

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commission Board Chair Gail Klaassen calls meeting to order at 2:00 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 Ryan Van Peursen, Galesburg Christian Church

AGENDA

Commissioner Westhoff requests to add an executive session. Commissioner Klaassen requests to add a Budget Work Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Roy Paisley – Mr. Paisley asks how many employees the Road & Bridge Department has. Mr. Paisley feels there is enough work that needs to be done on county roads and bridges to warrant a priority in hiring more Road & Bridge employees. Mr. Paisley also states the employees deserve raises.

Lance Burnett – Mr. Burnett shares concerns about the resent resurfacing of Lakewood Road and its current condition. Mr. Burnett provides the Commission with a petition from the Lakewood neighborhood requesting the county to maintain the road properly and to fill and level the low spots on the road.

Celia McBride – Ms. McBride shares her opinion on the 2024 budget.

Roy Engleman – Mr. Engleman shares his concerns about the high taxes and the 2024 budget.

Jerry Henderson – Mr. Henderson shares his concerns on the condition of Ford Road because it is very dusty and feels it is unsafe and would like to see the road sprayed.

Shirley Estrada – Ms. Estrada shares her opinion on the 2024 budget process, lack of budget work sessions, and the overall 2024 budget.

SCHEDULED ATTENDEE(S)

Holly Powers – Representing Midwest Engineering working for RWD No. 4. Replacing water lines in Neosho County and parts of Labette County. Project will be completed in 2 phases. 107 miles of waterline. Most water lines that are being replaced are from 1975. Project is in hopes to begin work on January 1st.

Commissioner Galemore moves to accept the proposal which allows Midwest Engineering Group and RWD 4 to impinge on Neosho County rights-of-ways on Trego Road to south of 20th Road in front of Russell Davis property and back again on 30th Road and Trego Road on the Ryan and Amanda Howard property. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Taylor Hogue, Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission (SEKRPC) – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) update. Ms. Hogue presents an update on ARPA funds.

Commissioner Klaassen suggests using ARPA funds for county projects, specifically the Grady Bridge & road improvement, which will then allow the County to work on the North River bridge. The only thing that would not be submittable is the engineering for this project. Ms. Hogue advises we can include the engineering costs with a little more detail if necessary. This project also has a KDOT fund matching grant 63C-5103-01 for \$150,000. ARPA will typically match KDOT. Ms. Hogue will submit the Grady Bridge project to include engineering expense, material re-imbursement and the KDOT fund matching grant.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Klaassen moved to pull the 7/25/2023 Minutes from the Consent Agenda

Commissioner Klaassen moves to amend the previous motion from July 27th minutes to take the repair for the sign out of the Memorial Park Cemetery budget instead of the Courthouse General fund. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

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 \$126,008.63
- Payroll Clearing in the amount of \$ 88,076.40

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

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT

TOHNJUA STIPP, APPRAISER – Request approval for 2 educational trainings, both trainings are held in Topeka.

Commissioner Klaassen moves to approve training requests from Appraiser for Orion Market Modeling Analysis & Automated Sales Comparison and Orion County Market Modeling Workshop in August and October. Costs approved for workshop, travel, and lodging. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Mrs. Stipp requests name changes on 2 of the current credit cards.

Commissioner Galemore moves to close Carla Rush and Megan Ewan credit cards for the personal property employees and issue credit cards to the 2 new current field staff employees, Monae Westhoff and Gloria Schoenhofer. Credit cards will be for the same amount of credit as previous cards issued. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Mrs. Stipp presents a quote for \$1,300 from Advantage to replace her computer which is 6 years old and does not have the processor required to run the new Orizon program.

Commission is agreeable for Mrs. Stipp to proceed with the computer purchase to be paid out of the Appraiser's fund.

GREG TAYLOR, SHERIFF – Equipment purchase request. Sheriff Taylor requests approval to purchase the following mandatory equipment: a voice recorder system from Voice Products for \$16,334, a card reader on the evidence building from T&T Systems for \$4,170, and a lie detector machine from CVSA for \$8,000.

Commissioner Galemore moves to allow the sheriff to purchase a new voice recorder, a card reader for evidence, and a lie detector machine. Funds for payment to be taken from the pilot fund. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

MELANIE KENT-CULP, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR – EMPG Grant. Mrs. Kent-Culp presents the application for the Emergency Management Performance Grant for approval & signature.

Commissioner Galemore moves to approve the Emergency Management Performance Grant submitted by Melanie Kent-Culp for FY 2023. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Mrs. Kent-Culp wants to remind everyone that there will be a Floodplain Open House at the Erie City Library on Thursday August 10, 2023.

SYDNEY BALL, TREASURER – Interest rates on idle county funds. As previously requested by commissioners, Mrs. Ball went out to bid for interest rates for terms up to 24 months max terms for county idle funds.

