

## *Minutes of March 6, 2023*

Chairman Kelly called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Dan Brenner and Mark A. Pruett were present. County Clerk Kathy Mick recorded the minutes and County Counselor Lee Hendricks was also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Holton Fire Department members Scott Baum, Cole Gerhardt and Rob Wilson met with the Commissioners to see if they have any questions concerning the Denison fire truck that was sold. The truck will be replaced with a structure truck and be capable of aiding other departments. The Commissioners had no questions concerning the truck. Commissioner Kelly did ask if the district ever had their books audited. Cole Gerhardt stated that their book is reviewed every year by County Clerk Kathy Mick during the budget process and then if the district changes treasurers they have the books reviewed by Tanking Accounting services. Scott Baum invited the Commissioners to attend their meetings on the 1st Friday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Road and Bridge received an email from Jim Howard concerning a list of roads that the bus drivers at USD 335 feel could use some work.

### Road Projects Completed Last Weed Feb 27-Mar 3:

- Graveled bad spots on, 326 N-P, 330 P-Q, 310 O-P, W 254-286, 190 R-S, 106 T-T4, T 94-00, 142 W-Y, Y 134-114.
- Hwy 16 to Close the 8th: Spot fixed for possible traffic from highway L 230-222, M 222-238.
- Fixed road: V 302-310.
- Rocked K 126-118
- Trees Cut on T4
- Tubes replaced 278-T, T4-100 Fixed hole in road at bridge on H 262-270.

### This Weeks Projects Mar 6-10

- Spot fix roads at 302-R-Q, F 254-262
- Spot fix l 230-238, 238 L-M and M 230-238.

### Future

- T4 project
- 118 & I Ditching
- 262 - J fix ditch & rock.

Scott Kieffaber presented the contract with Norfolk Contracting to build the bridge on 254th road East of Circleville over an unnamed tributary of Elk Creek in an amount of \$198,655.00. Bid Bond was included in the amount of 5% of the amount bid.

Scott Kieffaber reported that Bridge Foreman Matt Fritz has cleaned the Bridge Yard up.

Scott Kieffaber attended a KPERS meeting at his Annual Noxious Weed Meeting and would like to set a meeting up for Road and Bridge Employees to attend.

Wade Cormier requested a short executive session to discuss personnel. Dan made the motion, Mark seconded, and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. The meeting closed at 9:54 with Wade Cormier, Scott Kieffaber, Lee Hendricks and Kathy Mick also present. The meeting opened at 9:57 a.m. No decision was made.

Commissioners called Kate Immenschuh down to discuss Neighborhood Revitalization. The Commissioners would consider a different plan for Commercial. Received a phone message from Kerwin McKee, Holton City Manager and he wants to leave the plan as is. Lee wants to know if he is to continue on with changing the plan. The Commissioners agreed that he should.

Discussed Kevin Hill's request to be a KPERS employee and KPERS requiring a timesheet showing that he works 20 hours a week. If that requirement is not met it is not a KPERS covered position. The Commissioners placed a call to Jeff Morrow, but he was in court all day.

Lee Hendricks requested an executive session for 10 minutes. For attorney client privileges. Dan so moved, Mark seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0. The meeting closed at 10:20 and opened at 10:30. No decision was made.

The Commissioners will not sign a contract with Attorney James Neeld but Lee will be able to contact him as a resource and will be billed at an hourly rate that he will pass onto the county,

The Commissioners would like to meet with NextEra to see what they are proposing to implement. Lee agreed to set up a meeting.

Appraiser Kate Immenschuh met with the Commissioners concerning their request for information concerning an approximate amount the County loses in valuation due to Tribal land place into USA Trust that is tax exempt. Kate's estimate is \$4,215,353.40 loss for taxing entities based on an average Lincoln Township levy. The County's estimated loss is \$2,475,840.94 based on a county mill levy of 74.000 mills. The County Commissioners are working of Federal Legislation to receive an appropriation to help offset this loss of revenue. Royal Valley school already receives an appropriation from the Federal Government to offset the Schools loss in funding. The Commissioners requested that Kate break the exempt properties down by taxing units so if asked the County could answer questions concerning other taxing entities and how much to take off for Royal Valley. This information will be sent to Rob Hartwell to submit to Congress.

