

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, JULY 29, 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 and County Clerk Peggy Franken were present. County Attorney Charles D. Baskins was present for a portion of the meeting. Third District County Commissioner Jerry P. McKernan was absent.

The Kansas Chief Reporter Paul Stewart observed the entire meeting. Those present for a portion of the meeting included Road Foremen Steve Gerdes and Sean Price, Custodian Richard Blanton, Noxious Weed Director Jim Norris, Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, and Register of Deeds Susan Shuster.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, to approve County Commission minutes of the July 22, 2019 regular meeting as written.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of July 31, 2019 as presented.

Currently the Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 6 local inmates and 7 out of county inmates.

Third District Road Foreman Steve Gerdes informed the County Board Third Road District continues to assist Second Road District with patch work on Mesquito Creek Road and City of Troy project on Second and Poplar Streets, with work to be completed within the week. Foreman Gerdes said road maintenance will begin on gravel roads neglected while preparing hard surfaced roads for chip seal.

First District Road Foreman Sean Price stated the First Road District assisted Second and Third Districts with patch work on Mesquito Creek Road. Hard surfaced roads not scheduled for chip seal during the current season will be patched by use of hot or cold patch. First Road District continues to maintain gravel roadways.

Second District Commissioner Thad Geiger said Second Road District will complete patch work on Mesquito Creek Road and assist with the City of Troy project on Second and Poplar Streets. The Road Crews are ready to begin chip seal on county roads, once complete Second Road District will commence tube and bank stabilization project on Ottumwa Road, between 130th and 140th Roads. Commissioner Geiger shared with the County Commission the use of broken up concrete is a cost effective measure working out well for bank stabilization and fill on road projects.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion to approve work by Smith Plumbing and Small Repair for installation of new lavatory and vanity in the Doniphan County Courthouse annex building at a cost of \$1,500.00. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion.

At 8:46 A.M. Commissioner Geiger made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect personnel within the Noxious Weed Department with the meeting to reconvene at 9:01 A.M. in the office of the Doniphan County Commission. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. The County Clerk and Noxious Weed Director remained.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, to approve the purchase of a new computer for the Noxious Weed Department in the amount of \$855.45.

Noxious Weed Director Jim Norris informed the County Commission the raven spray controls installed in the Noxious Weed spray truck will pay for itself within two spray seasons, based on the ability to control the amount of chemical used.

Director Norris informed the County Board electrical upgrade work in the Noxious Weed shop building has been completed.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion to publish notice of vote for Ambulance District No. 1 2020 budget to increase property taxes in an amount greater than the amount levied for the 2019 budget, adjusted by the 2018 consumer price index for all urban consumers. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris discussed county policy on purchase and installation of entrance tubes. Currently policy sets forth Doniphan County purchasing and installing one 18"x30' road entrance tube. Landowners are responsible for the purchase of additional sized tubes and replacement of existing tubes at their own expense. The Board asked Manager Norris to develop written policy to be made part of permanent county record.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris presented the Board with 2019 Inspection and Analysis of Off-System and RS Bridges by Schwab-Eaton, PA. Discussion followed on replacement or repair of county owned bridge structures. Manager Norris, based on recommendation made by Engineer David Beach, Schwab-Eaton, PA, said two bridge structures meet the requirements of the Kansas Department of Transportation Off-System Bridge Replacement Project Program and should be submitted for consideration of replacement during the 2021 application period. Those structures are: T-43-1 located on 140th and Castleton Road, east of the intersection, southwest of Denton, Kansas. And T-831-1 195th Road, east of Troy, Kansas.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, also informed the Board of County Commissioners of Kansas Department of Transportation's plan to unveil the reinstatement of the Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program aimed at repairing or replacing short span bridges.

Engineer David Beach with Schwab-Eaton, PA also recommended converting bridge structures, which meet certain criteria, to box culverts or low water crossings, as relayed by Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris. Commissioner Geiger asked if bridge structure T-831-2 located over abandoned railroad tracks on 195th Road could be removed and the roadway built up. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris will check on the prospect of eliminating the bridge structure.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion to approve Road expenditures to Franken Auto Parts in the amount of \$361.40 and Savannah Auto Electric \$346.00. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve up to \$2,000.00 worth of AB3 rock for shoulders along 240th Road. Commissioner Geiger seconded the motion.

Commissioner Geiger suggested allocating road funds each year to repair/replace bridge structures and asphalt roadways in each Road District using county equipment and manpower. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris concurred, saying the number of chip sealed miles could be reduced thereby allowing funds to be used for asphaltting roads in each District, as a way to sustain county roads for a longer period of time.

At 9:48 A.M. Commissioner Geiger made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing legal matters with counsel, with the meeting to be called back to order at 9:54 A.M. in the office of the County Commissioners. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. The County Attorney, County Clerk and Road Office Manager remained.

Discussion was held on the 2020 Doniphan County Budget. County Clerk Peggy Franken said Doniphan County's current valuation is 144,377,958 as of June 15, 2019. As prepared the 2020 budget sets an estimated mill levy tax rate of 39.700 mills down from 40.236 for 2019. Commissioner Geiger made a motion to approve the budget for publication and set a public hearing for August 19, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. for consideration of adoption of the 2020 Doniphan County budget. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion.

Commissioner Collins asked about reserved monies in the FEMA fund. Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng said the money in the FEMA fund is allocations from previous FEMA projections for natural disaster projects. She suggested the money be left in the fund and dedicated for emergency funds.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to adopt County Resolution 2019-03. A Resolution to submit to the qualified electors of Doniphan County, Kansas, the proposition of continuing the levying of a one percent (1%) countywide retailers' sales tax for an additional period not to exceed five (5) years effective October 1, 2020. Commissioner Geiger seconded the motion.

The Board of County Commissioners were in receipt of a letter from Bob Hamilton, Northeast Kansas Law Enforcement Liaison, thanking the Board of County Commissioners for their support of local law enforcement and Sheriff's personnel controlling traffic and making roadways safer during the increased period of traffic along US Highway 36 due to flooding in the States of Missouri and Nebraska.

Commissioner Geiger updated the Board of County Commissioners on the 2019 Doniphan County 4H Fair. Commissioner Geiger said the Fair Board will be holding several fundraisers in order to modernize fair buildings.

Commissioner Geiger also reiterated the need to develop a plan for replacement of bridges and hard surfacing of county roads.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Geiger adjourned the meeting at 10:53 A.M.

DATED THIS 29TH DAY OF JULY 2019.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Thad G. Geiger, Chairman