

Minutes of January 17, 2023

Chairman Kelly called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Dan Brenner and Mark A. Pruett were present. County Clerk Kathy Mick recorded the minutes and County Counselor Lee Hendricks was also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Scott Kieffaber informed the Commissioners that the equipment all exceeded the reserve bids on the on-line Auction Time. Two graders sold for \$68,100 and \$57,300, the burnt tractor sold for \$13,550 and miscellaneous items (tank trailer, sheep's foot roller, pickup trucks, and some iron) for \$14,800. The proceeds from this sale will be placed into Road and Bridge and then transferred to Special Equipment.

Dan Brenner informed Scott that he has talked to Irwin Sanders, he wants rip rap in the ditch in front of his property.

The Commissioners reviewed the building bids for the equipment at Road and Bridge. Chris's Gross's bid was \$94,750 for a 42'x140'x16' metal building. Hoffman Brothers Welding 40' x 140' \$86875.42. Hoffman Brothers will be using H beams from the Bridge Yard for framing. Dan made the motion to accept the low bid from Hoffman Brothers Welding. Mark seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. PO 6809 was signed and will be paid out of Special Equipment.

The Commissioners requested that Scott get more than one bid for electrical work for the new building.

Dan made the motion to accept the bid from National Sign Company in the amount of \$11,106.00. Mark seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. Signed PO 6807 to be paid out of .04% Sales Tax.

Mark made the motion to accept the bid from Womack for a 1,000 gallon double wall fuel tank for \$5,570 that is 64" x 6'. Dan seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. Signed PO 6808 to be paid out of Special Equipment.

The Commissioners signed PO 6836 to Networks Plus in the amount of \$13,331 to upgrade the SQL Server and user licenses for 57 employees for the new payroll system. This will be paid out of the County Clerk's Capital Outlay.

Scott reported that the mulcher is in and the new semi-truck.

Scott requested a 5-minute executive session for attorney client privileges with Lee Hendricks and Kathy Mick included. Mark so moved, Dan seconded, and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. The meeting closed at 9:30. Extended 10 more minutes. Opened at 9:45. No decisions were made.

Wade reported on the work completed last week and the projects planned for the coming week.

Signed change orders 76, 99-121.

Dalton Glasscock, Chief Connections Officer of Heartland Area Landowners met with the Commissioners to introduce himself. He is available to represent landowners that want to use their land for solar.

Lee updated the Commissioners on the Blackwood case concerning the burnt house at the Soldier corner and Highway 16. The next court date is January 23, 2023. The County can do nothing unless the court deems it an unsafe structure.

Kurt has hauled 16 loads of sand and has moved on to the 2nd beach area at Banner Creek Reservoir.

The Seed grant has been approved for the multi-purpose deck. Jackson County's portion will be \$7-8,000 out of Capital Outlay. Kurt plans on building an outdoor ample theater instead of bringing in semi-trailers when every they have a concert. He plans on getting some sponsors to help with the project.

The building plans have been finalized and are being drawn up now. The County will be responsible for getting water and electrical to the building and the parking lot.

Kurt discussed the mowers warranty agreement from when it was bought August 6, 2020. The engine has failed, and Nick Heinen is holding the mower waiting on payment from the warranty. Kurt just wants it finalized by mowing season. Lee suggested a letter to Briggs & Stratton with a copy of the warranty and sent a copy to Heinen.

Lee reported that he will be having a Zoom meeting with Darrin Root concerning Federal funding for loss revenue concerning Native American land.

The Commissioner had a working lunch so Appraiser Kate Immenschuh could meet with Lee Hendricks. They discussed the current Neighborhood Revitalization Plan and how it is being used for building new houses on unimproved land. Everyone agrees that was not the intent of the law. The law plainly states a Neighborhood revitalization area" means and area in in which there

is a predominance of buildings or improvements which by reason of dilapidation, deterioration, obsolescence, inadequate provision for ventilation, light, air, sanitation, or open spaces, high density of population and overcrowding, the existence of conditions which endanger life or property by fire and other causes which or a combination of such factors, is conducive to ill health, transmission of disease, infant mortality, juvenile delinquency or crime and which is detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare. Lee will check on the inter local agreement and then begin the process of changing the plan.

Discussed billboard signs and definitions. Clarifying if billboards would be allowed in B1 through B4. Discussed the possibility of conditional uses. No decision was made. Lee will research how to amend the regulation to include conditional uses and clarify the definition of billboards.

Any conditional use that is granted should be filed in the Register of Deeds, so a purchaser sees it in the abstract when purchasing the property.

Lee question the Commissioners about appealing the land into trust document on the land in Sec 23 Twp 9 Range 13 known as Case Number 43586 that is off the Reservation. The Commissioners agreed not to protest putting this land into trust.

Lee requested an executive session for a period of 5 minutes to discuss a contract. Dan so moved, Mark seconded, and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. The meeting closed at 12:45. Extended until 1:00. No decisions were made.

