

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, MARCH 16, 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, County Attorney Charles D. Baskins and County Clerk Peggy Franken were present.

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, Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng, Appraiser Danielle Kiefer, Deputy Treasurer Nicole Diveley, Register of Deeds Susan J. Shuster, Aging Administrator Peggy Wood, Custodian Richard Blanton, Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Kay Smith, Northeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging Executive Director Karen Wilson and Elmer Peuker.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve the County Commission meeting agenda as amended to include meeting with appointed and elected officials to discuss precautions associated with the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve County Commission minutes of the March 9, 2020 regular meeting as written. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of March 16, 2020 as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried.

Currently the Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 1 Wyandotte County and 9 local inmates.

Third District Road Foreman Steve Gerdes told the County Commission Third District has ordered filters to perform maintenance on equipment and was in the process of hauling chat for the 2020 chip seal season but are now waiting on Norris Quarries to restock their inventory.

Second District Road Foreman Nick Popple said the Second District has been hauling chat and rock on roads where needed to address soft spots.

First District Road Foreman Sean Price informed the County Board the 2017 John Deere motor graders will need tires in the near future. The District continues to haul chat and rock county roads.

Aging Administrator Peggy Wood told the County Commission future measures may be taken to limit transportation services to the Kansas City and surrounding areas out of concern for the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). Emergency Management Director Julie Meng asked Administrator Wood if considerations were being given to closing congregate meal sites, allowing only home delivery and pick up. Mrs. Wood stated she would follow the directive of Health Department Administrator Sheryl Pierce and Northeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging before recommending closure of congregate senior citizen center meal sites.

Register of Deeds Susan Shuster shared with the Board of County Commissioners and Department Administrators a warning issued by Homeland Security responsible for the Nation's

infrastructure on behalf of CISA (Cyber Security and Infrastructure Security Agency) stating “CISA expects to see an uptick in cybersecurity issues and phishing as a result of so many people working remote. They would like cybersecurity issues or phishing scams related to COVID-19 be referred to them through their helpdesk, that link is: <https://www.us-cert.gov/report>” “CISA also wanted to reiterate to those of us in public safety and business who are working from home to use proper cyber hygiene, including keeping firewalls and antivirus software up-to-date and don't click on links if they are not from a trusted sender.” Ms. Shuster reminded County Officials to be vigilant and not open emails or attachments unless they have verified it is being received from a trusted sender.

County Clerk Peggy Franken stated preparation for the 2021 County budget will begin in April, with departmental budget submissions due in May.

Commissioner Geiger asked Appraiser Danielle Kiefer for an update on agricultural land affected by Missouri River flooding which will see a decrease in value due to change of classification for the year 2020. Appraiser Kiefer will follow up with the Board of County Commissioners at their March 23, 2020 meeting.

Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce and Kay Smith, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, updated the Board of County Commissioners and Department Administrators on CDC and Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) guidelines for monitoring the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). Public information will be posted at each County office, as well as, on the County website www.dpcountyks.com and on social media sites. Administrator Pierce stressed social distancing and practicing good hygiene by washing hands, avoid touching your face, stay home if you are sick or come in contact with someone who is or has been exposed to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). Pierce also recommended cleaning surfaces that come in contact with the public routinely, to try to prevent the spread of the virus. Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce will update the Board of County Commissioners and Department Administrators on a weekly basis unless it becomes necessary to do so sooner.

Northeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging (NEK-AAA) Executive Director Karen Wilson, who was present for a portion of the meeting, told the County Commission NEK-AAA is not recommending the closure of congregate senior citizens center meal sites with a population of less than 50, at this time.

At 9:30 A.M. Commissioner Collins made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect personnel within the Aging Department, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 9:50 A.M. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried. The County Attorney, County Clerk and Northeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging Executive Director Karen Wilson remained.

At 9:51 A.M. the Board of County Commissioners recessed for a break with the meeting called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 9:58 A.M.

At 10:04 A.M. Commissioner Collins made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect personnel in the County Treasurer's office, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of Doniphan County Commission at 10:14 A.M. Commissioner Geiger seconded. Motion carried. The County Attorney, County Clerk and Deputy Treasurer remained.

At 10:15 A.M. Commissioner Collins made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential legal matters with counsel, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 10:25 A.M. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried. The County Attorney and County Clerk remained.

At 10:26 A.M. Commissioner Collins made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect personnel in the Road Department, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 10:41 A.M. Commissioner Geiger seconded. Motion carried. The County Attorney, County Clerk and Road Office Manager remained.

Elmer Peuker asked Commissioner Geiger to flag and address a large hole on Monument Road that the pair had previously looked at, as it is a public safety hazard.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris advised the Board of Commissioners not to authorize any work on the Lewis and Clark pavilion along the Missouri River in the City of White Cloud, Kansas, until the City of White Cloud and Emergency Management Director Julie Meng receive approval from FEMA, the area has been declared for disaster relief funds due to 2019 flooding of the Missouri River.

Manager Norris updated the Board of County Commissioners on motor grader training school, saying all employees of the First Road District will be participating, additional names of employees from the Second and Third Districts have yet to be submitted.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris also informed the County Board a list of roads to be chip sealed during the 2020 season have been submitted by the First and Third Road Districts.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, updated the Board of County Commissioners on the Kansas Department of Transportation Local Road Safety Program. She will obtain additional information for the Board's consideration in participating.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Geiger adjourned the meeting at 10:56 A.M.

DATED THIS 16TH DAY OF MARCH 2020.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Thad G. Geiger, Chairman