

Neosho County Commission Minutes
Regular Session
Tuesday July 25, 2023
Commission Room in the Neosho County Courthouse
100 S. Main
Erie, KS 66722

WORK SESSION

The Neosho County Board of Commissioners met for a Budget Work Session at 1:00.

Commissioner Klaassen opens the Budget Work Session at 1:00 pm.

RNR Hearing scheduled for August 22, 2023 at 1:30 pm followed by Budget Hearing in the Erie Courthouse Commission Room.

Commissioner Klaassen closes the Budget Work Session at 1:52 pm

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commission Board Chair Gail Klaassen calls meeting to order at 2:02 pm, the Pledge of Allegiance is 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 is given by Commissioner Klaassen

AGENDA

Commissioner Klaassen requests to add 2 training requests for 911.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Accounts Payable in the amount of \$423,676.37
- Payroll Clearing in the amount of \$179,206.76
- Leave Request for Road & Bridge
- Minutes from 07/11/2023
- Training Requests for 911

Commissioner Klaassen moves to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

SCHEDULED ATTENDEE(S)

Carla Rush, Audra Rush School Supply Giveaway – Ms. Rush requests a donation from the County to the Audra Rush School Supply Giveaway.

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT

TOHNJUA STIPP/ APPRAISER – Neighborhood Revitalization Program Application & Disaster Relief Application.

Commissioner Klaassen moves to approve the application for tax abatement under the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for Cornell & Chelsey Walls at 1203 W. 21st, Chanute KS at the price of \$380,000. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Disaster Relief Application tabled until next meeting.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Executive Session

2:23 pm Commissioner Klaassen moves to recess into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel, regarding Health department for 10 minutes to include the Commission and Commission Counselor Bret Heim to resume in the Commission Room at 2:35 pm. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

2:35 pm Back in session. No action taken.

SYDNEY BALL/ TREASURER – Interest rates on idle County funds. Mrs. Ball provides information on interest rates for County funds and investments. County will be requesting bids from the approved County Financial Institutes.

LORI NALLY/ 911 DIRECTOR – Executive Session for Security & Training Requests. Ms. Nally requests training for one of her employees.

Commissioner Galemore moves to approve Communication Boot Camp training for 911 to be paid out of 911 Tax fund. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Ms. Nally presents a leave request.

Commissioner Klaassen moves to approve leave request for Lori Nally for 48 hours for the month of August. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

3:00 pm Commissioner Klaassen moves to recess into executive session to discuss matters relating to security measures, regarding 911 for 10 minutes to include the Commission and Commission Counselor Bret Heim to resume in the Commission Room at 3:10 pm. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

3:10 pm Back in session. No action taken.

HEATHER ELSWORTH/ COUNTY CLERK – Correction to 6/13/2023 Minutes & Website Renewal Contract. Mrs. Elsworth presents an updated invoice and a renewal contract for Civic Plus.

Commissioner Klaassen moves to approve additional invoice from Civic Plus for \$799.86 for our web provider. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Mrs. Elsworth presented amended minutes for June 13, 2023.

Commissioner Galemore moves to amend minutes for the June 13, 2023 meeting pertaining to Noxious Weed to read “Commissioner Galemore moves to adopt the County Option Noxious Weed Declaration. The Neosho County Board of County Commissioners hereby requests of the Secretary of Agriculture, approval to declare Cut-Leaf Teasel as a Neosho County Noxious Weed and approve the official methods for the control and eradication of common Teasel.”. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Executive Session.

3:20 pm Commissioner Klaassen moves to recess into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel, regarding Health department for 20 minutes to include the Commission, Commission Counselor Bret Heim, and HR/County Clerk Heather Elsworth to resume in the Commission Room at 3:45 pm. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

3:40 pm Back in session.

Commissioner Galemore moves to extend offer for Taylor Noyce RN as interim Health Department Director for 60-day term. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

3:47 pm Commissioner Klaassen moves to recess into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel, regarding Health Department for 10 minutes to include the Commission, Commission Counselor Bret Heim, and HR/Clerk Heather Elsworth to resume in the Commission Room at 3:57 pm. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

3:57 pm Back in session. No action taken.

MIKE BROWN/ ROAD & BRIDGE DIRECTOR – Department Updates. Mr. Brown asks Commission waive the fee for the Fair Board to dump the saw dust and wood chips that are used for the County Fair.

Commissioner Galemore moves to allow the Fair Board to dump the saw dust and wood chips. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Mr. Brown provides an update on the US-169 Highway project south of Thayer and what he believes will become the unofficial detour. Construction will be approximately 90 days and Mr. Brown would like to get ahead on treating the affected roads as well as reduced speed limits.

Commissioner Westhoff moves to approve Mr. Brown to start dust control with magnesium chloride on the unofficial detour of 12 miles for the US-169 project which will be closed for approximately 90-days. Treatments will take place on 10th Road from Brown Road to Douglas Road; on Douglas Road from 10th Road to 70th Road; on Chase Road from 70th Road to 80th Road; on Elk Road from 70th Rd to 80th Rd; on 70th Road from Chase Road to Elk Road; and on 80th Road from Chase Road to Elk Road. Speed reduction will be on 10th Road, Douglas Road, Elk Road, 80th Road and possibly Buggy signs on 80th Road. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Road & Bridge will begin chip & seal projects next week. Wright Asphalt will allow Neosho County to piggyback on Bourbon Counties bid which was \$2.70/ gallon delivered and TR Fog oil at \$2.35/ gallon delivered.

Mr. Brown advises that the County received reimbursement from FEMA in the amount of \$225,339.41 for damage to roads during the 2019 flood.

Commissioner Klaassen moves to deposit the FEMA money received for the flood of 2019 in the amount of \$225,339.41 be deposited into the Road & Bridge Special Bridge account #102. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

HEATHER ELSWORTH/ COUNTY CLERK – Mrs. Elsworth advised the cost of the Veteran Grave Markers has increased significantly. In 2022, the cost was \$49 each and in 2023 they are \$83 each. Mrs. Elsworth advised there is no policy regarding the purchase of these markers in regards to budgeting. The Commission would like Mrs. Elsworth to research if there is a statute in place and if other Counties have policy in regards to the Veteran Grave Markers.

Mrs. Elsworth requests an executive session.

4:35 pm Commissioner Klaassen moves to recess into executive session to discuss matters relating to security measures, regarding Elections for 10 minutes to include the Commission, Commission Counselor Bret Heim, and County Clerk Heather Elsworth to resume in the Commission Room at 4:45 pm. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

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

COMMISSION DISCUSSION UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Procurement Policy – Discussion tabled.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Galemore moves for Ken Kraxberger to reach out and schedule the cemetery sign repair at Memorial Park Cemetery in Chanute with Robertson Masonry up to \$3,000 to be paid from Courthouse General fund. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to discuss, Commissioner Westhoff moves to adjourn the meeting.
Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:53 pm.

Gail Klaassen

Commission Chair, Gail Klaassen

Paul Westhoff

Commission Member, Paul Westhoff

Nicholas Galemore

Commission Member, Nicholas Galemore

Heather Elsworth

ATTEST: County Clerk, Heather Elsworth

