

Minutes of Proceeding
Ottawa County Board of Commissioners
December 16, 2019

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 Kay opened the meeting in prayer, then led the group in the flag salute.

Mary Arganbright, Ottawa County Clerk, reported to the commissioners that she had completed, last Friday, cleaning out the basement storage room. She cleaned over 200 old ledgers with bleach/water to remove mold and mildew from them before she brought them upstairs to be stored in a climate-controlled room. All other items that were in the basement she had worked on for over 4 months to get moved and gone through. All that is left is just Extension Office items, and old shelving that Road & Bridge is going to clean out, hopefully today after the Holiday dinner. Commissioner Wolf and Commissioner Brumbaugh thanked Mary for doing all that work. Mary gave the commissioners the Agreement from Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris Chartered, county auditor's, for auditing services for the year ended 2019. Mary gave the commissioners the 2020 pay scales to sign after the decision from last week on the raises. She went over changes that the IRS has made with the 2020 Form W-4 that will go out to all employees. Mary went over a new regulation, pertaining to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Clearinghouse that will go into effect January 6, 2020. Mary then discussed the proposals they have been receiving for the courthouse project. She felt they were on the verge of accepting proposals for the courthouse project, which is well over \$1,000,000, and she wanted them to be aware that in their County Commissioners Desk Book that on page 213, Article 3: Bid Procedures For Construction & Public Improvements, K.S.A. 19-214 requires that all contracts for the expenditures of more than \$25,000 of county money for the construction or repair of any courthouse, jail, other county buildings, etc., be awarded, by public letting, to the lowest and best bid. She felt that the process is jeopardized now since they have had 2 companies already present proposals. Commissioner Kay said that they have had an architect involved, but it was pointed out that the architect came with one of the companies presenting proposals and would not be biased. Commissioner Wolf and Commissioner Brumbaugh read the section in the reference book, and Mary suggested that they read the whole statute on it. Mary said that they could do with the information as they wished, but not following statutes puts the county at a great liability.

The commissioners signed Resolution 19-20, reflecting the current elected officials .50 cent wage increase for 2020. They also signed all the other 2020 pay sheets reflecting the 2020 wage increase.

Commissioner Brumbaugh moved to sign the contract with Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris Chartered, for auditing services for the year ending December 31, 2019. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 3-0.

Sara Hodges, Health/Aging Administrator, gave the board the agenda and minutes from the last Area Agency on Aging Council board meeting. The commissioners reported from an email that was sent to the County Clerk, that Sara could not serve on the Area Agency on Aging Council board as she is an employee of the county. Commissioner Brumbaugh had a suggestion of someone else that she is going to contact. Sara reported on what they have been doing with programs, etc., for the Health Department.

Abatements were approved.

JoDee Copple, County Treasurer, stopped in and gave the commissioners the November bank reconciliation.

Prisoner count was reported Saline County 42 and Ottawa County 6.

Greg Dockins, Road & Bridge Administrator, reported on what crews were doing. Greg reported the sewer project at the county shop is finished. Greg said that he found a dump truck at Reed Sales, Wamego; 2002 Sterling, for \$49,500. It has 100,000 miles and is in very nice condition. Commissioner Wolf moved to let Road & Bridge purchase the 2002 Sterling dump truck with plow and spreader for \$49,500, from Reed Sales, Wamego. Commissioner Brumbaugh seconded. Motion carried, 3-0. Greg gave the board 2 Highway Right of Way/Cross-Road/Utility Use Permit applications. Commissioner Brumbaugh moved to approve Highway Right of Way/Cross-Road/Utility Use Permit #50, for Evergy to re-route overhead electric lines from private property to road right of way due to lack of access to existing line. The new pole line will be on the west side of N 170th Rd from ¼ mile south of Buffalo Rd North to Coronado Rd. The new line will have taps that cross N 170th Rd west to east in various spots to tie into the existing line to serve individual customers. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 3-0. Commissioner Brumbaugh moved to approve Highway Right of Way/Cross-Road/Utility Use Permit #51, for Evergy to re-route overhead electric lines from private property to road right of way due to lack of access to existing line. The new pole line will be on the west side of 88th Rd from Ute Rd north to the 88th Rd Y. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 3-0.

Martin Helmer, Tescott, met with the commissioners and visited with the board about a meeting he attended in Lincoln County, and the presenter was Lincoln County's Economic Development Director. Mr. Helmer said that Ottawa County has a problem with homes that have junk around them. He said that there is grant funds available for helping with vacant and dilapidated houses. Commissioner Kay said that the City of Minneapolis has been working on the issue for Minneapolis. Commissioner Kay said that they have been working on getting a new Economic Development Director and a meeting was held last Spring but there were very few in attendance. Commissioner Brumbaugh said that North Central Regional Planning Commission has been working on the dilapidated housing issue also.

The commissioners approved Resolution 19-21, pertaining to transferring available funds from O & L #1 Ada Fire Department fund to the O & L #1 Ada Fire Department Capital Outlay fund of \$2,500; and Resolution 19-22, pertaining to transferring available funds from Minneapolis #2 Fire Department fund to the Minneapolis #2 Fire Department Capital Outlay fund of \$4,000.

The commissioners recessed at 10:50 a.m., from the regular meeting and will return at 11:45 a.m. to attend the county holiday dinner and service awards.

With no other business before the board, Commissioner Brumbaugh moved to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 3-0.