

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**  
**DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, SEPTEMBER 30, 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. Others present for a portion of the meeting included Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson, Register of Deeds Susan Shuster, Sheriff Chad Clary, Undersheriff Mark Allen and Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Collins, to approve the meeting agenda as amended to include nomination of Second District Road Foreman and executive sessions for non-elect and legal purposes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve County Commission minutes of the September 23, 2019 regular meeting as written. Commissioner McKernan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of September 30, 2019 as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fee report for the month of September 2019 was presented to the Board for their review on behalf of the County Clerk.

Currently the Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 10 local inmates and 7 out of county inmates.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve additional concrete and stone work to the north courthouse steps in the amount of \$2,200.00 and concrete and stone work to the south courthouse steps in the amount of \$4,400.00 with Henderson Masonry to perform the work and payment made from the New Sales Tax fund. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to contract with Gudenkauf Tree Service for removal of oak tree on the west side of the courthouse, including stump and debris removal and fill dirt, in the amount of \$950.00. Removal of maple tree on east side of the courthouse, including stump and debris removal and fill dirt, in the amount of \$1,075.00. Trim remainder of courtyard trees along with debris removal in the amount of \$525.00. Commissioner McKernan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Board of County Commissioners were in agreement to appoint Chairman Thad Geiger as voting delegate for the Kansas Association of Counties conference November 12-14, 2019, with Commissioner Collins to serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion to hire Nicholas Popple to fill the Second District Road Foreman's position, effective October 10, 2019, at an annual rate of \$40,000.00 subject to 90-day probationary period. Upon completion of successful probation period, rate will increase to pay rate of First and Third District Road Foremen. Commissioner McKernan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson presented the Board of County Commissioners with rack cards for the upcoming Big Kansas Road Trip featuring Brown, Doniphan and Nemaha Counties May 7-10, 2020.

Director Johnson also discussed with the Board a recent meeting she attended with the City of St. Joseph, Missouri, Chamber of Commerce. It was the consensus of the Board of County Commissioners not to contribute to the organization at the present time, but to keep open communications with the City of St. Joseph, Missouri, Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Kansas Department of Commerce, Kansas Department of Agriculture and Doniphan County Chamber of Commerce.

Register of Deeds Susan Shuster presented the Board of County Commissioners with an addendum to Lee Grover Construction bid to install rock wool insulation in the ceiling between the Maintenance room ceiling and Register of Deeds office floor for an additional amount of \$3,489.00. The Board of County Commissioners were in agreement to honor the original bid of \$13,505.00 for installation of spray in fiberglass insulation between the Maintenance room ceiling and Register of Deeds office flooring to address heating issues in the Register of Deeds office.

Sheriff Chad Clary and Undersheriff Mark Allen presented the Board of County Commissioners with deputy officer wage comparison for like organizations as follows: Brown County \$16.40 per hour including paid portion of health insurance. Hiawatha Police Department \$15.00 per hour non-experienced officer up to \$17.50 per hour experienced officer. Atchison County \$16.52 non-experienced officer and Atchison City Police Department \$17.00 per hour non-experienced officer. Sheriff Clary informed the County Board the Department is three deputy officers short and would like to hire two full-time deputies and one part-time. In order to be competitive and hire trained experienced officers he requested starting pay for experienced officers be set at \$16.50 per hour plus benefits, with a different pay scale set for non-experienced officers.

At 9:11 A.M. Commissioner Geiger made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the individual interest of non-elect personnel within the Sheriff's Department, with the meeting to reconvene at 9:20 A.M. in the office of the Doniphan County Commission. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion to set the starting wage for experienced deputy officers, who have completed the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center, at \$16.50 per hour including benefits. And to set the pay for non-experienced officers at \$15.00 per hour plus benefits. Current deputy officers below the new starting wage will be increased based upon experience level. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At 9:21 A.M. the Board of County Commissioners recessed for a break with the meeting called back to order at 9:26 A.M. in the office of the Doniphan County Commissioners.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris updated the Board of County Commissioners on the amount of rock hauled and paid year to date. Norris informed the County Board County Road Funds paid for \$1,050.65 of rock in Wolf River Township, \$620.00 in Burr Oak Township and \$1,539.78 in Center Township. It was agreed by the Board of County Commissioners the amount of rock hauled from County Road Funds will be subtracted from the amount approved for use by each Road District the previous week.

Correspondence was presented from Egan Arrow regarding the purchase of a flashing safety device added to vehicles to warn motorists. No action was taken by the Board.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris also presented the Board of County Commissioners with road expenses by district for the month of August 2019.

Commissioner Geiger informed the County Commission of a donation by Roger Whetstine in the amount of \$8,000.00 to assist the County with chip seal on Mesquito Creek Road. Commissioner Geiger stated the donated funds would be used to place an additional layer of chip seal on Mesquito Creek Road to seal cracks, today September 30, 2019.

The Board of County Commissioners requested Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris compile a condition report for their review on four 2015 John Deere motor graders, for discussion on equipment trade purposes.

The County Commission also asked Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris to investigate the legality of removing DEF systems from rock trucks.

At 9:40 A.M. Commissioner Geiger made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing legal matters pertaining to trade secrets with legal counsel, with the meeting to reconvene in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 10:05 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At 10:06 A.M. Commissioner Collins made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the individual interest of non-elect personnel in

the Road Department, with the meeting to reconvene in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 10:16 A.M. Commissioner McKernan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Geiger adjourned the meeting at 10:17 A.M.

DATED THIS 30TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2019.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

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Thad G. Geiger, Chairman