

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

June 12th, 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,
Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer
Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg

JoDee Copple, County Treasurer/Payroll Clerk
Heather Maddox, County Clerk

Carl Leech came into the meeting.

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

Commissioner Malmberg and Wolf attended the district fire meeting Tuesday June 6th, in the courthouse meeting room.

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved the June 5th, 2023 minutes as presented.

Claims for Approval: Totaling \$64,090.19

County General	\$16,078.85
ARPA	\$430.00
Road & Bridge	\$13,344.49
Solid Waste	\$12,303.72
Ottawa Co 911	\$356.38
Noxious Weed	\$10,107.66
Bennington TWP	\$2,160.30
Historical	\$18.00
Appraiser	\$89.95
Clerk Technology Fund	\$28.15
FD#1 O&L	\$74.97
FD#2 MPLS	\$6,522.78
FD#3 Delphos	\$15.00
Law Enforcement Center	\$2,559.94

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

County Departments:

Sheriff

Prisoner count for Ottawa County for a total of 2.

Thornton asked the commission when was it discussed out of executive session about the Jail closing? Wolf said Michelle Callum with Court Services came in and asked about their 2024 budget, she had to know that the jail was closed to outside inmates, and it was Richard Buck that brought up the conversation. Thornton said he would have liked to be in on the conversation if they were going to discuss Jail matters, he should get a call and be asked to come up to the commission meeting. Malmberg told Thornton that he needs to be more transparent with the taxpayers. Thornton said it would be in the paper this week.

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Deputy Walker came into the meeting to take minutes. Maddox left the meeting.

Thornton explained to the commissioners what he is going to do for food services for the inmates they will hold. Thornton let the commission know that the jail is currently short 4-5 corrections officers. Five corrections are on staff currently. Malmberg asked if the deputies can help the jail since Thornton hired additional deputies.

Road and Bridge

Chris Smith, Road & Bridge Administrator, Joe Mullen, Road & Bridge Supervisor discussed with the commission that they will possibly need to move a pick-up from the Ada location. They will be looking for a new location to park everything. Mortimer asked Smith how the equipment that was put on Purple Wave sold? Smith said almost everything sold, and they are happy with the results. Smith asked to go into executive session.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 15-minute executive session for non-elected personnel to discuss Noxious Weed including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg, Chris Smith, Joe Mullin, and Michelle Campbell. Returned at 9:06 am.

Clerk

Shelby Walker, Deputy Clerk, presented the commission with an Elderly Abuse proclamation.

On motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to make June 2023 Elderly Abuse Awareness month.

Walker talked to the Commission about an email that Maddox received from Stacy Jaramillo from the Kansas Department of Administration, that the City of Culver has not complied with the US Department of Agriculture as of June 9th. The Department is requesting the 2023 budget for the City of Culver. The US Department of Agriculture is seeking documents that are related to a grant or application for a grant with the Department of Agriculture.

IT

Winsett presented the Lock-IT, IT contract to the commission. She stated that a 3-year or 5-year contract with Lock-IT might be a better route. The current IT contract needs to be approved to be signed. Winsett will check with Lock-IT about them presenting a 3 or 5-year contract for next year.

Attorney

Richard Buck, County Attorney, discussed with the Commission that the State of Kansas reached out to him to discuss the Culver Fire Department. Currently the Culver Fire Department is under a cease and desist with the funds of the Fire Department. There is a possibility that Culver Fire Department will get fined by the State of Kansas if they do not get the paperwork in order, Mortimer agreed to go to the Culver City Council meeting that will be Tuesday June 13th at 7:00pm to see if there is anything the City Council can do to help the Fire Department comply before fines go into effect.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 15-minute executive session for Attorney Client Privilege to discuss litigation including Wolf, Mortimer, Malmberg and Buck.

HR

Michelle Campbell, Human Resources, asked the Commission their thoughts on a wage study. Campbell thinks we need the wage study to help hire people.

Commissioner Mortimer would like Campbell to look into other companies for the wage study.

Campbell also looked into a FLSA – meant for nursing mothers. She brought it up to the Commission that we need to set up a location for this purpose.

Campbell asked if she could reach out to all our insurance companies for open enrollment coming up in October to see what changes might be happening and what our policy currently is. She would like all the employees to have adequate time to review all the policies and possible changes.

Campbell said she did a review of the courthouse grounds and wanted to let the Commission know she moved the smoking restrictions to 20 feet away from all doors.

Maddox came back to the meeting. Walker left the meeting.

Upcoming Meetings Commission will attend: Mortimer will attend the Culver City Council meeting Tuesday June 13th at 7:00pm

With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 10:45am on motion by Malmberg and seconded by Wolf. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

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On motion by Commissioner Mortimer, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to go back into session with Malmberg absent at 10:48am.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved Resolution 23-13 concerning compensation for elected officials, department heads and other county employees beginning May 25th.

With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 11:21am on motion by Mortimer and seconded by Wolf. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 19th day of June 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