

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, MARCH 2, 2020**

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 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 observed the entire regular meeting. Others present for a portion of the meeting included First District Road Foreman Sean Price, Second District Road Foreman Nick Popple, Third District Road Foreman Steve Gerdes, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson, Zoning Administrator Julie Meng, Invenergy Director of Renewable Development Krista Mann and Invenergy Analyst of Transmission Development Patrick Caldwell.

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

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve County Commission minutes of the February 24, 2020 regular meeting as written. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve warrants for the period of February 28, 2020 as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve change orders to the 2019 Doniphan County tax roll. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried.

Fee report for the month of January 2020 was presented to the Board for their review on behalf of the County Clerk.

Currently the Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 1 Wyandotte County and 8 local inmates.

Second District Road Foreman Nick Popple told the Board of County Commissioners the District is working on shaping and rocking county roads. Preventative maintenance to stabilize approaches is slated to begin on bridge structure RS 220, located on 100th Road in Section 6 Township 15, Range 21E over Rock Creek.

Discussion was held in regard to routine road maintenance on District line roads. It was agreed the Road District performing maintenance will finish out the road to the Highway, with the adjoining District to pick up maintenance from that point.

First District Road Foreman Sean Price informed the County Commission of the need to replace a tube on Ash Point Road, east of Purcell, south of Highway K 20. The road has been closed to traffic due to the 6' x 104' road tube splitting in half causing dangerous driving conditions. Foreman Price said the District has a road tube in stock and will begin work on replacement as soon as utilities have been located. Another 6' x 104' tube will need to be ordered for a project on 150th and Friendship Roads. The District continues to shape roadways and perform maintenance on equipment.

Third District Road Foreman Steve Gerdes stated the District continues to blade and ditch roads within the District. Third District will assist First and Second Districts with patch work when hot patch material becomes available.

Commissioner McKernan said the Road Department will patch roadways as soon as patch material becomes available, with plans to begin 2020 chip seal projects as early as May.

First District Road Foreman Price asked about prior discussion on hard surfacing one mile of road by use of asphalt in each District. Commissioner Geiger said discussion has been held by the Board of County Commissioners regarding allocation of sales tax monies to be used in each Road District for infrastructure development by use of asphalt overlay on roads, repair/replacement of bridge structures or roadside stabilization. Geiger asked the Board of County Commissioners to take action on the multi-year project plan at their March 9, 2020 meeting.

Commissioner Geiger said the Second Road District had issues with hauling of 3” or larger rock on roads during the previous week. Commissioner Geiger reminded Road Foremen 3” or larger rock should only be hauled in special circumstances to repair soft spots and packed as soon as spread. He suggested use of 2” or smaller rock on roads.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the purchase of a battery cover and lamp assembly for the hi-loader #81 at the First Road District in the amount of \$401.55. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve maintenance filters for motor graders in the First Road District at a cost of \$766.26. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion to approve DEF system repairs to the 2012 Freightliner #2 at the Second District at a cost of \$1,557.66 by Midway Ford. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris informed the Board of County Commissioners Herzog Contracting Corporation would have hot patch material available at a cost of \$60.00 per ton, compared to \$65.00 per ton in 2019.

Manager Norris also told the County Board the Road Districts have no stockpile chat, therefore more chat may need to be hauled in addition to the approved 3,000 ton. She has given Road Foremen a list of roads on schedule to be chip sealed during the 2020 season.

Sealed bids for the purchase of Firestone or BF Goodrich tires for the Road Department were opened and read aloud, no action was taken pending review:

Consumer Oil & Propane	\$10,883.71 (Firestone)
Neumann Services	\$12,187.24 (Firestone)
Deluxe Truck Stop	\$12,664.80 (BF Goodrich)
Todd’s Tire Service	\$13,003.20 (Continental)

Krista Mann, Director Renewable Development and Patrick Caldwell, Analyst of Transmission Development with Invenergy, a Midwest-based developer and operator of sustainable energy solutions developing Grain Belt Express, an approximate 800-mile-high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line project that will deliver low-cost, clean energy from western Kansas, through Missouri and Illinois to Indiana. The route of the 600-kilowatt transmission line has been approved by the Kansas Corporate Commission, beginning in Dodge City, Kansas (Ford County) and crossing over into Missouri through Doniphan County, Kansas. The proposed Doniphan County route enters the County north of the city of Denton in a southeastern direction crossing the Missouri River at 125th Road, closely following the routes of Rockies Express and Keystone Pipelines. It was reported 4 to 5 lattice type structures would be built per mile on a 40’ x 40’ base with tower height of 130’ to 150’ dependent upon terrain. Ms. Mann said the next phase of the project would include land team meetings with landowners to determine payments for 1) Easements for acquisition of project right-of-

way 150' to 200' feet wide. Payments would depend on land type, acreage and market study, usually calculating to 110% of the land valuation. 2) Structure payment based on the number of structures on landowner's property and 3) Crop damages. Invenergy will enter into road maintenance agreements with Doniphan County and make PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Tax) payments to Doniphan County during the 10-year State of Kansas tax exemption period. Construction on the high voltage transmission line is set to begin in late 2021 and go online in 2024. County Attorney Charles Baskins asked about specifics of the route through Doniphan County including bridges and roads that may not carry the load of construction equipment. Ms. Mann said Invenergy will look at alternate routes or improving structures and roadways. In addition, Invenergy will put up a bond and escrow for road maintenance during construction. Attorney Baskins also asked about approval from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regarding flight patterns for Rosecrans Airport and the Corp of Engineers for crossing the Missouri River. Ms. Mann stated they are in early stages of the project, working to secure easements and hold meetings with the FAA and Corp of Engineers, as of date no road agreements or permits have been granted except from the Kansas Corporate Commission. Patrick Caldwell, Analyst of Transmission Development with Invenergy, will be Doniphan County's project contact along with County Attorney Charles Baskins and Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris.

County Clerk Peggy Franken reported sales tax receipts in the amount of \$43,268.09.

At 10:04 A.M. The Board of County Commissioners recessed for a break until 10:09 A.M.

Discussion was held in regard to making monetary payment to offset budgeted expenses for transfer of equipment between County departments based on wholesale value. The Board was in agreement to take action on a formal policy during their March 9, 2020 meeting.

Commissioner Geiger updated the Board of County Commissioners on current Bills in the Kansas Legislation including Senate Bill 294, an act concerning property taxation; relating to tax rates; truth in taxation; establishing notice and public hearing requirements prior to approval to exceed revenue neutral rate. The Bill would discontinue the city and county tax lid and require taxing districts to give public notice by mail when they intend to exceed their revenue neutral rate. Commissioner Geiger stated if passed, the law would prevent levying of additional monies for development and infrastructure.

At 10:25 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 in the office of the County Commission at 10:35 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried. The County Attorney and County Clerk remained.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Geiger adjourned the meeting at 10:45 A.M.

DATED THIS 2ND DAY OF MARCH 2020.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Thad G. Geiger, Chairman