

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Doniphan County Commission, Troy, Kansas, 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 Melanie Davis and Bryan Ptomey observed the entire meeting. Aging Administrator Peggy Wood, Noxious Weed Director Jim Norris, First District Road Foreman Sean Price, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, Zoning Administrator Julie Meng, Chris Sevedge with SBA, Jackson Gnaedinger with Collective Solutions, Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce and Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson were present for a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve County Commission meeting minutes for September 14, 2020 as written. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the September 30, 2020 period as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Fee reports for the month of September 2020 were presented on behalf of the Sheriff for the Board's review.

Currently the Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 4 local inmates.

Observer Bryan Ptomey commended County Clerk/Election Officer Peggy Franken and staff on an outstanding job administering the August 2020 Primary Election.

Commissioner Geiger informed the County Commission of a meeting between Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Secretary Brad Loveless, Representative John Eplee, First District County Commissioner Tim Collins, Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson, Representatives of the City of White Cloud and himself for the purpose of designating the Four State Lookout a State park. No commitment was made by Representatives of the State of Kansas, however grant funding sources are available for upkeep. Commissioner Geiger asked Economic Development Director Johnson to work with the City of White Cloud on funding sources to keep up the Four State Lookout, which has been designated as one of the 8 Wonders of Kansas.

Commissioner Geiger also stated the Second Road District will be purchasing cutting edge blades for motor graders.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to advertise for sale by sealed bid a 2013 Dodge Caravan SE, which has been taken out of rotation by the Doniphan County Transportation Department. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Noxious Weed Director Jim Norris told the County Commission the Department is finishing up spraying rights-of-way for the State of Kansas, beginning at Troy headed east to the Pony Express Bridge. He will continue to use the 2011 Ford F250 through the remainder of the spray season and then turn the truck over to the Road Department, with transfer of funds to be made based on Kelly Blue Book value. Director Norris thanked part-time Road Employee Dennis Snyder for his assistance during the spray season. At the conclusion of the spray season tree trimming will begin.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to rent a wood chipper from Foley Equipment at a rate of \$1,802.00 per month to assist with tree and brush trimming projects. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to rent an AT37G 42' bucket truck from Altec at a rate of \$2,600.00 based on 28-day cycle to assist with brush and tree trimming projects. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At 8:53 A.M. Commissioner Collins 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 9:03 A.M. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The County Attorney, County Clerk and Noxious Weed Director remained.

Noxious Weed Director Jim Norris told the County Commission he and the Road Department will be completing two RCPP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program) projects in conjunction with the Doniphan County Conservation District Office. The first project located on 170th Road, north of Bendena, Kansas, in Section 33 Township 3 Range 20E, will consist of installing 80' x 18" road tube, reshaping and seeding down banks. The second project, located south of Monument Road on Sheridan Road, in Section 8 Township 4 Range 22E, calls for reshaping banks and reseed, with the possibility of installing an 18" road tube.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to purchase brome seed to reseed road banks. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the purchase of a 4'x4' concrete box structure and 3'x3' metal grate at a cost of \$2,893.00. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to purchase a LL300S laser level from Jack Horner's Machinery and Contractor Supplier for use with RCPP projects and by the Road Department at a cost of \$975.00. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion for Doniphan County to abstain from voting on the Doniphan Electric Cooperative Association merger with Nemaha-Marshall Electric Cooperative Association on October 1, 2020. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng presented the Board of County Commissioners with bids for replacement of courthouse generator with Kohler 100REZGD natural gas generator set at 208V, three phase. The new unit would include adding power to courthouse elevator.

- CK Power \$51,740.00
- The Waldinger Corporation \$53,648.00

Commissioner Collins made a motion to accept the bid of CK Power for new courthouse generator including power to courthouse elevator, with expense to be paid from New Sales Tax fund. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At 9:18 A.M. Commissioner Collins 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 9:28 A.M. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The County Attorney, County Clerk and Zoning Administrator remained.

