

UNOFFICIAL
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, MARCH 4, 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 observed the entire regular meeting.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, 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 February 25, 2019 regular meeting as written. Motion carried.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Collins, to approve warrants for the period of February 28, 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

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

Currently the Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 13 local inmates.

Paul Smith met with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss concerns with the procedure for which motor grader operators spread rock on county roadways with most of the rock ending up in the grader ditch, causing a loss of rock on the roadway at the taxpayers' expense. Commissioner Geiger said he addressed with the Second District Road Crew road maintenance practices and acknowledged the road department could do a better job maintaining county roadways. Mr. Smith also asked if the county intended to repair the road bank along his property on Last Chance Road that was damaged during road maintenance. Commissioner Geiger said he was unaware of any issue with the road bank along Mr. Smith's property but would follow up with Second District Road Foreman Danny Adkins.

At 8:45 A.M. Commissioner McKernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Collins, to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect personnel in the Noxious Weed Department, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the County Commission at 8:55 A.M. Motion carried. The County Clerk and Noxious Weed Directors remained.

The Board of County Commissioners acknowledged and accepted the amended retirement date of Noxious Weed Director Francis Hubbard effective April 30, 2019.

Noxious Weed Director Francis Hubbard presented the Board of County Commissioners with the 2018 Annual Noxious Weed Progress Plan and 2019 Annual Noxious Weed Management Plan for their review. No action was taken by the Board on approval of said plans pending review.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to approve the attendance of Appraiser Danielle Kiefer at the annual Kansas Association of Appraisers conference and PVD educational training. Motion carried.

Chairman Geiger asked Appraiser Danielle Kiefer the procedure for assessing new construction when the Appraisers office is not notified by the property owners. Appraiser Kiefer said she and her staff survey the entire county beginning in the spring, with final review in November of each year to assess new construction projects. In addition, GIS mapping technology helps to view new construction throughout the County.

Aging Administrator Peggy Wood presented the Board with bids for replacement of the windshield on the 2015 Dodge Caravan transportation van as follows:

- Safelite Auto Glass \$439.56
- Davis Body Shop \$457.58

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to accept the bid of Safelite Auto Glass to replace the windshield in the 2015 Dodge Caravan transportation van. Motion carried.

Administrator Wood informed the Board of County Commissioners of renewal of food safety licenses through the Kansas Department of Agriculture for the Highland and Troy senior citizens center sites at a cost of \$220.00 each. Wathena and Elwood sites will be renewed by March 31, 2019, dependent upon the status out-come of the Elwood Leisure Hour Senior Center following the Elwood City Council meeting the night of March 4, 2019.

Aging Administrator Peggy Wood reported on the number of participants per day at each of the senior citizens center sites for the month of February 2019: Highland 24, Troy no information available, Wathena 11.74 and Elwood 2.14.

County Clerk Peggy Franken presented the Board with sales tax collections for the month of December 2018 in the amount of \$44,665.51. The Board of County Commissioners will review the sales tax initiative at their March 11, 2019 meeting.

County Clerk Peggy Franken also informed the County Commission of receipt of the Ruth and Roger Wolfe Trust Grant in the amount of \$4,400.00, applied for on behalf of the Troy Community Park Committee for the purchase of playground equipment. Chairman Geiger expressed the County's appreciation and recognition to the Wolfe Trust Fund for their efforts in supporting community projects.

Chairman Geiger updated the Board of County Commissioners on pending bills in the Kansas Legislature regarding the option for public notices to be published online and transparency in community college funding.

County Clerk Peggy Franken told the Board of County Commissioners of the retirement of First District Road Employee Howard Huber effective March 31, 2019.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris updated the Board on the status of bridge T32-1 replacement on Mineral Point and 210th Roads in conjunction with the Kansas Department of Transportation Off-System Bridge Replacement Project Program.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to approve two motor grader tires for the Second Road District in the amount of \$1,902.54 from Kansasland tire, as no local vendors bid.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McKernan, to approve the following unapproved road expenditures: Franken Auto Parts \$340.94 (two batteries First District); Michael Todd \$265.21 (chains Third District) and Henke \$269.75 (plow repair Second District). Motion carried.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris informed the County Commission lease purchase payment on four 2017 John Deere motor graders will be made during the month of March in the amount of \$124,773.63.

Discussion was held in regard to purchasing a tow rope for the Road Department. It was the consensus of the Board to draw up specifications and bid the purchase.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Collins, to accept the 2019 oil price from Vance Brothers in the amount of \$1.85 per gallon plus .08 per gallon for freight. Motion carried.

The Board of County Commissioners held discussion with Adam Hahs, Account Manager for Liquid Sales for Vance Brothers, regarding the use of a higher grade polymer oil on some of the county's heavily traveled chip seal roads, at a rate of \$2.15 per gallon. Action was tabled pending determination of roadways to be sealed with the higher grade polymer oil.

Register of Deeds Susan Shuster updated the Board of County Commissioners on the dollar amount of mortgages filed in February 2019 and informed the County Board the tile flooring underneath the carpeting in the Register of Deeds office is popping up, causing the carpeting to lift. The tile floor has tested negative for asbestos. Ms. Shuster is obtaining bids to remove the carpet and tile and install new carpeting.

Susan Shuster, Register of Deeds, presented the County Commission with a time estimate for performing technology services for County departments. No action was taken on supplemental pay.

County Attorney Charles Baskins told the County Commission one hundred seventy-nine (179) delinquent real estate tax collection letters have been mailed out by his office to property owners. Chairman Geiger stated a large part of running county government is tax collections in order to have sufficient revenues to pay for services such as maintaining roads. He reminded taxpayers to pay their taxes and keep them current in order for Doniphan County to keep up with services. Commissioner Collins said there needs to be a change in the mindset of those who don't pay their property tax, they want good roads, good schools and other services, when they fail to pay their taxes they show no devotion to the communities in which they live and make it difficult for entities to continue to provide services.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Geiger adjourned the meeting at 10:02 A.M.

DATED THIS 4TH DAY OF MARCH 2019.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Thad G. Geiger, Chairman