Colton England has had contact with Kate Immenschuh concerning the cleanup of his property that has burnt. This date is notifying Mr. England that his 45-day period to cleanup is ending and proceeding will be filed to have the area cleaned up and the expense will be paid from the 15% of England's insurance that is being held by the County.

Recessed for lunch.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

Banner Creek Reservoir Director Kurt Zibell submitted the final plan of the building to the Commissioners. The Commissioners approved the plans. Kurt will put the bid request in the Holton Recorder, Jackson County Website and mail them to all that have called with interest. The bids will be due April 10th at 1:00 p.m.

Kurt informed the Commissioners that in the future he does plan on putting a Shelter house by the gazebo that was built by the Boy Scouts.

Commissioner Dan Brenner purchased a shelf ready box of meals from the Area Agency on Agency Department in Hiawatha. He wanted to make this type of food an option for other people in Jackson County that don't come to the Sr. Citizen meal Site. Anna Wilhelmina also a Board member along with Dan Brenner was present. Dan asked Amanda Spaulding what she thought of the meals. Dan would be willing to help with the meal delivery one day a week to help get the program started. Amanda stated that they did do the shelf ready meals during COVID, but everyone thought they were awful. They want a hot cooked nutritional meal, and those shelf meals are not healthy for them, way too much sodium. Amanda is totally against those meals. Anna Wilhelm agrees they are not a healthy meal. Dan stated that the meals are nutritionally approved.

Amanda reported that the KDHE Inspector came to the meal site on Thursday, and they receive a 100% in compliance on the inspection.

Bill Barrow met with the Commissioners concerning his taxes.

Mark made the motion to appoint Amy Hallauer to the NEKES Board to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Lura Goff.

Mark made the motion to sign the annual Kanza Mental Health Contract for 2023 for an appropriation in the amount of \$68,223.

Dan questioned Amanda if she has sent in her grant request work. Amanda stated she has been working with Area Agency on Aging and has several ideas she is working on.

Dan discussed the new food trucks, that the Area Agency on Aging has purchased, that hold hot and cold food. Dan wants Amanda Spaulding and Pat Korte to see the truck and understand what it can be used for, in case Jackson County ever has a need for it.

Mark Aeschliman and Dylan Aeschliman met with the Commissioners to request that the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan be left the way was it is, to include new homes on vacant ground. The Commissioners stated that after reviewing the law they don't feel like they can leave it the way it is. The plan was originally developed to revitalize an older rundown area of a city. Dan Brenner is undecided; he would like to find a way that it can be left the way it is. Mark

Aeschliman stated that Nemaha, Brown and Doniphan Counties allows new constructions on vacant lots to qualify.

Dan made the motion to approve the Minutes of March 3rd as corrected. Mark seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0.

Mark made the motion to approve the Minutes of February 27th as corrected. Dan Seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0.

The Commissioners will start working on evaluations next week.

There will be Microsoft 365 Training on April 4th start at 8: 00

Pruett made the motion to give Circleville Ball Club \$2,500 from the Parks and Recreation fund for 2023. Brenner seconded and Chairman Kelly called for a vote. Motion carried 3/0.

Signed the following payroll change notices:

| Department | Name          | From  | To    | Reason    | Date<br>/ / |
|------------|---------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------------|
| Road       | Joshua Miller | 0     | 17.64 | Hired     | 3/6/2023    |
| Road       | Linda Jackson | 19.39 | 19.89 | Promotion | 3/10/23     |

Signed the following Purchase Orders:

| Department | PO # | To                 | For                            | Amount     |
|------------|------|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Road       | 6814 | Earhart            | Trenching pipe & Water Hydrant | \$750.00   |
| Road       | 6813 | Harris Fabrication | 24 Tool Boxes @ \$234.94       | \$5,638.56 |

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m. The next meeting will be March 13, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Board of County Commissioners  
Jackson County, Kansas

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Mark Pruet, 1<sup>st</sup> District

Attest:

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Dan Brenner, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Mick  
Jackson County Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Kelly, 3<sup>rd</sup> District