

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

March 6th, 2023

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,

JoDee Copple, County Treasurer/Payroll Clerk

Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer

Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg

Deputy Clerk, Shelby Walker

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

Walker gave commission mail, minutes from February 27th, 2023 and invoices to look over.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved to pay membership dues to Kansas County Commissioner's Association.

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved the February 27th, 2023 minutes as presented.

Claims for Approval: Totaling \$98,288.64

County General	\$18,122.83
Road & Bridge	\$1,406.59
Solid Waste	\$24,604.20
Vehicle	\$85.17
Hospital Debt Service	\$25,690.00
Election	\$70.80
Building Fund	\$694.22
Bennington TWP	\$9,450.00
Buckeye TWP	\$1,431.75
Historical	\$289.89
Appraiser	\$1,095.85
FD#2 MPLS	\$7,961.25
FD#3 Delphos	\$89.50
Law enforcement	\$4,596.59

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved the claims as presented.

County Departments:

Treasurer/Payroll

JoDee Copple presented the commission with payroll to sign off on.

Road and Bridge

Chris Smith Road and Bridge Administrator, and Joe Mullen Road Supervisor talked with commission about a new hire in the department. Commissioner Mortimer would like Smith to make a priority list of equipment and/or vehicles they need and don't currently have at the department.

Richard Buck, County Attorney came into the meeting.

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Appraiser

Truette McQueen, Appraiser discussed with the commission about a possible new hire for the department.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 15-minute executive session for non-elected personal to discuss new hires including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg and McQueen. No decision made.

Seth Odette, Saline/Ottawa Sanitation came to update the commission on what has been happening in Ottawa county.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to adopt the maintenance policy.

Attorney

Richard Buck, County Attorney presented the commission three resolutions they had asked Buck to write.

Commission looked at the Wells Road vacation.

On motion by Commissioner Mortimer, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved Resolution 22-21 Amendment of the Wells Road vacation.

Commission looked over the Speed limit Resolution 23-09. A resolution establishing a maximum speed limit of 40mph on a portion of Aspen Road in Ottawa County.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer. During discussion Malmberg voiced changing a speed limit law on a county road for 3 people who want to feel safer when they walk on the road should not be considered for many reasons. If people want to walk on a county road they do so at their own risk. We can't offer regulations and amenities for some and not for all. Malmberg suggested a pedestrian sign. The Board approved Resolution 23-09 with a 2 to 1 vote. Malmberg Nay, Wolf Aye, Mortimer Aye. The motion passes.

Commission looked at the Charter of Transient Guest Tax Resolution. The commission discussed this will affect all of Ottawa County.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved Resolution 23-10 Charter Resolution Transient Guest Tax.

The Transient Guest tax will be published in the paper for 2 weeks so the public can view.

Buck discussed the Saline/Ottawa County Coroner fees with the commission. Buck researched the statutes and said we have been following them and paying Ottawa County's share to Saline County as we are supposed to.

Sheriff

Prisoner count for Ottawa County 5, Saline County 26, Sedgwick 17, for a total of 48.

Russ Thornton, Ottawa County Sheriff has hired a new deputy. Thornton talked with the commission about a new courtroom security plan he will implement.

On motion by Commissioner Mortimer, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to use ARPA Funds for the Sheriff's Department for the purchase of 800 MHz radios.

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Department heads in attendance were, Chris Smith, and Joe Mullen Road and Bridge, Kenny Baccus, Noxious Weed, Richard Buck, County Attorney, Marilyn Heck, with Register of Deeds, JoDee Copple, Treasurer, Truette McQueen, Appraiser, Russell Thornton, Sheriff, and Keith Coleman, Facility Maintenance.

Commission had requested that department heads attend the commission meeting to discuss upcoming evaluations and raises for their staff. Commission presented to the department heads an employee evaluation form. Wolf discussed with department heads that the commission plans to use the form to give raises in the amount of \$0.00 to \$0.40 in addition to the \$0.25 that was given in January. Wolf would like the evaluation to be used to reach out to the employees to know their department head recommendations moving forward.

Commission discussed that anyone who has been here since January 1, 2023 and before, will be included in this evaluation and current raise. The raises would be back dated.

In May we would have evaluations turned in for a raise and in November there would be an annual longevity raise. Commissioners said, in May the evaluation will not affect any current raises that happen for any CDL's or other raises for additional training received.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved the employee evaluation form.

The current evaluation raises will be from \$0.00 to \$0.40. This would be for employees hired before January 1, 2023. The evaluations need to be presented to the Commission for review before given to payroll, and presented by May 15th, 2023 to be on the May payroll.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved elected officials to get a \$0.40 raise On the May paycheck.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved to purchase 800 MHz radios for Ottawa County Fire departments out of ARPA Funds.

With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 12:04pm on motion by Malmberg and seconded by Wolf. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 13th day of March 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

Dawn Wolf, Vice-Chairman

D.D. Malmberg, Member

Scott Mortimer, Chairman

ATTEST:

Heather Maddox, County Clerk