

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, FEBRUARY 22, 2021**

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 Wayne Grable, Chairman, calling the meeting to order. First District County Commissioner Timothy D. Collins, Third District County Commissioner Bobby Hall, County Clerk Peggy Franken present. County Attorney Charles D. Baskins was present for a portion of the meeting.

The Kansas Chief Reporter Melanie Davis and BJ Smith observed the entire meeting. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng, Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce, Public Health Emergency Coordinator Kay Smith, Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson and Adam Hahs with Vance Brothers were present for a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve the County Commission meeting agenda as amended to include executive session for confidential data related to liability insurance. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve County Commission meeting minutes of February 16, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of February 26, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Currently the Jerry K. Dubach Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 5 local inmates.

At 8:34 A.M. Commissioner Grable made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential data related to liability insurance with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 8:39 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The County Clerk remained.

Observer BJ Smith said he was present in support of the County Commissioners eliminating the countywide mask mandate.

Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng discussed with the Board of County Commissioners the countywide mask mandate to help mitigate the spread of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) pursuant to Doniphan County Resolution 2020-11. She said when originally imposed, the mask mandate was set at two week increments in order to review active COVID-19 cases and try to keep hospitalization rates down, currently Mosaic Life Care medical center has three COVID-19 patients. Meng suggested lifting the countywide mask mandate, letting businesses implement mask requirements and leave it up to individuals to decide to wear a mask or not. She recommended the public not let their guard down and continue to practice proper hygiene, social distance and wear a mask where social distancing cannot be obtained. The Board took Emergency Management Coordinator Meng's comments under advisement.

Commissioner Hall asked Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng to send a letter to all Doniphan County Fire Districts notifying them of the Board of County Commissioners' decision to not designate a vehicle an authorized emergency vehicle or allow display and use red lights and sirens pursuant to K.S.A 8-2010(a) et al.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve invoice to Roberts Roofing in the amount of \$550.00 to investigate and make repair to silicone coating on the Health Department building roof, with payment to be made from New Sales Tax fund as capital improvement to county owned property. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris presented the County Commission with a price quote from Herzog Contracting Corporation Inc. for 2" asphalt overlay on 1.5 miles of 170th Road, from Vernon Road to K-238, in the amount of \$177,004.00. No action was taken.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to enter into an agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation to exchange Federal Funds in the amount of \$76,387.37 into State Funds at a rate of \$.90 on the \$1.00 for a total of \$68,748.64, as part of the Federal Funds Exchange Program. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, informed the County Commission the City of Troy will retain excess chat leftover from the 2020 chip seal season for use in 2021. The County Board requested the chat be moved from county property located at the Second District Road Shop and hauled to City of Troy property.

The Board of County Commissioners held discussion in regard to continuing to provide chip seal to other jurisdictions within Doniphan County at no charge. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris will provide the County Commission with actual cost figures at their next regular meeting in order for the Board to make a determination on charging jurisdictions for the service.

The Board of County Commissioners were in agreement to work with Atchison County and send employees of the Doniphan County Road Department to motor grader training, sponsored by the University of Kansas.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to execute utility agreements for bridge replacement of structure T831-1, located on 195th Road, east of Troy, Kansas, in Section 15 Township 3 Range 21E. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins asked Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris when countywide bridge inspections would be completed. Norris stated bridge inspections performed by Schwab-Eaton, PA should be done within the week. Collins asked to see the bridge inspection report and discuss repair of structures that need immediate attention prior to the Board of County Commissioners making a decision on building up and making improvements to county roads. Manager Norris reminded Commissioner Collins of line item in the Road and Bridge budget that allows for bridge repair.

Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce requested permission to hire August Mason, Registered Nurse, full-time at a pay rate of \$25.00 per hour plus benefits effective March 8, 2021. Commissioner Collins made a motion to hire August Mason, Registered Nurse, on a full-time basis at a rate of \$25.00 per hour plus benefits effective March 8, 2021. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce requested permission to hire Rebecca Sharp on a part-time basis (less than 20 hours per week) to perform data entry duties related to COVID-19 for the Doniphan County Health Department/Home Health Agency at a rate of \$12.50 per hour effective March 21, 2021. Commissioner Collins made a motion to hire Rebecca Sharp on a part-time basis (less than 20 hours per week) to perform data entry duties related to COVID-19 for the Doniphan County Health Department/Home Health Agency effective March 21, 2021 at a rate of \$12.50 per hour. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Health Administrator Pierce stated she will be advertising to fill a part-time Housekeeper's position.

Sheryl Pierce, Health Department/Home Health Administrator presented the County Commission with letter of Advertising Grant award in the amount of \$5,000.00 from the Schmidt Foundation and administered by Eagle Communications. The grant award is to be used for advertising/message campaigns to air on St. Joseph, Missouri, stations by May 31, 2021. Pierce requested permission to forgo the County's purchasing policy when using grant funds obtained through the Schmidt Foundation. It was the consensus of the Board of County Commissioners to adhere to the County's purchasing policy and require prior approval by the Board of County Commissioners when spending in excess of \$500.00.

Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce presented the County Commission with a letter from Doniphan County Health Officer Dr. Bradley Gaul, MD along with an article from The Kansas City Star titled "Johnson County virus rate at lowest in months: 'We need to continue what we're doing'". In his letter Dr. Gaul asks the Commission to "...Please give it a little more time with the masks." Administrator Pierce reported 5 active COVID-19 cases in Doniphan County. Since March 2020, Doniphan County has had 929 positive cases and 2080 negative tests, with a positivity rate of 5.64% over the past two weeks. She recommended the Board of County Commissioners extend the mask mandate through May 1, 2021, as most County businesses appreciate the countywide mask mandate and the new variant of the coronavirus is a concern. Following discussion, Commissioner Grable made a motion to rescind Doniphan County Resolution 2020-11, a Resolution of Doniphan County, Kansas, requiring the wearing of masks or other face coverings, enforcement of quarantine and isolation orders within Doniphan County, Kansas, and recommend cities, schools, businesses and other organizations set their own policies, as well as, encourage proper hygiene and social distancing, making it an individual decision to wear a mask. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commissioners met with Treasurer-elect Nicole Diveley requesting county business pertaining to the Treasurer's Department be moved from the main floor hallway and conducted in the County Treasurer's office.

County Clerk Peggy Franken presented the Doniphan County Commission with audit proposals for preparation of Doniphan County Financial Statements for years 2020, 2021, and 2022. Clerk Franken stated five Requests for Proposals were sent out with two being returned and a third, Swindoll Janzen Hawk and Loyd, LLC, having a conflict of interest due to performing the Single Audit for 2020 related to Coronavirus Relief Funding. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

Gordon CPA, Lawrence, KS	2020	\$14,215
	2021	\$14,650
	2022	\$15,090
Varney & Associates, CPA's LLC Manhattan, KS	2020	\$14,900
	2021	\$14,900
	2022	\$14,900

Commissioner Grable made a motion to accept the best overall bid of Gordon CPA to provide auditing services for Doniphan County, Kansas, for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Peggy Franken, County Clerk, informed the County Commission representatives of RS Electric would be performing a simulated power outage test on the courthouse generator March 5, 2021 to determine what electrical power is being backed up by the generator and what is not in order to get all offices operational during a power outage. The temporary outage on March 5, 2021 is not expected to affect County business.

The Board of County Commissioners were in receipt of correspondence from Doniphan County Memorial VFW Post #5531 requesting a donation due to limited funds attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. County Clerk Peggy Franken informed the County Board the organization received \$5,000.00 from Doniphan County's portion of SPARK funding through Coronavirus Relief Funds. Although all for helping Veterans, Commissioner Hall made a motion not to make a donation to the Doniphan County Memorial VFW Post #5531 due to County practice of not making donations with taxpayer money. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried.

The Board of County Commissioners were also in receipt of State of Disaster Emergency Proclamation by Kansas Governor Laura Kelly for low temperatures with sub-zero wind chills over the past several days accompanied by snow, sleet, and freezing rain across the state that caused stress on energy infrastructure. Disaster effective date February 14, 2021 for all Kansas counties and federally recognized Indian Tribes in Kansas.

Commissioner Hall asked for Economic Development Director Leah Johnson's presence at the County Commission meeting to determine representation on the City of St. Joseph, Missouri, Chamber of Commerce Board. Commissioner Hall said a City within the County will pay the cost to have a County Representative on the St. Joseph, Missouri, Chamber of Commerce Board and he asked Economic Development Director Leah Johnson to serve as the County's Representative. Director Johnson said she would need to know the County Commissions expectation of her participation on the St. Joseph, Missouri, Chamber of Commerce Board and would be willing to serve unless the time commitment put a strain on her duties as Doniphan County Economic Development Director.

At 10:07 A.M. Commissioner Grable made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential data regarding economic development trade secrets with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 10:17 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The County Attorney, County Clerk and Economic Development Director remained.

At 10:21 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 Doniphan County Commission at 10:31 A.M. Commissioner Grable seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The County Attorney and County Clerk remained.

Adam Hahs, Vance Brothers, presented the Board of County Commissioners with bids for the purchase of oil to be used during the 2021 chip seal season:

RS-1H	\$1.85/gal
RS-1HP	\$2.10/gal
RS-1H+	\$1.95/gal
MC30	\$2.80/gal
Freight	\$0.08/gal

Commissioner Collins made a motion to accept the bid of Vance Brothers for the purchase of RS-1H+ oil in the amount of \$1.95 per gallon plus freight \$0.08 per gallon for the 2021 chip seal season, the same price as the previous season. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

County Clerk Peggy Franken informed the County Commission of Aging Administrator job interviews to be held Wednesday, February 24, 2021 and of Aging Site Council meeting to be held Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at the Wathena Keenage Center.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Grable made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

DATED THIS 22ND DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Wayne Grable, Chairman