

Minutes of June 6, 2022

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 9 a.m., Chairperson Kathrens, Commissioner Kelly and Commissioner Brenner were present. Deputy County Clerk Tara Peek recorded the minutes.

Chamber of Commerce Director Ashlee York joined the meeting to discuss the upcoming Chamber event, July Jubilee. She requested a donation for fireworks. Commissioner Kelly made a motion to approve a \$500.00 donation from the alcohol tax parks and recreation fund to the Chamber for fireworks and Commissioner Brenner seconded. Motion carried 3/0. Ashlee thanked the Board for their support with the Glory Days event. She stated they had 205 cars and over 50 vendors.

Commissioner Kelly reported that he attended a Community Corrections board meeting via zoom and they had selected a committee to proceed with interviews for the new positions. Kelly also reported that they have an IT meeting set up with Giant Communications to address the needs for the new office space. They have ordered the computers and will be looking at the State surplus for any office furnishing and file cabinets.

A County resident called to share a road concern on 118th Road where the ditch is full and trees need to be removed.

Commissioner Kelly made a motion to approve the printing of 75 copies of the new employee handbook from Marketing Concepts and Commissioner Brenner seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Holton Recorder reporter Ali Holcomb joined the meeting.

Commissioner Kelly made a motion to approve the May 31st minutes as written and Commissioner Brenner seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Friends of Banner Creek Reservoir member Beth Nelson and Banner Creek Reservoir Director Kurt Zibell joined the meeting. Kurt reported that he is having issues with his new John Deere mower and the amount of fuel it is using. He has reported it to Heritage Tractor. He has also purchased a new fuel tank at the lake. Kurt stated that he is staying busy at the lake and is handling some issues with electric hookups that went out. FOBC member Beth Nelson wanted to discuss the community building grant and bids. She stated that they can apply up to 10% in administrative fees for in kind. She also stated that she planned to request additional funding from the grant as the construction costs have gone up so much since they originally applied pre COVID. Beth added that she felt that the Board has had a cynical attitude towards the project. Commissioner Kelly replied that they are committed to make this project work and that the Board gave ideas and suggestions last week to the members who were present for the opening of the bids. Chairperson Kathrens stated that the FOBC were going to have to make the project works within their means. Beth asked if the Board could help them or possibly give them a loan as the cost increase is due to no fault of their own. COVID created a long delay for the grant to be awarded and they could not fundraise while in the waiting phase to which Kathrens replied, no. Commissioner Kelly stated that they need to move forward with requesting detailed information from the bidders and additional funding from the grant source now that they know what the costs are. Kurt

suggested that they request value engineering on the lowest bid to see what changes they can make to materials to get the cost lowered. He offered to make that call today.

Mayetta Mayor Darrel Chapman joined the meeting to discuss his city's need for a recycling trailer. He proposed that the City could be interested in purchasing their own if the county would be able to pick up and accept the recyclables. The Board will notify Scott of his request.

Adjourned for lunch from noon to 1 p.m.

Murphy Tractor Territory Sales Manager Chris Crum and Foley Equipment Prime Product Sales Representative Bob Johnson joined the meeting. Public Works Director Scott Kieffaber presented motor grader bids as follows:

- Berry Tractor – declined to bid, no AWD options
- Murphy Tractor 255 hp John Deere 672GP \$345,000.00 per unit with a \$44,000 buyback or \$50,000 trade in
- Foley Equipment 252 hp Caterpillar 140 Joy-BR \$381,324.00 per unit with a \$48,000 trade in

Both have 7 year, 7500 hours full machine warranty including filters. Commissioner Kelly made a motion to approve the purchase of two John Deere motor graders from Murphy Tractor and Commissioner Brenner seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

Reviewed bids for track loaders as follows:

- Foley Equipment 299D Caterpillar compact track loader \$43,938.10
- Whitestar Machinery T770 T4 Bobcat compact track loader \$42,055.83

Commissioner Brenner made a motion to approve the Foley Caterpillar bid for \$43,938.10 and Commissioner Kelly seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

At 1:29 p.m. Commissioner Brenner made a motion to enter into executive session for personnel with Scott Kieffaber, Lee Hendricks and Tara Peek present. Commissioner Kelly seconded and motion carried 3/0. Session reopened at 1:40 p.m. No action taken.

