

Neosho County Commission Minutes

Regular Session

10-06-2023

Commission Room in the Neosho County Courthouse

100 S. Main

Erie, KS 66722

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commission Board Chair Gail Klaassen calls meeting to order at 9:00 am, 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
- Road & Bridge Director Mike Brown
- 911 Director Lori Nally
- Appraiser Tohnjua Stipp
- Emergency Management Melanie Kent-Culp
- Sheriff Greg Taylor

INVOCATION

The invocation is given by Shella Choi, Erie Federated Church.

AGENDA

No changes or additions made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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 \$656,772.90
- Payroll Clearing in the amount of \$ 78,126.68 and \$68,670.90
- Minutes from 09/06/2023 and 09/19/2023
- Leave request for Road and Bridge Director for month of October

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

SCHEDULED ATTENDEE(S)

9:30 am – John Lilburn, Fire Chief for Galesburg Fire Dept and Wyatt Westhoff, Fire Chief for St. Paul/Mission Township. Mr. Lilburn has been the Galesburg Fire Chief since July of 2023. Mr. Lilburn expressed necessary needs pertaining to the rural fire depts in corresponding areas(s) in or near Galesburg. The City of Galesburg has received a lease purchase agreement to obtain a pumper truck for Galesburg Fire. Mr. Lilburn explained that this is a good start and moving in the right direction. However, he is requesting funds from commission for the following items; Replacement of needed Hoses estimated costs of \$25,000, a Brush truck and Quick response truck an estimated cost up to \$150,000. Currently the City of Galesburg contributes \$12,000 and corresponding townships each contribute \$4,000 to the Galesburg Fire.

Commission is agreeable to have counsel look into this matter for a better understanding of County responsibility. Mr. Lilburn, Galesburg Fire Chief explains the immediate current need is a brush truck and hoses, approximately \$100,000 needed.

Commission and counsel are agreeable to refer the details of a mutual aid agreement, be discussed in the upcoming fire/dispatch advisory meeting until details may be agreed upon between all parties involved. Upon agreement, parties may then bring back to commission for reviewal.

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT

MELANIE KENT-CULP, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR – Presented Neosho County Emergency Operation Plan for commission approval

Commissioner Klaassen moved to allow a formal review be done by the Kansas Emergency Dept of Revision of our Neosho County Operational Plan. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

LORI NALLY, 911 DIRECTOR– Requests for funds to pay \$600 in labor to install the new antenna for dispatch. Commission is agreeable funds can be taken from 911 Budget.

Commissioner Klaassen moved to recess into executive session to discuss matters of security measures regarding 911 for 10 minutes with commission, commission counsel, and 911 Director Lori Nally. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

9:25 am Back in session. No action taken.

DAVID BURNETT, MAINTENANCE – Presented quote comparisons to replace courthouse ice machine.

Commissioner Galemore moved to approve the purchase of a Blue Air 100A Ice machine from Johnstone Supply in Joplin, MO in the amount of \$1684.41. Funds for purchase will be from Maintenance Contractual Budget. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

GREG TAYLOR, SHERIFF - Request for an executive session.

Commissioner Klaassen moved to recess into executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel regarding Sheriff department for 10 minutes with commission, commissioner counsel, and sheriff Taylor. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0
10:40 am Back in session. No action taken.

CINDY GRAFF, PAYROLL/HR COORDINATOR - Mrs. Graff provided update to Employee Health Fair.

Commissioner Galemore moved to cover additional costs of the health biometric screenings not covered by county insurance policy through Blue Cross Blue Shield in the amount of \$20.27 for females and an additional \$7.95 for male employees at a total cost of \$28.22. Commission is also agreeable to cover cost of health biometric screenings for male employees not covered by county insurance policy totaling \$78.22 and female employees total cost of \$70.27. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commission is agreeable for commission room to be used as additional space for Employee health fair vendors if needed.

MIKE BROWN, ROAD & BRIDGE DIRECTOR – Mr. Brown announces on October 28th, the City of Erie is having, Halloween in the park. Commission is agreeable for Road & Bridge department to display one of the newly purchased dump trucks and a road grader. Department may also purchase candy for the Trick or Treaters for the event.

Commissioner Galemore moved to approve clean-up for the county on October 17th through October 21st for the county. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Westhoff moved to allow purchase of Salt from Hutchinson Salt Company at a delivered price of \$62.46 per ton. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve the transfer of 60 hours of sick leave within the road and bridge department to another employee within department. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Galemore moved to approve an additional lump sum fee of \$1,000 for two additional bridges added to our annual bridge inspection through CFS. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved to recess into executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel regarding Road & Bridge for 10 minutes with commission, commission counselor, County clerk, and HR coordinator Cindy Graff. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

11:50 am Back in session. No action taken

Commissioner Klaassen moved to recess into executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel regarding Maintenance for 10 minutes with commission, commission counselor and Maintenance Director David Burnett. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

12:10 pm Back in session. No action taken

DAVID BURNETT, MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR – Mr. Burnett explains that the city of Chanute has replaced windows in the Judicial building. County is responsible per lease agreement to fund the replacement of the trim on the inside of newly replaced windows.

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve Rick Bohem to finish the inside of 16 windows on the 2nd floor of Judicial Center in Chanute for a total of \$1,313 to be paid from Maintenance Contractual budget. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve leave request for David Burnett for the month of November as “to be determined.” Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

COMMISSION DISCUSSION UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Attorney Client Executive session for potential litigation – N/A

Procurement Policy – Tabled

Evergy RUA agreements – Evergy provided their return response on county’s request to changes of the agreements initially submitted. The county’s position on request to land easement has been tabled until the RUA agreements between Evergy and County are resolved.

Health Insurance Renewal Rates –

Commissioner Klaassen moved to choose IMA’s recommendation(s). The County will choose Health Contribution Illustration No. 3 for Blue Cross Blue Shield and Dental Contribution Illustration No. 3 as presented by IMA in their October 6th renewal offerings. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Formation of Infrastructure Advisory Committee – Tabled

COMMISSION DISCUSSION NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to discuss, Commissioner Westhoff moves to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passes. 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Gail Klaassen

Commission Chair, Gail Klaassen

Commission Member, Nicholas Galemore

Paul Westhoff

Commission Member, Paul Westhoff

Heather Elsworth

ATTEST: County Clerk, Heather Elsworth

