

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

April 25, 2022

The Board of Commissioners met in regular session with First District Commissioner Dawn Wolf, Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer, Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg and County Clerk, Vicki Jensen.

Commissioner Mortimer called the meeting to order at 8:00 am with Commissioner Wolf leading opening prayer and flag salute. Commissioner Malmberg arrived at 8:02.

Those present were Richard Buck, County Attorney.

Commissioner Wolf motioned to go into executive session for attorney - client privilege exception to discuss litigation. Commissioner Mortimer seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Those present were the commissioners and Richard Buck, County Attorney. The group returned to regular session at 8:13, with discussion in open meeting about the options moving forward with Ada cell tower litigation.

Keith Coleman, Facilities Manger reported working on roof exhaust fan and louvers on the courthouse. System 4 was here Friday to switch from the courthouse from heating to cooling. Courtroom roof leak has taken down some of the tile. Geisler Roofing sent 2 quotes, one for roof replacement for \$118,861.33 and one for adding pitch to the roof for better run off for an additional \$83,395.44. AP Roofing sent a quote for repairing the perimeter edge, indicating that the roof was in overall good condition. AP Roofing quote was \$12,585.00. Keith agreed that fixing the perimeter was the main issue. Keith worked on door locks and plugged drains at the jail, checked HVAC system at the museum and checked the generator at the water tower for the radio repeater. Keith and Vicki Jensen discussed Facility Management budget with the commissioners. Facility Management position was created last year, but a budget has not been established. More information is needed and Vicki will discuss with Scot Loyd.

Russ Thornton, County Sheriff gave a prisoner count of Ottawa County 5, Saline County 14, Sedgwick County 25. Russ gave the commissioners a quote from INAlert for maintenance and upkeep of the jail computer / security systems. Commissioner Wolf said that financing this system for 5 to 10 years was extremely expensive and not feasible. Commissioners asked questions about an IC (Incident Command) for emergencies and what we learned from the Ada fire incident. Russ informed commissioners that 800 MHZ radios are very important and the "After Action" meeting last week was helpful.

Greg Dockins, Road & Bridge Administrator presented contract for Project #M-2.9 Bridge Replacement, 1/8 of a mile north of K-41 and 140th Rd. Greg reported crews working on roads and hauling rock. Commissioner Mortimer inquired about painting stripes on 10th Street.

Kenny Baccus and Truette McQueen joined the meeting.

Truette McQueen, County Appraiser / Zoning Administrator presented Special Use SU-001-2022, an application for the establishment of a family cemetery as a special use in the A-1 Agriculture District. Commissioner Malmberg read the check list for consideration of a special use application. Commissioner Malmberg motioned to approve Resolution 22-12, Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Edward Deatherage was present for the hearing.

Kenny Baccus presented 3 quotes for internet at the Noxious Weed Department. Commissioner Malmberg motioned to accept the bid from Twin Valley to install fiber out to Noxious Weed and Road & Bridge. Installation could begin within the next 60 days and will cost \$14,725. This will be paid out of 032 Building Fund. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Mortimer motioned to take a 5-minute break. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Annie Grevas presented grant applications for Commissioner Malmberg to sign, that we share with Saline County.

Owen Kindall and Cade Resnick were present as representatives of Choose Ottawa County (economic development

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group). There has been a name change from Ottawa County Community Development Foundation to Choose Ottawa County. They are a full 501c(3) with bylaws. Choose Ottawa County has taken over the old chamber website, ottawacouny.ks.org. Board has expanded to 9 individuals and they may add a couple more. This organization is county wide and not city specific. Preliminary list of businesses was drafted for funding opportunities, 16 of these businesses have pledged \$2,500 each year for the next 3 years. Executive Director / Administrator is needed, formal title would be Community Vitality Coordinator/Specialist. Job description will come from the board members at their next meeting. Base office is not set in stone and could move around to different communities. Meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month. Owen & Cade asked the commissioners for a continued financial commitment and a possible 3-5 year contract. Commissioners will research other obligations before committing.

Sara Hodges – Ottawa County Health Department Administrator presented monthly updates for Health Department and Aging. Commissioners asked Sara to move existing gmails to an ottawacounty.org extension. Sara would like to understand why the change is essential. Commissioners asked Sara to reach out to Kristina Dietrick, HR Partners and set up a meeting to hear her concerns.

Julie Yarmer, Freedom Claims Management and Darren Booth, Theel Insurance, presented the 2022 1st Quarter review. Commissioner Wolf expressed concern for that dental x-rays were not paid on the new plan, but they were paid on the prior plan. Julie said the x-rays should be covered and will check into the charges. The review was favorable and had a substantial saving over the prior plan.

Commissioner Wolf motioned to go into executive session for attorney - client privilege exception to discuss litigation. Commissioner Mortimer seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Those present were the commissioners and Richard Buck, County Attorney. The group returned to regular session at 11:36. Commissioner Wolf motioned to continue executive session for attorney for another 5 minutes - client privilege exception to discuss litigation. Commissioner Mortimer seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Those present were the commissioners and Richard Buck, County Attorney. The group returned to regular session at 11:42.

Vicki Jensen gave the commissioners February 15, 2022 minutes from the Ottawa County Historical Museum. Vicki gave the commissioners invoices, abatements and visa statements to approve. Minutes from April 18, 2022 were reviewed. Commissioner Wolf motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Mortimer seconded. Motion carried, 3-0.

Central Kansas Mental Health is on the agenda for next week to present a Proclamation declaring May Mental Health Month. The commissioners ask Vicki Jensen to remove this item from the agenda as they do not generally declare outside proclamations.

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With no further business before the board Commissioner Wolf moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:04. Commissioner Mortimer seconded. Motion carried, 3-0.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of May 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

Dawn Wolf, Member

D.D. Malmberg, Chairman

Scott Mortimer, Member

ATTEST:

Vicki L. Jensen, County Clerk