

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commission Board Chair Gail Klaassen called meeting to order at 2:00 pm, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioners Present:

- Commissioner Gail Klaassen
- Commissioner Nicholas Galemore
- Commissioner Paul Westhoff

Others Present:

- County Clerk Heather Elsworth
- Commission Counselor Bret Heim

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Danny Flippo with Erie Baptist Church

PUBLIC COMMENT

Stan Basler, Galesburg – Mr. Basler provided Senate bill 49. Met with Windfarm company in regards to the new legislation passed. Hard to tell at this time if Neosho Ridge wind would be impacted by such legislation. Committee provided a proposal for the consideration for radar lighting.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda is used to approve non-controversial or routine matters by a single motion and vote. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- Accounts Payable in the amount of \$82,467.46
- Leave request in May for Road & Bridge Director Mike Brown

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

SCHEDULED ATTENDEE(S)

Brandy Showalter & Kelly Diller – Request funding to match a grant for new construction of a larger Daycare facility in Erie, KS. Since the daycare has first opened, they employ 10 employees and currently serve 22 families. They have a Wait list for 28 more families. There is a Child-Care Capacity Accelerator Grant available. They must have a 25% in matching funds commitment, which would total \$125,000. This grant would Employ 15 additional employees and secure 48 more children a spot at the daycare. The total project would cost \$1 million. This is a state grant and once approved, the building must be operational within 12 months' time.

The County has previously donated funding for the current operating daycare. Commissioner Klaassen considered funds from the pilot fund.

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve to commit \$125,000 from pilot fund for the Erie Community child care for the Erie Child Care Capacity Accelerator grant from the State of Kansas. County Clerk will submit the commitment letter to Kelly Diller at the Erie Child Care facility. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Jeff Noakes – Mowing fescue for hay mowing east and north side of the County Jail.

Commissioner Westhoff moved to authorize Jeff Noakes to continue mowing the fescue hay around the north and east side of the Neosho County Sheriff/Jail building for the 2023 season. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT

HEATHER ELSWORTH/ COUNTY CLERK & HR DIRECTOR – Executive Session

2:29 pm Commissioner Klaassen moved to recess into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel, regarding HR for 5 minutes to include the Commission, Commission Counselor Bret Heim, HR Director Heather Elsworth and HR Coordinator Cindy Graff to resume in the Commission Room at 2:35 pm. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

2:36 pm Back in session. No action taken.

DAVID BURNETT/ MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR – Request for the purchase of Tool Box(s) for Maintenance County Vehicle

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve David Burnett, Maintenance Director for the Maintenance department to purchase a truck bed tool box up to \$1400 including install from Pittsburg Auto and Glass. Tool box will be paid from Maintenance Budget. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

LORI NALLY/ 911 DIRECTOR – 15-minute executive session for Attorney-Client Privilege

2:45 pm Commissioner Klaassen moved to recess into executive session to discuss matters relating to security measures, regarding safety & security of 911 for 15 minutes to include the Commission, Commission Counselor Bret Heim, and 911 Directory Lori Nally to resume in the Commission Room at 3:00 pm. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

3:00 pm Back in session.

Commissioner Galemore moved to have Commission Counselor Bret Heim draft a letter to the City of Chanute Attorney regarding 911 dispatch communication. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

TERESA STARR/ HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR – Requested approval for All hand on Deck – “Drug of endangered children in Kansas.” Ms. Starr seeks the approval from Commission because there are many children this grant could help. She plans to target awareness, provide

support for any inmates in jail that is needed, be available to those who go through the court system, providing education to children, etc. This is a 2-year grant and requires 2 staff members to travel to Washington, DC 1 time each year plus receive training for handling these types of situations. Ms. Starr understands the kind of coalition that would need created to create a program of awareness.

Commissioner Klaassen moved to allow Teresa Starr, Health Department Director to apply for funding, "All Hands-on Deck" grant through the State of Kansas and County Clerk to submit a letter of commitment for the grant. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

MIKE BROWN/ ROAD & BRIDGE DIRECTOR – Department updates

The project on the 150th Rd box culvert resumed on April 18th, 2023. They are draining the water.

Mr. Heim advised Mr. Brown to seek a proposal from Heckert for unofficial detours for the US-59 Hwy bridge replacements, at which point determination will be made if it may be necessary for formal bid. Mr. Brown advised he has an estimate from Heckert. Commission agreed Mr. Brown should seek a contract for the work.

An employee of Road & Bridge has resigned from department.

3:42 pm Commissioner Klaassen moved to recess into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel, regarding Road & Bridge for 10 minutes to include the Commission, Commission Counselor Bret Heim, Road & Bridge Director Mike Brown, and HR Director Heather Elsworth with an added break to resume in the Commission Room at 3:55 pm. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

3:59 pm Back in session. No action taken.

Commissioner Westhoff inquired how many Road Graders are on the road. There are 6 graders actively running and 2 parked at the shop. Mr. Brown stated he does not have employees able to operate them.

Commissioner Westhoff shared some pictures of pot holes that need addressed.

Commissioner Galemore advised there are some shoulder issues on Elk Rd on the curve.

Commissioner Klaassen suggested a tree on the right away curve that may need removed and the County's responsibility to do so.

The City of Chanute agreed on a solar powerplant on 47 acres just past the Chanute High School. This project would have a potential completion date in 2026. Commissioner Klaassen suggested a potential need for a County Road Use agreement because trucks will need to utilize certain County roads.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve the 04/11/2023 minutes as presented. Commission Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Procurement Policy – Commissioner Galemore received a copy of the Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center procurement policy. It is lengthy but he will share it with other Commissioners.

Commissioner Klaassen inquired whether we need a resolution or a policy?

Commissioner Klaassen provided a document she has been working on and read aloud.

Discussion was had and tabled until next meeting.

4:36 pm Commissioner Galemore moved to recess into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, regarding potential Wind Farm litigation for 5 minutes to include the Commission and Commission Counselor Bret Heim to resume in the Commission Room at 4:45 pm. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

4:45 pm Back in session. No action taken.

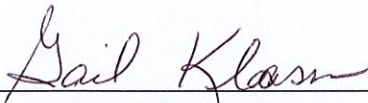
COMMISSION DISCUSSION NEW BUSINESS

Neosho County Misdemeanor Contract – Mr. Hiem submitted a letter on behalf of Cliff Lee advising he is leaving private practice to be a managing attorney for Kansas Legal Services and he is asking that is County contract to provide Indigent Representation for Neosho County be terminated effective immediately.

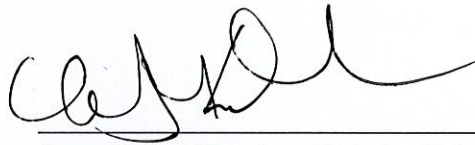
Next Commission meeting will be Tuesday May 2nd at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

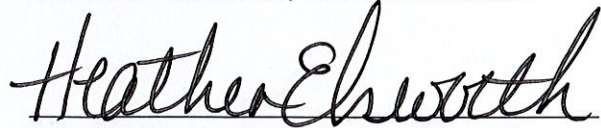
With no more business to discuss, Commissioner Westhoff moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:56 pm.



Commission Chair, Gail Klaassen



Commission Member, Nicholas Galemore



ATTEST: County Clerk, Heather Elsworth

Commission Member, Paul Westhoff

