50. She has the money in her budget, and it is in the budget for next year. Commissioner Kay moved to approve the starting wage of Andie Lott at \$23.00. Commissioner Wolf seconded. In discussion, Commissioner Wolf would have rather seen the \$22.50, since she was brand new, and there might be raises soon. Commissioner Brumbaugh was ok with the \$23.00. Motion carried, 3-0.

Greg Dockins, Road & Bridge Administrator, reported on what crews were doing. Greg gave the board information from a meeting held prior on Local Road Safety Plan in Ottawa County. The document was a five-year analysis period 2014-2018 on crash frequencies. Sheldon Daugherty and Sharon Flegler, Concord Township Treasurer, were present. Commissioner Wolf gave the group information that the appraiser's office did for her on valuation in areas in the southern part of the county, in comparison to 135th Road and Laramie Road. Greg gave the commissioners car count on Aspen Road and on 135th Road for September/October 2020. Greg gave the board copies of Concord Township and Resident Proposal for 135th Road. Commissioner Brumbaugh said that she would like time to read the material over. Commissioner Brumbaugh said that she wanted to start with what was discussed last week and that was to start cleaning the ditches. Greg will start when he can.

Commissioner Kay said that he went to Stanion Wholesale Electric Co. and got a quote for the replacement of the 750 bulbs in the courthouse going to LED's. They went up .01, so the quote was for \$5,685. Commissioner Wolf and Commissioner Brumbaugh wanted to get other quotes, even if they were verbal. Commissioner Wolf will take care of calling for another quote.

Commissioner Wolf asked how the other commissioners felt about the bonuses from COVID-19 funds for Marie Ballou, Emergency Management Coordinator, Sara Hodges, Health/Aging Department, and Trisha Smith, Health Department RN.

Keith Coleman, Sheriff, gave prisoner count of Saline County 22, Sedgwick County 7, and Ottawa County 5. The commissioners visited with Keith on the types of vehicles Emergency Management should be looking at to be able to pull the Emergency trailer.

The commissioners worked on starting wage scales for 2021. Commissioner Kay gave the other board members a chart of what he

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has worked on for employee wages for 2021. The commissioners will think about it for another week.

Commissioner Kay discussed mileage for the commissioners. He felt the commissioners should not be paid for mileage for looking at roads in their district. For attending meetings, yes. Commissioner Brumbaugh said that she does not charge the county. Commissioner Wolf said that she does not think it is being abused. She did not think it was an issue or problem.

Commissioner Kay discussed what they wanted to do with HR Partners, about paying them \$350/month for five hours a month for items related to HR. Including Legal Compliance, HR Consultation, Employee Engagement, Benefits, Recruitment, Outplacement, Training & Coaching, and Legal Consultation provided through The Law Offices of John R. Dietrick, PA.

Commissioner Kay gave the other commissioners information he has been working on that is in the Hospice Fund, \$50,000. He would like to see the money spent in some way. Others involved in making the decisions on what to do with the funds, is Dr. Swisher, Dr. Labes, Corky Schur, and another health nurse.

At 11:00 a.m., the commissioners gave out service awards to: Plaques: John Macy, 20-years; Kenny Baccus, 20-years; Certifications of Appreciation: Billy Nichols, 15-years; Francis Baker, 10-years; Larry Bertrand, 10-years; Amanda Loughridge, 10-years; Chris Smith, 10-years; Charlie Finkbiner, 5-years; Missy Witt, 5-years; and Jerry Ziolkowski. Those present were Kenny Baccus, Charlie Finkbiner, Chris Smith, Francis Baker, Sara Hodges, Larry Bertrand, Greg Dockins, and Bill Nichols.

At the request of Commissioner Kay, Kenny Baccus, Noxious Weed Administrator, and Sara Hodges, Health/Aging Administrator, met with the commissioners to discuss becoming a member of National Association of Counties (NACO). The member fee is \$450 a year. Commissioner Kay went over the benefits with the board and group. Kenny discussed the benefit he would receive, and Sara explained some on the medical side. The decision was tabled until next week.

With no further business before the board, Commissioner Wolf moved to adjourn at 11:25 a.m. Commissioner Kay seconded. Motion carried, 3-0