
OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

DECEMBER 09, 2024

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Dawn Wolf, First District
Commissioner Scott Mortimer, Second District
Commissioner DD Malmberg, Third District

Staff Present:

Tammi Cox, County Clerk; JoDee Copple, County Treasurer

Others in Attendance:

Duane Morris, Carla Grund

1. Call To Order

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

2. Public Forum

Carla Grund asked about tax statement approval from the state. Tammi Cox, County Clerk, stated they are awaiting final approval, but there are no major changes and nothing that effects tax dollars.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION – Approval of Commission agenda

MOTION BY– Commissioner Mortimer

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Wolf

MOTION PASSED 3-0

4. Employee Recognition

Kim Winsett, Deputy Appraiser and JoDee Copple, County Treasurer were both given certificates of excellence for their outstanding commitment and exceptional contributions to Ottawa County. It was also verified that they both will be receiving their longevity bonus.

5. Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll

Claims for Approval: Totaling \$106,651.93

County General	\$20,810.00
ARPA	\$1,023.48

Road & Bridge	\$44,660.62
Solid Waste	\$35,414.32
Noxious Weed	\$171.44
FEMA	\$298.21
Historical	\$139.67
Law Enforcement Center	\$1,296.90
Appraiser	\$735.16
Clerk Tech Fund	\$235.21
Employee Benefits	\$61.66
F.D. #3 DEL Gen	\$1,012.86
Ottawa County 911 Fund	\$792.40

MOTION – To approve payroll as presented

MOTION BY– Commissioner Mortimer

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Wolf

MOTION PASSED 3-0

MOTION – To approve the accounts payable

MOTION BY– Commissioner Malmberg

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

MOTION PASSED 3-0

Prisoner Count – 7

6. EMPG Grant and FEMA Update

Marie Ballou, Emergency Management Director, discussed the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). She stated Ottawa County was awarded \$14,222.00. Marie Ballou also discussed the FEMA grants. She stated from the winter storms in January, a total of \$425,235.12 was turned into FEMA as damages and is in the FEMA portal waiting to be approved. The following townships did not turn in any rock receipts for any damages: Morton, Henry, Fountain, and Durham. There is another disaster open with FEMA from the May 19th storms that involves six townships in the southeast corner of Ottawa County, that is currently in the beginning stages.

7. Oil and Gas Thumping

Commissioner Malmberg stated some citizens in Ottawa County were receiving letters regarding thumping for oil and gas and stated constituents have said Clay County Commissioners approved this in their county. She asked Chris Smith, Road and Bridge Administrator if he was aware of thumping happening on county roads. He stated it's been a while, but he had the county attorney look at it and was advised not to get involved.

8. Electrical Upgrade Bid

Tyler Garst, Director of Business Development with Community Building Solutions, presented the electrical upgrade bid to the Commission. Proposed upgrades include: Replacing main distribution panel with 600A panel, Installing new 200A disconnect for chiller for code compliance, Replacing 5 subpanels (A, C, D, BR, P), Installing new electrical outlets throughout the courthouse. Keith Coleman, Building Supervisor, stated the County Attorney has reviewed the contract and has signed off on it. Keith Coleman stated the biggest concern is the timing of doing the work and working around court schedules and noise. Tyler Garst stated he will not know the exact time frame for the work, it will depend on when they are able to get the materials; he approximated 12 weeks.

MOTION – To approve the electrical upgrades from Community Building Solutions for \$147,359.00

MOTION BY– Commissioner Malmberg

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

MOTION PASSED 3-0

9. Building Updates

Commissioner Malmberg asked for an update about the video recording of Commission meetings. Keith Coleman, Building Supervisor, stated he is waiting to hear from the entity to see the equipment being used. Keith Coleman discussed the fire alarm system with the Commission. He stated he has received one quote. He stated currently there are buzzers on each floor, and this would add smoke detectors and strobes to put the building up to code. He stated the current bid is from Wilson Security for \$27,650.00 and is awaiting a bid from R&L Electric. There are 12 smoke detectors throughout the building and a heat detector in the boiler room. Keith Coleman also discussed the proposed plans for the war memorial wall at the courthouse. He stated he has concerns about being ADA compliant if a memorial was there. He stated the front, and the stairs still need replaced no matter what.

10. Road and Bridge Update

Chris Smith, Road and Bridge Administrator, presented a Right of Way use permit from G.L. Huyett. Staff recommends approval. It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the Right of Way use permit. Chris Smith discussed speed limit signs in Wells and Niles. He stated he will get with the Sheriff and come back with a resolution. Chris Smith updated the Commission on the Road and Bridge Department and stated they have been working on the shoulders on Old 81; finishing up a ditch project on Nugget Road; and are moving on to other ditches. Commissioner Mortimer asked if there are signs on 120th and Ute. Chris Smith stated yes. He also stated the air compressor in the shop will need to be replaced. Commissioner Malmberg asked about the KAC conference he attended. Chris Smith stated he got information about grants and is presenting to the school board tomorrow night. Commissioner Malmberg also asked about how many critical bridges there are in the county. Chris Smith stated there are three critical bridges. They are still in the yellow not red. Commissioner Malmberg asked how the budget is looking for bridges. Chris Smith stated it needs to continue to increase.

11. Employee Insurance - Teladoc

Michelle Campbell, Human Resources Director, stated FCMI called about Teladoc. The Commission originally had wanted Teladoc to be a voluntary benefit; however, it is not able to be voluntary. The price for Teladoc is \$3.50 per person, \$245.00 a month. There is no co-pay when using Teladoc services. Due to the recent changes in health insurance, it was the consensus of the Commission to keep Teladoc.

MOTION – Approve to reinstate Teladoc for the 2025 year for employees

MOTION BY– Commissioner Mortimer

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Malmberg

MOTION PASSED 3-0

12. Approval of Minutes

MOTION – Approve the Commission Minutes for January 25, 2024

MOTION BY– Commissioner Malmberg

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Wolf

MOTION PASSED 3-0

13. Announcements

Tammi Cox, County Clerk, announced there will be a Solid Waste Meeting on December 11, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the basement meeting room with all Commissioner's attending.

14. Executive Session – Attorney-Client Privilege

MOTION – To recess to Executive Session under the Attorney-Client Privilege exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act for ten minutes and reconvene in the Commissioners room with Jeff Ebel, County Attorney and Tammi Cox, County Clerk

MOTION BY– Commissioner Wolf

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Mortimer

MOTION PASSED 3-0

No action taken

15. Announcements

Commissioner Wolf shared information and ideas she learned from her time at the KAC conference.

16. Adjournment

MOTION – To adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

MOTION BY– Commissioner Wolf

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Malmberg

MOTION PASSED 3-0

ADOPTED this ___ day of ___ 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

Dawn Wolf, Chairman

D.D. Malmberg, Member

Scott Mortimer, Member

ATTEST:

Tammi Cox, County Clerk

ADOPTED this ___ day of ___ 2024.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS



Dawn Wolf, Chairman

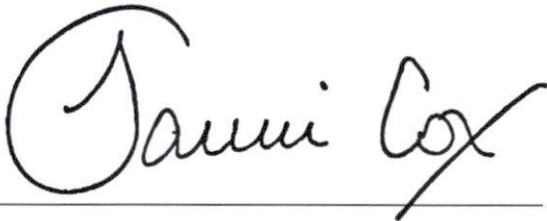


D.D. Malmberg, Member



Scott Mortimer, Member

ATTEST:



Tammi Cox, County Clerk