

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, AUGUST 5, 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, County Clerk Peggy Franken and Deputy County Clerk Melissa Mott were present. County Attorney Charles D. Baskins was present for a portion of the meeting.

The Kansas Chief Reporter Paul Stewart and Susan Studer observed the entire meeting. Those present for a portion of the meeting included Road Foremen Steve Gerdes and Sean Price, Noxious Weed Director Jim Norris, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris and Mark Rounds.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended to include legal executive session with counsel. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to approve County Commission minutes of the July 29, 2019 regular meeting as written. Motion carried.

Fee reports for the month of July 2019 were presented to the Board on behalf of the County Clerk, Register of Deeds and Sheriff for their review.

Currently the Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 7 local inmates and 7 out of county inmates.

Susan Studer asked for amounts of fees collected to be shared with the public when fee reports are reviewed by the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Geiger concurred saying fee reports are open public record available for inspection.

First District Road Foreman Sean Price informed the County Commission road patch work is complete. First Road District is currently working on a tube replacement project on 205th Road in Section 10 Township 3 Range 22E and is ready to commence with chip seal projects. Foreman Price projected completion of three miles of chip sealed roads per day.

Third District Road Foreman Steve Gerdes said Third Road District is working on a tube extension project on Sheridan Road and is ready to begin chip seal projects.

Second District Commissioner Thad Geiger stated Second Road District is completing a tube project in Section 17 Township 4 Range 22E on Sheridan Road, once complete the road crew will be ready to begin chip seal. Commissioner Geiger suggested preparing school bus routes prior to commencing chip seal projects in order to have roadways ready for the start of school and limit interruptions to the chip seal process. The Board of

County Commissioners and Road Foremen were in agreement to begin chip seal projects on August 12, 2019, weather permitting. Road and Bridge Foremen will not be in attendance at the weekly Board of County Commissioners meetings until after the completion of chip seal.

The Board of County Commissioners were in agreement to approve overtime for employees of the Road Department during the current chip seal season if the work day needs to be extended in order to complete the current project.

Third District Road Foreman Steve Gerdes asked for a change to the leave time policy, allowing employees of the Road Department to utilize vacation time during chip seal season. It was the consensus of the Board of County Commissioners to adhere to county policy and not allow any use of leave time during chip seal season.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, to approve the hiring of Frances Hubbard to assist Noxious Weed Director Jim Norris with the annual noxious weed survey, limited to 40 working hours. Motion carried.

Commissioner Geiger asked Noxious Weed Director Jim Norris to prepare a work list for trimming trees back from county roadways during the winter months for the Board's review. Director Norris informed the Commission he has been spraying guardrail and sign posts while treating noxious weeds along county roads.

County Clerk Peggy Franken presented the Board of County Commissioners with sales tax receipts in the amount of \$46,046.82.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris told the Board of County Commissioners Engineers with Schwab-Eaton, PA recommended not removing bridge structures over abandoned rail road tracks, as the rail lines may be reinstated at some point. She pointed out that all options should be explored before removing any bridge structure, with or without water flow, as the structure once removed will no longer be eligible for future Federal or State funds for replacement.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, informed the County Board of Husker Steels' intent to replace two piers on bridge T-133-1 located at the junction of 190th and Eminence Roads during the months of September/October 2019.

The Board of County Commissioners were in agreement to make application to the Kansas Department of Transportation Off-System Bridge Replacement Project Program for replacement of bridge structures T-43-1 located on 140th and Castleton Roads, southwest of Denton, Kansas, and T-831-1 located on 195th Road east of Troy, Kansas.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris presented the Board of County Commissioners with a list and map of bridge structures cited as needing immediate attention resulting from the 2019 Inspection and Analysis of Off-System and RS Bridges by Schwab-Eaton, PA. Commissioner Geiger asked Manager Norris to prioritize the list by need.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, also presented the Commission with a list of roads to be chip sealed during the 2019 season.

First District: 240th Road (1 mile) from Sparks east of Highland, Kansas. Ashpoint Road (4 miles) from Leona, Kansas, north. 205th Road (1 mile) east of Ashpoint. Coronado Rd (4 miles) north of Highland, Kansas to Iowa Point.

Second District: Monument Road (0.60 miles) south of Wathena, Kansas. Sheridan Rd (1.50 miles) south of Wathena, Kansas. Randolph Road (1.20 miles) south US Highway 36. 195th Road (1.20 miles) east of Troy, Kansas. Mesquito Creek Road (1.80 miles) north of Troy, Kansas. Mineral Point Road (0.70 miles) south and east of Troy, Kansas. Last Chance Road (3.0 miles) south of Troy, Kansas.

Third District: St Columbus Road (1.60 miles) north of US Highway 36 to 210th Road. Sheridan Road (0.50 miles) south of Wathena, Kansas. Monument Road (1.20 miles) south of Wathena, Kansas. Treece Road (2.5 miles) north of Wathena, Kansas. Toulon Road (0.60 miles). 190th Road between Tioga Road and Toulon Road (0.50 miles) north of Wathena, Kansas. Tioga Road (1.5 miles) north of Wathena, Kansas.

Road Office Manager Norris informed the County Commission to date \$74,000.00 has been spent on patch material preparing roads for chip seal.

Third District Road Foreman Steve Gerdes told the Board of County Commissioners the roller rented to assist with patch work would be returned to Foley Equipment. He stated the roller would be needed in the future to assist with patching roads not currently being chip sealed.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to approve road expenditures to Franken Auto Parts \$279.87, Highland Hardware \$253.90 and Ellis McGuire \$410.00. Motion carried.

The Board of County Commissioners discussed holding public meetings with each of the cities within the County to discuss the continuation of the countywide 1% sales tax initiative on the November 5, 2019 general election ballot.

Commissioner Geiger asked the Board of County Commissioners to consider holding serious discussion on formulating a 4-5 year bridge repair/replacement and hard surface road plan, making sure it is affordable and equitable, following chip seal season. Commissioner Collins agreed saying the Board of County Commissioners must keep up the County's infrastructure.

Mark Rounds agreed with the Board of County Commissioners formulating a 5 year road and bridge plan, saying it was extremely important. He encourage the Board to make the plan simple enough to accomplish its goals and look at expanding upon over a 10 year period, making sure the plan is equitable amongst all three road districts.

At 9:12 A.M. Commissioner McKernan made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing legal matters with counsel, with the meeting to reconvene at 9:23 A.M. in the office of the Doniphan County Commission. Commissioner Collins

seconded the motion. Motion carried. The County Attorney, County Clerk and Deputy County Clerk remained.

The Kansas Chief Reporter Paul Stewart asked for a listing of the 2019 proposed roads to be chip sealed.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Geiger adjourned the meeting at 9:26 A.M.

DATED THIS 5TH DAY OF AUGUST 2019.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Thad G. Geiger, Chairman