Chairperson Kathrens discussed a road concern at 246 and V Roads where the trees in the ROW are interfering with the view of the stop sign. Commissioner Kelly added a ditch and tube issue near a residence in the southern part of the county. Commissioner Brenner added a concern he was told about on 166 Road east of the highway.

EMS providers Brent Teter and Jay Watkins joined the meeting to discuss recent coverage concerns. Commissioner Kelly explained that he was notified over the weekend that there was a 4-vehicle accident in the City of Holton and no ambulances were available. The one ambulance operating that day was on its way back from taking a Holton Hospital patient to another facility. The Board expressed their desire to have the 64 hours available on the second truck to be divided evenly throughout the week. Brent had explained that the hours were used up previous to the day of this accident. Brent added that they did have EMTs arrive on scene and the vehicle occupants all denied treatment, but they did not have an ambulance. Brent stated that they decided to schedule the second truck Tuesday through Sunday from 8-5 and Monday from 8-6 as determined by the call history. He explained that they have always helped out with HCH transfers. The hospital contacts dispatch and makes the requests. Chairperson Kathrens

stated that the county does not want to subsidize the transfer service offered by EMS. Commissioner Kelly added that he trusts their judgment, but he wants to be able to defend their services to the taxpayers and believes the logical way to schedule the second truck is to have it available every day.

NEK-CAP Community Services Director Belinda Estes joined the meeting to renew the ESG grant paperwork for the year. She stated that she kept the funding request nearly the same as the last year. She stated that Jackson and Atchison counties are where most of the applicants for assistance come from, but they have a housing shortage, so they are unable to assist all of those who need it. Commissioner Kelly made a motion to approve the ESG grant and Commissioner Brenner seconded. Motion carried 3/0.

At 2:44 p.m. Commissioner Kelly made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss security with Sheriff Morse and Undersheriff Darrel Chapman present. Commissioner Brenner seconded and motion carried 3/0. Session reopened at 2:57 p.m. No action taken. Commissioner Kelly requested the Sheriff to submit a budget for his departments as though there is no jail income.

Holton Community Hospital CEO Carrie Saia and HR Director Gretchen Snavelly joined the meeting to discuss their findings from their recent implementation plan. Carrie explained that the plan is developed as a requirement for their non-profit status to address the needs identified. For the first time they found that housing and daycare are issues they are having. They recently met with the City of Holton to discuss any plan that they may be aware of to address the housing shortage. She explained that the hospital and other larger employers in the county have needs for housing their workforce. They plan to create a meeting group to discuss this shortage and potentially make improvements. They asked the Board for a representative who could contribute to this committee. The Board suggested Appraiser Kate Immenschuh. Commissioner Kelly stated that they are trying to update zoning regulations to make it easier to build in the county. Commissioner Brenner suggested JCCTCC to assist with drug and alcohol issues that were listed on the assessment, ROZ student loan repayment and LOIS for seeking property for sale. He also stated that the county has Neighborhood Revitalization for tax abatements and that the Board awarded the water districts some ARPA funds to help with expanding service. Carrie Saia also discussed the hospital's need to update the IT infrastructure and asked if the county had any funding available to assist with that project. Chairperson Kathrens stated they did not as they have already ear tagged the remaining ARPA funds. Commissioner Kelly stated that their plans are to use the ARPA funds to catch up on county roads and equipment purchases.

Chairperson Kathrens gave approval to County Clerk Kathy Mick to proceed with disposal of ballots that have met their retention deadline.

Approved the submission for ARPA funding to the City of Delia for \$25,000.00.

Approved the Youth Services Reinvestment Grant for the year submitted by Director Brooke Smith. Agreement 2022-10 Reinvestment Grant. 2022-11 Wamego Office Lease.

County Counselor Lee Hendricks discussed the nuisance resolution draft, Community Corrections program progress and the Board's request to draft a resolution to discontinue adding new subdivision roads to the county maintenance schedule.

Signed the following payroll change notices:

Department	Name	From	To	Reason	Date / /
Clerk	Tara Peek	\$17.12 per hour	\$	Resignation	06/07/2022

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. The next Commission meeting will be Monday, June 13, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Board of County Commissioners
Jackson County, Kansas

Ed Kathrens, 1st District

Attest:

Dan Brenner, 2nd District

Kathy Mick
Jackson County Clerk

Keith Kelly, 3rd District