

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

March 7, 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 Deputy County Clerk, Heather Maddox.

Commissioner Malmberg called the meeting to order at 8:00 am with opening prayer from DeMerle Eckart and flag salute.

Those present were DeMerle Eckart and Storm Myer, Government teacher at Bennington High School with 6 students.

Richard Buck came into the meeting to talk with the commissioners about invoices that the County Clerk had questions on. There was discussion on new invoices being made to new payees and there were no specific instructions on where the money would be coming from. HR was discussed and how that email would be affected if it was canceled.

Commissioners asked JoDee Copple to come up and discuss budgets and accounts. JoDee gave great direction and a lot was resolved.

Commissioner Wolf attended the Ottawa County Community Foundation Fundraiser, Friday March 4, at the Farm downtown Minneapolis.

Commissioner Mortimer had coffee at The Farm with Dereck Schmidt on Thursday.

Commissioner Wolf and Commissioner Mortimer had coffee with Rep. Susan Concanon and Sen. Elaine Bowers on Saturday at the Farm as well.

Minutes from February 28, 2022, were reviewed. Commissioner Wolf motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Mortimer seconded. Motion carried, 3-0.

Keith Coleman, Facilities Manager reported working on LED lighting, Keith removed covid restrictions from the courtroom, he drilled a hole in the courthouse floor for trip housing, spoke with Systems 4, they will take care of the heating, Commissioner Wolf asked if there was a date set and Keith replied that it will be when the boilers are off for the summer, fixed a generator for the sheriff's office, there was maintenance done at the water tower and at the sheriff's office. He has finished electric at road and bridge.

Russ Thornton, County Sheriff gave a prisoner count of Ottawa County 0, Saline County 23, Sedgwick County 30. Discussed problems with computers at the Sheriff's office. LockIt was called and they did end up helping get the system up again.

Greg Dockins, Road & Bridge Administrator reported pipe work completed on Aspen Rd between 170th-180th with all new pipe. Put brine out on the roads this morning. Cloud county has a bridge that needs to be fixed and the policy is that counties split the bill in half to fix the bridges that they share on a county line. They have steel and concrete, and we have supplies to do some other stuff as well, this is located on Cloud Rd between 90th and 100th. Stringers are the only extra cost, and the estimate is to spend \$10,000 each on the bridge. It's needed, and Commissioner Mortimer has done lots of behind the scenes to get this up and running. Commissioner Wolf asked about locking in gas prices with a contract. Greg hasn't locked in any regular gas prices, but has ordered tankers for Diesel. He will call today and see if there will be an expected price jump. Greg discussed the insurance claim from the windstorm. Greg wrote up an ad to put in the paper for contract summer mowing. Kenny Baccus offered to have the Weed Department pick up the township mowing for 2023. They discussed budgets and how all of it would work together. Commissioner Wolf said let's run the ad and see how it works this year and if it's not the response we want then we will look into having the Weed Department possibly mow next year. They discussed putting Jake

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

March 7, 2022

break signs out on the roads.

Commissioner Malmberg motioned to go into executive session to discuss non-elected employees. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Those present were Commissioners and Greg Dockins. The group returned to regular session at 9:36. Commissioner Malmberg motioned to have Road and Bridge stay off dirt roads during dry periods and to have them concentrate on fixing culverts, mowing, and cutting tees. Commissioner Mortimer seconded. During discussion Commissioner Wolf said that it should be under the discretion of the Road and Bridge Department Head. The motion was amended to include under the direction from Department Head. Motion carried 3-0.

Kenny Baccus, Noxious Weed Administrator presented Chemical Bids from Van Diest at \$17,509.50 and Nutrien at 24,189.00. Commissioner Malmberg motioned to accept the bid for Van Diest for \$17,509.50 and the Nutrien bid for \$24,189.00. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Kenny gave a KAC update regarding the 1st County Government days in Topeka. There is a webinar for legislative liaison on Fridays at 2pm. KAC is also offering a webinar on Building Resiliency through community agricultural programs on March 23, from 12pm-1pm. Kenny gave the commissioners a registration form for Kansas County Human Resource Association class on April 21, from 9am-4pm at the Holiday Inn in Salina. Kenny informed the commissioners that the KCCA annual conference is April 26th-28th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Salina. Commissioner Malmberg asked if Kenny knew when the county right of ways were being hayed. Kenny informed her that his signature is no longer required on the hay permit. After discussion Kenny will stay in touch with R&B department about hay permits. Kenny gave a department update about starting bare ground spraying next week at the County yard and at the Missile base. He presented his 2022 annual weed management plan to be signed by commissioners and then sent to the state.

Sara Hodges gave a monthly report for the County Health Department, she said covid numbers are going down quickly, and feels like it is declining quickly. Sara presented a grant application to be signed by Commissioner Malmberg. Commissioner Wolf brought up the Aging budget to discuss with Sara. Commissioner Wolf said that the budget was not cut by commissioners and showed Sara budget sheets that she had to clarify what happened. Wolf said she would like to discuss this with Jeff Reece, Auditor.

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

Commissioners discussed the wages for payroll clerk position and job descriptions. The Commissioners then invited JoDee Copple, County Treasurer to join the discussion. JoDee told commissioners that at minimum it would be 40 hours a month to do payroll clerk duties. JoDee said that she would like \$10,000 a year for the payroll clerk position. JoDee and commissioners discussed that the salary would be taken from the Human Resources and Payroll department.

Commissioner Wolf motioned to set the payroll clerks annual salary at \$10,000 a year. Commissioner Mortimer seconded. During discussion it was decided to retroact it to January 1, 2022. Wolf Yea, Mortimer Yea, Malmberg Nay. Motion carried 2-1.

Commissioner Malmberg opened a letter from Connie Preheim, it was a resignation letter for her position as an Ottawa County Historical Museum board member.

Commissioners talked about the Juvenile program we have with Saline Co. Commissioner Wolf will contact Annie Grevas and discuss.

Richard Buck, County Attorney, was appointed to be the contact person for ARPA.

Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

March 7, 2022

Malmberg motioned to move \$17,239 from employee benefits to Citizen bank

Malmberg

Commissioner Mortimer motioned to go into executive session pursuant to non-elected personnel. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Those present were Commissioners and Richard Buck. The group returned to regular session at 12:25.

With no further business before the board Commissioner Mortimer moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:38. Commissioner Wolf seconded. Motion carried, 3-0.

ADOPTED this 14th day of March 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