Commissioner Klaassen asks if this is the Commission's decision rather than Treasurer per a statute she read. Commission Counselor Bret Heim, Treasurer Mrs. Ball, Commissioner Westhoff and Commissioner Galemore agreed that the board should have a decision in what bank and interest rates are agreed upon. There is \$2,100,000 in the pool combined with other figures brings the total to \$5,200,000. Mr. Heim presents the following bids:

- Exchange State Bank – Craig Coomes – CD's:
 - 5% up to 12 months
- Home Savings Bank – Jonathon Johnson – CD's (rates stable for next 30 days):
 - 5.15% for 3 months
 - 5.05% for 6 months
 - 5.00% for 9 months
 - 4.95% for 12 months
- Bank of Commerce – Cindy Culbertson – CD's:
 - 5.432% for 3 months

- 5.491% for 6 months
- 5.331% for 12 months
- 4.747% for 24 months
- Community National Bank – Ron Flowers
 - 5.26% APY on any deposited funds (transactional accounts: checking, savings, money market and time deposits)
 - 5.26% up to 12 months for CD's

Commission gives Mrs. Ball direction to leave \$100,000 CD at each facility, leave checking alone for now, max term of 3 months and use Bank of Commerce for investment. Mrs. Ball will review and present back to Commission every 3 months.

Mrs. Ball advises that notices on delinquent tax sale are currently being served. It takes 3 months to serve and no sale date has been set yet. We started with 307 parcels; we are down to 180 with more being redeemed after being served.

Commissioner Klaassen moves to recess for a 10-minute break. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

***Amend the minutes to pay Neosho Memorial Cemetery repairs from their fund in General rather than Courthouse contractual in general.

CINDY GRAFF, HR/PAYROLL COORDINATOR – Appointment of Health Officer, position description, Health Dept website.

Mrs. Graff presents a job description she compiled for the County Health Department Director, a copy of KSA 65-202 which outlines the appointment of a health officer, and a copy of the county policy which references job postings. Current county policy requires that once we determine there is an open position, we provide the updated job description with salary range. We are required to e-mail this to all the department heads and post to areas that are most travelled; most likely the Sheriff's building, Road & Bridge, Health Department, and County Attorney office. The position must remain open for 10 days. We are not required to go to social media or the newspaper but if we decide to publish in newspaper, the notice must be published for at least 1 week. Mrs. Graff will also post on the county website. Commission is agreeable to the policy and gives permission for Mrs. Graff HR/Payroll Coordinator to proceed as presented beginning with notifications tomorrow.

Commissioner Galemore moves pursuant to KSA 65-202 to appoint Taylor Noyce as interim Health Department Director by the Neosho County Board of Commissioners as the County's Health Officer effective July 25, 2023. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd Motion passes. 3-0

Kphcollaborative.org provides a list of services Neosho County Health Department provides.

MIKE BROWN, ROAD & BRIDGE DIRECTOR – Provides Department Updates for ongoing projects and shared tire pricing for the Neosho County Landfill.

5:17 pm Commissioner Klaassen moves 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, and Road & Bridge Director Mike Brown to resume in the Commission Room at 5:30 pm. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

5:32 pm Back in session. No action taken.

Commissioner Galemore moves due to lack of staffing in the mechanics shop in the county, to move forward with outsourcing some of the repairs and all maintenance per department instead of using the Road & Bridge mechanic shop. There will be no County vehicles going to the Road & Bridge Department for service effective immediately. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Commissioner Galemore moves to allow Mike Brown to find a driver & truck for up to \$25,000 to haul millings to Ford Road using a belly dump to assist with dust control. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0

Mr. Brown requests additional raises for 2023 and not waiting until 2024.

HEATHER ELSWORTH, COUNTY CLERK – Mrs. Elsworth advises the KAC Conference is changed to December this year and she can register any of the commissioners that are interested in attending. The SEK County Officials District Meeting is September 14th, 2023 and is being held in Columbus KS.

The previous Director for the Health Department had started to build a new website through Advantage. We halted work on this to revisit whether the Commission wanted to continue with Advantage or utilize our current County website through Civic Plus. Commission is agreeable to halt work on this project, allowing Health Department to have access to the current County website Health Department page.

Mrs. Elsworth provides an update on the Erie Community Childcare Center. Ms. Diller advises that they were approved for the 2023 Child Care Capacity Accelerator Grant. Commission is agreeable to pay through accounts payable in the next round of checks.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Attorney Client Executive Session for potential litigation – Not discussed.

Procurement Policy – Not discussed.

2024 Budget - Mrs. Elsworth provides a printed copy of the most up-to-date 2024 budget proposal to each of the commissioners and commission counselor.

7:31 pm Commissioner Westhoff leaves the meeting.

The Commission will meet again on Tuesday August 15, 2023 at 2:00 pm for a Budget Work Session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to discuss, Commissioner Klaassen moves to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 2-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 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

