

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, APRIL 1, 2019

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 A.M. with Second District County Commissioner Thad G. Geiger, Chairman, calling the meeting to order. First District County Commissioner Timothy D. Collins, Third District County Commissioner Jerry P. McKernan and County Clerk Peggy Franken were present. County Attorney Charles D. Baskins was present for a portion of the meeting.

The Kansas Chief Reporter Paul Stewart and Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson observed the entire regular meeting.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Collins, to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, to approve County Commission minutes of the March 25, 2019 regular meeting as written. Motion carried.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Collins, to approve warrants for the period of March 29, 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

Fee report for the month of March was presented to the Board for their review on behalf of the County Clerk.

Currently the Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 12 local inmates.

John M. Smith, Jr. commended the Road Department for rocking and blading county roadways. He informed the County Commission of two plugged tubes on Heartland Road, one near the "S" curve and the other located near the Twombly residence.

Chairman Geiger, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners and citizens of Doniphan County, publically congratulated and recognized 22nd Judicial District Court Magistrate Judge Roy Roper for his 18 years of dedicated service to Doniphan County and wished him many years of success and happiness in his retirement.

Custodian Richard Blanton told the County Board he will be taking the lawnmower to Grant's Repair to be serviced prior to mowing season. The Board made no objections.

The Board of County Commissioners were in receipt of a memo sent to all departments by the County Clerk regarding development of a Fitness for Duty policy, as part of the Doniphan County Personnel Policy and Procedures manual. The Board of County Commissioners were in agreement to add to the policy a requirement for a physical examination at the time of hire and prior to returning to employment following a serious health condition or injury.

Aging Administrator Peggy Wood informed the County Commission the Elwood Leisure Hour Senior Citizens Center will be reopening on April 8, 2019, with Penny Russell serving as Site Director. She encouraged residents of the City of Elwood to partake in daily activities and meals at the Center located at 410 N Ninth Street, Elwood, Kansas.

Chairman Geiger asked Aging Administrator Peggy Wood how she was adjusting to her new role as Administrator of the Aging Department. Mrs. Wood indicated she was becoming more comfortable, confident and familiar with the duties.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris informed the County Commissioners repair costs to the chip spreader were \$2,572.00 less than estimated.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, updated the Board on the annual Northeast Kansas Highway Officials meeting hosted by Douglas County; the Kansas Department of Transportation will be held responsible for county bridge inspections not being completed by the due date. Secondly, Doniphan County must complete a local road safety program application in order to easily qualify for Kansas Department of Transportation funded projects. The main topic of discussion was held in regards to crowning roadways to allow for proper drainage. And finally, officials with the Kansas Department of Transportation have reached out to Doniphan County to offer assistance with the 2019 flood event.

The Kansas Department of Transportation is working on implementing additional partially funded programs to help counties who don't qualify for the Off-System Bridge Replacement Program, according to Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris.

Commissioner Collins stated the First Road District has hauled a lot of rock on Buffalo Road to get the road in passable condition, as it is being used as an alternate route to the northern portion of the county due to the closure of K-7 highway because of Missouri River flooding. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris has informed all Road Districts to mark rock tickets and road projects specific to the 2019 flooding, in the event federal or state reimbursable funds become available. Commissioner Geiger said it is a given township road improvement funds will be exhausted getting roads in shape following the harsh winter weather and flooding, with additional money from the Road and Bridge general fund being utilized.

Commissioner Geiger told the County Commission the First and Second Road Districts have employee vacancies, prior to filling he would like to have a discussion on redirecting the Road Department.

County Attorney Charles Baskins and County Treasurer Lindsay Etherton updated the Board of County Commissioners on delinquent property taxes. County Attorney Charles Baskins said letters have been sent to delinquent property owners, with taxes collected on roughly 10%. The Board of County Commissioners agreed to allow additional time to clear up title and afford taxpayers time to pay delinquent taxes prior to ordering a tax foreclosure sale.

At 9:25 A.M. Commissioner Geiger made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Collins, to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential data with legal counsel, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the County Commission at 9:35 A.M. Motion carried. The County Attorney, County Clerk and County Treasurer remained.

Chairman Geiger executed a Local Emergency Disaster Declaration on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners. The seven-day declaration will be renewed weekly until the high-water event is no longer a threat.

The Board of County Commissioners agreed to table action on Herzog Contracting Corporation's proposal to asphalt county roadways, pending repair of other county roadways affected by the 2019 flood event and winter season.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Geiger adjourned the meeting at 9:46 A.M.

DATED THIS 1ST DAY OF APRIL 2019.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Thad G. Geiger, Chairman