

Minutes of October 4, 2021

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, October 4, 2021 at 9 a.m., Commissioner Kelly, Commissioner Brenner and Chairperson Kathrens were present. Deputy County Clerk Tara Peek recorded the minutes.

Holton Recorder reporter Ali Holcomb and County Counselor Lee Hendricks joined the meeting. Jackson County EMS owners Brent Teter and Jay Watkins and employee Con Olson joined the meeting. Brent stated that they wanted to follow up with the Commission from their last meeting. Commissioner Brenner stated he was in favor of working together and discussing options. The BOCC was asked if they had made any progress towards creating a committee such as an ambulance advisory board to which Chairperson Kathrens replied that they had not discussed in length. Commissioner Kelly added that he disagreed with forming a committee and that the decisions rest upon the Board's shoulders. Jay questioned the BOCC's ability to see the benefits of having an advisory committee. County Counselor Lee Hendricks stated that they were discussing the contract negotiations and that the Board would consider a committee separately. Brent agreed that the contract and proposed advisory board would be two different discussions. He stated that the ambulance advisory board is a common practice and is a productive idea that allows them to be partners in the community. Chairperson Kathrens asked if the county's subsidy paid for the transfer services EMS provides. Brent explained that the subsidy does not go towards the transfer service part of their business, rather the transfer service offsets for what the county subsidy does not cover. Chairperson Kathrens stated that there needs to be a way to limit unneeded responses like non-injury accidents. The Board discussed the need for adequately trained volunteer firefighters to first respond similarly to Hoyt. Brent stated that they are looking for a temporary solution like ARPA funding to assist them with the current budget issues. Commissioner Kelly suggested the possibility of putting an emergency services sales tax question to the voters, but it would likely take 18 months to complete the process. Brent agreed that the sales tax could be a long-term solution to the budget problem and cited Neosho County as operating that way. Commissioner Brenner offered to meet with EMS and both parties' attorneys to discuss the financials privately.

At 11:03 a.m. Commissioner Kelly made a motion to enter into executive session for attorney client privilege to discuss contract negotiations with Lee Hendricks present and Commissioner Brenner seconded. Motion carried 3/0. Session reopened at 11:15 a.m. No action taken.

Banner Lake Director Kurt Zibell joined the meeting. Kurt informed Commissioners that the grant was awarded for the Friends of Banner Creek Reservoir community building. The board is now working on rebidding the supplies and materials and will have a meeting later this week. Kurt stated the brush cutter has been needing repairs often and he will be looking to replace it soon with something more industrial. It is used for clearing brush and mowing the dam. Kurt requested approval to drive the county issued work truck home as he is on call 24/7 for lake issues. The BOCC gave their approval. The south side will be closing on October 18th for the season.

Commissioner Brenner made a motion to approve the September 27th and 30th minutes as written and Commissioner Kelly seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Adjourned for lunch from noon to 1 p.m.

Public Works Director Scott Kieffaber and Road and Bridge Superintendent Eric Fritz joined the meeting. They stated they had looked into a request to reduce speed or vacate a road at H6 and 110 Roads area. The property is surrounded by more than one landowner so the Board was not in favor. Chairperson Kathrens submitted a road concern for 238th Road where there is a large pothole on a bridge. Road and Bridge reported projects completed at B and 110 Roads and in progress on patching, installing a tube at T and 248 Roads and T Road ditches.

Commissioner Kelly made a motion to approve the bid for rebinding the road record books for \$2,725.60 from County Binders, Inc. and Commissioner Brenner seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Commissioner Kelly made a motion to approve the EagleView flyover imagery for \$178,145.00 total for 6 years of projects and Commissioner Brenner seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

GAS representative Brett Waggoner joined the meeting to discuss the Delia Fire District's CDBG grant proposal for building a new fire station. Brett stated that if awarded the grant, Delia Fire will be responsible for a 40% match totaling \$255,000.00 they will attain through a USDA loan. The grant will be 60% or \$385,000.00. Brett will return for an update on the 18th.

Senne Construction President Matt McGivern joined the meeting to discuss the attorney's office remodel completed last year. The office employees reported some leaks in the ceiling and a plumbing issue in the restroom. Matt stated that he would like to take a look at the concerns and was under the impression that the plumbing issue had been resolved in May when they ran a camera down the sewer line. Courthouse Custodian Chad Phillips joined the meeting. Chad stated that some of the leaks were fixed by correcting the drain angle on the HVAC units. Matt stated he would get replacement ceiling tiles for the stained ones where the leaks have been rectified. He suggested that the remaining leak be looked at by the roofing company as it cannot be related to the remodel project. He will be seeking a larger capacity tank for the toilet in the new restroom.

Approved Change Orders 2020-118 and 119.

Signed the following payroll change notices:

Department	Name	From	To	Reason	Date / /
Sheriff	Justin Mauldin	\$	\$19.90 per hour	Hired full time	10/1/2021
Sheriff	Cole Lehwald	\$	\$19.00 per hour	Hired full time	10/1/2021

The meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m. The next Commission meeting will be Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Board of County Commissioners
Jackson County, Kansas

Ed Kathrens, 1st District

Attest:

Kathy Mick
Jackson County Clerk

Dan Brenner, 2nd District

Keith Kelly, 3rd District