

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, APRIL 8, 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 Troy High School Seniors Hannah Griffin, Kendrick Jeschke and Karen Arasaki, a foreign exchange student from Japan, 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 Collins, to approve County Commission minutes of the April 1, 2019 regular meeting as written. Motion carried.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to approve abated taxes to the 2018 Doniphan County tax roll in the amount of \$17.94. Motion carried.

Fee reports for the month of March were presented to the Board for their review on behalf of the Register of Deeds and Sheriff.

Currently the Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 9 local inmates.

At 8:30 A.M. the Board of County Commissioners, acting as the Board of County Canvassers, canvassed election returns from the April 2, 2019 special election called by Unified School District No. 114 for implementation of 3.600 mill capital outlay levy for a period not to exceed four (4) years. After review of votes cast, the election results were found to be accurate and just with 332 voting in favor of passage and 228 opposing.

The Board of County Commissioners were in receipt of sales tax collections for the month of January 2019 in the amount of \$41,756.07.

County Clerk Peggy Franken presented the County Commission with departmental budget and expense report for the month of March 2019 for their review.

In preparation of the 2020 Doniphan County budget, the Board of County Commissioners requested the County Clerk send each department a memo asking for 2020 budget requests to be submitted to the County Clerk on or before May 10, 2019, for review by the Board of County Commissioners at their May 13, 2019 meeting.

Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson introduced the Board of County Commissioners to Location One, an international online web service available to Doniphan County through the Kansas Economic Development Alliance. Location One allows listing of commercial buildings and sites for sale in order to market to a larger audience for economic growth. Currently the Elwood Industrial Park is listed on the website. Property owners are

encouraged to contact Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson with potential buildings or commercial sites for sale for listing on the Location One website.

Discussion was held between the Board of County Commissioners and Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson in regards to creation of a line item in the 2020 Economic Development budget for Economic Development Initiative funds, determined on an economic impact basis following application process.

Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng informed the County Commission the current Missouri River stage is 19.2', however with rainfall in the coming week in States to the north, the river stage will increase. In addition, the cities of Elwood and Wathena are in what is called the "fish bowl effect" where ground and rain water is continuing to swell from within the levee due to flood gates not allowed to open until the Missouri River stage falls below 17'. The cities of Elwood and Wathena are currently pumping water to relieve pressure on city lagoons.

Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng also told the County Board increased traffic on US Highway 36 could last for several months, if not into the fall, due to the amount of flood damage caused to Interstate 29 in Iowa, closing the Interstate and rerouting traffic through Doniphan County via US Highway 36. The Kansas Department of Transportation has estimated the increase in traffic from 10,000 vehicles a day upwards of 40,000 since the 2019 flood event began. Mrs. Meng urged caution to motorists, especially with planting season beginning and the need for farm machinery to use the highway.

Commissioner Collins asked Emergency Management Director when Doniphan County would receive monetary assistance on the Federal and State levels to help alleviate the cost to Doniphan County for damage caused by the 2019 flood event. Mrs. Meng stated the State of Kansas must meet a monetary threshold in order to be declared by the Federal Government, although Doniphan County may meet the monetary threshold on a local level, the State of Kansas must receive a Presidential Declaration for disaster relief before Doniphan County could apply for reimbursable funds.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris reminded the Board of County Commissioners now is the time property owners will be applying dust control to county roadways and asked if the Commission still require a waiver allowing the Road Department to perform maintenance and potentially damage dust control, in emergency repair situations. It was agreed property owners applying dust control must have on file with the Road Office an acknowledgement and release agreement between Doniphan County and property owner for application of dust control. Doniphan County reserves the right to remove dust control to perform necessary road maintenance and will not be held liable to replace, unless there is proven negligence on behalf of Doniphan County and its employees.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, informed the County Commission road right-of-way violation letters were mailed certified mail giving landowners 15-days to remove personal property from the County road right-of-ways, with April 9, 2019 being the deadline. The Board of County Commissioners were in agreement to have the Road Department view the roadways on April 10, 2019 then turn the matter over to the Doniphan County Sheriff's Department to establish a completion of action plan or enforce State law, if not cleared of obstructions.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to approve the following unapproved expenditures for the Road Department: Franken Auto Parts \$340.94 (1st District) Franken Auto Parts \$377.85 (2nd District) and Highland Hardware \$274.08 (1st District). Motion carried.

Commissioner McKernan inquired about the purchase of rock from the Schneider Quarry. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris said a meeting is to be held with Whetrock after the Road Foreman determine the amount of rock needed to agree on a price per ton.

Commissioner Geiger said he has received several complaints on the dilapidated condition of buildings leased by Waste Management, doing business as Deffenbaugh Disposal Inc., at the Doniphan County landfill. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris will contact Deffenbaugh Disposal Inc. to discuss necessary repairs.

Commissioner Collins updated the Board of County Commissioners on the City of White Cloud council meeting he attended to discuss a request by City of White Cloud Officials for Doniphan County to assist with street repair within the City. Commissioner Collins requested Doniphan County provide \$3,000.00 worth of rock to the City of White Cloud to improve streets. Road Office Manger Lindsay Norris said she was presented with a map of streets within the City of White Cloud in need of repair and was asked by City Officials that the County provide labor and machinery to assist the City, as in-kind match for grant funds the City of White Cloud has applied for. Commissioner Geiger said there is no precedence set for assisting cities. Commissioner McKernan said the Board of County Commissioners should meet with City Official during a County Commission meeting to discuss prior to taking any action.

At 10:11 A.M. Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the County Commission at 10:16 A.M. Motion carried. The County Attorney and County Clerk remained.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to allocate \$1,000.00 to repair 3rd Street and 5th Street leading to the Four State Lookout in the City of White Cloud. Motion carried.

County Attorney Charles D. Baskins suggested the Economic Development Director or City of White Cloud Officials contact the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism to determine if State funds are available to assist with maintaining the roadway to the Four State Lookout, as it has been designated as one of the Seven Wonders of Kansas.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to advertise to fill a vacant full-time position within the Second Road District. Motion carried.

Commissioner Collins informed the County Commission he approved a repair bill in the amount of \$1,600.00 to repair a pump on one of the leased Western Star rock trucks.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Geiger adjourned the meeting at 10:31 A.M.

DATED THIS 8TH DAY OF APRIL 2019.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Thad G. Geiger, Chairman