At 9:30 A.M. hearing was held for the purpose of approving zoning change from A-1 Agriculture to A-1 Agriculture with Conditional Use on property owned by Clyde Shulsky, 630 Castleton Road, Denton, Kansas for location of 340' cellular communication tower owned by Collective Solutions. Those present included Zoning Administrator Julie Meng, Collective Solutions Representative Jackson Gnaedinger and SBA Representative Chris Sevedge. The Doniphan County Regional Planning Commission recommends the conditional use be approved. After hearing from Mr. Gnaedinger and Mr. Sevedge, Commissioner Collins made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Doniphan County Regional Planning Commission and approve conditional use permit for construction of 340' cellular communications tower by Collective Solutions on property owned by Clyde Shulsky, located at 630 Castleton Road, Denton, Kansas. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris told the County Commission Federal Funds have been exchanged to State dollars in the amount of \$68,790.50 and deposited into Doniphan County Federal Funds Exchange account.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, also informed the County Board of payment made by the County's insurance carrier, KCAMP, for the 2018 Western Star dump truck damaged while dumping a load of rock on August 13, 2020. She will check with Midway Ford on repair schedule.

Options for repair of Peck Road, near the intersection of 240th Road, in Section 23 Township 2 Range 21E, as prepared for the Board of County Commissioners by Engineers with Schwab-Eaton on November 10, 2015, were presented to the Board for review and discussion by Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris.

Commissioner Geiger made a motion to approve the following Road Department expenditures: Redneck Diesel \$2,243.59 (2012 Freightliner 2nd Dist); Franken Auto Parts \$549.00 and Metal Culverts \$545.75. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins asked Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris the status of survey work to be completed on Coronado Road, north of Highland, Kansas, in Sections 22-23 Township 2 Range 19E, where concrete box culvert is to be replaced. Norris stated survey field work has been completed, she will check to see if the survey has been filed with the Register of Deeds. First District Road Foreman Sean Price said Husker Steel has completed drawings of new structure to be placed. The Board took no action pending review of survey.

The Board of County Commissioners were in agreement to continue with preparation of bid specifications to contract out installation of road tubes and debris removal, with formal acceptance of bid specifications to take place during their October 5, 2020 regular meeting.

At 9:54 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 10:01 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The County Attorney and County Clerk remained.

The Board recessed for a break at 10:01 A.M. with the meeting being called back to order at 10:06 A.M. in the office of the County Commission.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to allocate a portion of Doniphan County's Coronavirus Relief Funds to the City of Highland for telecommunicating capabilities in the amount of \$1,794.85. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commissioners discussed strategies for maintaining current and attracting new employees. Chairman Geiger will look at budget figures, compare county employees' wages to like counties and develop a plan for increasing the County's starting wage and offer a comparative wage to current employees.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to make final payment on 2018 Western Star rock trucks in the amount of \$86,741.90. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

County Clerk/County Election Officer Peggy Franken notified the Board of County Commissioners of change in polling location for voters in the White Cloud precinct from the Golden Age Club Building to the American Legion Building, located at 102 Main Street, White Cloud, Kansas beginning with the November 3, 2020 General Election.

Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce requested permission to hire Jennifer Wendt on a part-time basis at a rate of \$11.50 per hour for Homemaker services and cleaning of Health Department office. Commissioner McKernan made a motion to approve the hiring of Jennifer Wendt on a part-time basis at a rate of \$11.50 per hour subject to pre-employment screening. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Administrator Pierce informed the County Commission the Health Department's request for Public Health Funding through the State of Kansas SPARK funds for COVID-19 purchases was denied. She presented a list of requested items to be purchased through the County's Coronavirus Relief Funds. The Board took no action pending review.

Sheryl Pierce, Health Department/Home Health Administrator, stated there are currently 10 active COVID-19 cases in Doniphan County, with 102 recovered.

Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson presented the Board of County Commissioners a draft copy of Doniphan County's SPARK grant application for Doniphan County businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and briefly explained the grant application process.

First District Road Foreman Sean Price requested permission to purchase materials to tile and install risers on both sides of Willow Road, in Section 31 Township 2 Range 19E, to drain water away from the roadway. Commissioner Collins made a motion to purchase materials necessary to divert water from county roadway from Engemann Drainage in the amount of \$1,091.40. Commissioner McKernan seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Geiger adjourned the meeting at 10:40 A.M.

DATED THIS 28TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020.

Attest: _____

Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Thad G. Geiger, Chairman