Mitchell Nicol met with the Commissioners to introduce Matt Wheeler who owns a solar company. Matt stated that Kansas is 4-5 in the Country for sun that is perfect for solar. NextEra wants the grain belt by 2045. Matt thinks Jackson County should allow it in the County but make sure to get tax credits. Jackson County should require that part of the energy stays here. Matt said the panels will last 50 years and that the aluminum, glass and silver will all be recyclable. Matt suggested that the Commissioners work with Rick Borry to develop regulations and request for Jackson County.

The Department Head meeting:

Pat Korte is planning with Tim Blevins a disaster recovery testing of the computer backup in the cloud and the County offices will test the cloud backup environment in the next couple of weeks.

Pat Richter discussed the need for additional parking spots. The Commissioners will have the van moved to the east side to open up more employee parking on the west side. Pat is also concerned about handicap access to the gazebo, it also needs new rails and the danger of people

smoking in the gazebo with all the dead leaves underneath. Pat plans on removing the leaves and maybe lowering the deck.

Pat Richter will need to call Hoffman to see when the railing for the east side will be received.

Tammy Moulden discussed the mail piece that was received 64 years late that made the front page of the paper.

Jennifer Strathman is still waiting on the drapes and hardware for the large courtroom.

Linda Gerhardt reported that people had been paying taxes and she is about to make a distribution to all the taxing entities.

Brook Smith reported that Giant is wanting to repair the rock wall in front of the building, and she has been discussing options with KANZA, the owner of the old hospital where Brook rents office space of how she could help fund a handicap entrance if they could lock in a rent price for several years.

Erin Robertson stated he is looking for a used computer for his clients to use in the waiting area to look for jobs or look up needed information.

Ted VanDonge reported that he will be working a lot in Jefferson County to cover an employee on medical leave.

Gary New met with the Commissioners to discuss a road by the anhydrous plant. Dan took the information and will report it to Road & Bridge.

Dan made the motion to adopt Resolution 2023-05 Establishing a Moratorium on Commercial Wind Energy Projects in Jackson County, Kansas for a period of 24 months.

Pat Richter reported that the phone in the elevator is now working.

Dan Brenner requested that Amanda Spalding meet with the Commissioners concerning how she plans on using a \$13,000 grant her agency is receiving. Dan want Amanda to investigate the possibility of using it for shelf food or frozen meals for qualified individuals to pick up if they are unable to eat at the Senior Citizen's Center. Amanda was not in favor of the idea because she doesn't feel like the shelf food or frozen food would be healthy for seniors. The food they have at the center is approved by a dietician and is repeated monthly. Frozen meals would not have much variety. Amanda also is currently having problems staying fully staffed and currently could

not add additional duties. Amanda currently has no plans for the grant, but is sure there is a need out there, she just needs to think on it.

Mark made the motion to adopt resolution 2023-06 changing B-3 General Business District to A-1 General Agricultural District on two parcels of land that are owned by Ross Rieschick and Lynn Riechick in Section 34, Township 6 South Range 13 East of the 6th P.M.

Dan made the motion to give the Soldier Ball Club \$2,500 from the Parks and Recreation Fund. Mark seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0.

Chairman Kelly signed a letter to Congressman Jake LaTurner concerning Jackson County being a County willing to implement household devices to protect the County against electrical surges. The Commissioners ask that the Federal Government assist in obtaining funds to protect residents from any electromagnetic pulse event, solar flare, use of a radio frequency directed attack or other natural occurrence should the power grid go down for an extended period of time.

Dan made the motion to approve the appropriations for 2023. Mark seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0.

Keith made a motion to appoint Mark Pruet to the NEK Environmental Services Board. Dan seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. A letter was sent to the NEKES agency.

Keith made a motion to appoint Dan Brenner to the NEK-CAP Board. Mark seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. A letter was sent to the NEK-CAP agency.

Dan made the motion to approve the minutes of January 9, 2023, as corrected. Mark seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0.

Signed the following payroll change notices:

Department	Name	From	To	Reason	Date / /
Reg D	Mary Savage	16.82	20.00	Promotion	12/25/2022
Reg D	Shari Monaghan	17.89	20.00	Promotion	12/25/2022
Sher	Eli Norris	23.16	23.63	Length of Service	1/10/23
Sher	Chris Miller	19.01	18.79	Transfer to Civil Process	1/10/23
Appr	Jamey Doty	17.32	18.39	Promotion	1/25/23
Appr	Janell Buck	18.39	20.00	Dep RE Appr	1/25/23

Signed the following Purchase Orders:

Department	PO #	To	For	Amount

Dan made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:05 p.m. Mark seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. The next meeting will be January 23, 2023

Board of County Commissioners
Jackson County, Kansas

Mark Pruett, 1st District

Attest:

Dan Brenner, 2nd District

Kathy Mick
Jackson County Clerk

Keith Kelly, 3rd District