

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, AUGUST 28, 2023

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 and County Clerk Peggy Franken present. County Attorney Charles D. Baskins was present for a portion of the meeting.

The Kansas Chief Reporter Melanie Davis observed the entire meeting. Aging Director Diana Crouse-Johnson, Road Foremen Representative Sean Price, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, ADA/Emergency Management Coordinator/Zoning Administrator Julie Meng, Dennis Foster and Martha Smith, Northeast Kansas Environmental Services Representatives, Tyler Smith and Fire District No. 3 Board Members Chris Hoffman, Rick Hoffman, Tyson Rush, Chad Hallsworth, Kevin Thompson, Brandon Lorenz, Felicia Rush and Eric Blanc were present for a portion of the meeting.

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

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve County Commission minutes of August 21, 2023 regular meeting as written. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of August 31, 2023 as presented. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve abated taxes to the 2020, 2021 and 2022 Doniphan County tax rolls in the amount of \$277.58. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Jerry K. Dubach Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center currently houses 12 local inmates.

Due to observance of Labor Day Holiday, the Board of County Commissioners will not hold a regular meeting the week of September 4, 2023.

Aging Director Diana Crouse-Johnson informed the County Commission she contacted J&G Auto Repair regarding assessment of air bag/seatbelt indicator light on 2017 Dodge Grand Caravan (black). Additionally, she talked with United Access about waving fees in the amount of \$489.19 to repair wiring in the same van, due to the problems persisting. United Access could not waive fees for actual wiring work completed. Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve expense to United Access in the amount of \$489.19. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commission reviewed and executed a letter to Burr Oak Drainage District requesting drainage repair be made along 245th, 250th and Randolph Roads in Section 24 Township 2 Range 21E.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris told the County Commission previously approved rock has been hauled on 150th totaling \$8,977.50 in Marion Township and \$1,409.40 in Wayne Township. In addition, \$4,767.53 worth of rock was also hauled on Mineral Point Road in Wayne Township.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve \$1,250.82 worth of rock for Washington Township school bus route roads. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, updated the Board of County Commission on the status of bridge T-831-1 located on 195th Road, east of Troy, Kansas, Section 19 Township 3 Range 21E. Reporting piers have been poured with decking to be poured in the next month, weather permitting.

Engineers with Schwab-Eaton, P.A. will have prepared for Board review by the following week recommendations for repair of culvert located on Coronado Road, north of Highland City limits, Sections 22-23 Township 2 Range 19E. Bridge T-35-2 on 180th Road in Section 21 Township 3 Range 19E. And Bridge T-228-2 Larkinburg Road, Section 7 Township 4 Range 21E. Bi-annual bridge inspection reports will also be made available to the Board of County Commissioners according to Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris.

Norris presented the County Commission with correspondence regarding Kansas Department of Transportation Cost Share Program. The cost share program provides financial assistance to local entities for construction projects that improve safety, leverage State funds to increase total transportation investment and help both rural and urban areas of the State improve the transportation system. Discussion followed regarding making application for hard surface of county roadways by use of asphalt. Commissioner Hall recommended obtaining traffic counts on county roads to give the County Commissioners an idea of which roads are highly traveled and suited for asphalt overlay in order to make an informed decision when applying for grant funding.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve purchase of tubes from Engemann Drainage District in the amount of \$2,756.00. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve invoice to Midwest Concrete and Material for material used for culvert repair on 175th Road, Section 30 Township 3 Range 20E, in the amount of \$1,324.00. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Road Office Manager Norris presented the County Commission with Berry Tractor repair cost estimate for 2005 Komatsu wheel loader (#81) in First Road District in the amount of \$11,150.98. Board of County Commissioners took no action pending determination of the loader's value.

Dennis Foster and Martha Smith, Representatives with Northeast Kansas Environmental Services, met with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss options for operations of Doniphan County Transfer Station/Landfill beginning October 2024. Mike Hey and John Connelly of Waste Management, doing business as Deffenbaugh Disposal, Inc. previously met with the Board of County Commissioners on May 1, 2023 to inform the County they would not be renewing their contract and ceasing operations of the Doniphan County Transfer Station effective October 2024.

Tyler Smith appeared before the Board of County Commissioners to discuss blading on 250th Road in the 1100 block. Mr. Smith voiced concern with motor grader operator creating a grader ditch up next to his woven wire fence and fence post. He showed pictures of rock berm in the lane of traffic along 250th Road. First District County Commissioner Tim Collins said he would contact the Road Department to have an operator go out and take care of the rock in the lane of travel and ditch along the fence row.

Chairman Grable, Contractor with Luedke Excavating and adjoining landowners will meet onsite today, August 28, 2023, to view work order agreement for 4'x80' culvert replacement project on Elgin Road, south of 110th Road, in Section 36 Township 4 Range 19E.

Road Foremen Representative Sean Price informed the County Commission of 18" x 80' tube placement project taking place at 1498 Kennekuk Road.

Commissioner Grable asked Road Foremen Representative to check the status of blading and rocking the 1500 block of Peck Road. And blading Larkinburg Road (south of Brenner) now in order for the road to be in shape for harvest.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to appoint Roger Clark to the Second District Road Foreman's position on a temporary basis effective September 1, 2023. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Norman Meng, representing the Doniphan County Fair Association, met with the Board of County Commissioners to request usage of a motor grader and scraper to assist with the Fair Board's annual "Thrill on the Hill" truck and tractor pull September 2, 2023. Commissioner Grable made a motion to allow Doniphan County Fair Association usage of motor grader and scraper for September 2, 2023, with Steve Schultz to operate the equipment. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

At 9:30 A.M. the Board of County Commissioners opened the meeting for public comment for adoption of 2024 Doniphan County budget, Ambulance District No. 1 budget and fire district, township and cemetery district budgets. Fire District No. 3 Board Members present included: Chris Hoffman, Rick Hoffman, Tyson Rush, Chad Hallsworth, Kevin Thompson, Brandon Lorenz, Felicia Rush and Eric Blanc.

Fire District No. 3 called Revenue Neutral Rate public hearing to order for the purpose of hearing comment on exceeding the revenue neutral rate for budget year 2024. There being no one present and no public comment, Tyson Rush made a motion to close the public hearing. Chris Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Rick Hoffman made a motion to exceed the revenue neutral rate of .605 mills for Fire District No. 3 for budget year 2024, set the mill levy rate at 1.500 mills and adopt Resolution 2023-01, a resolution of Fire District No. 3, Doniphan County, Kansas, to levy a property tax rate exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Chad Hallsworth seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chris Hoffman made a motion to adopt the 2024 Fire District No. 3 budget at a tax rate of 1.500 mills with ad valorem tax in the amount of \$64,653.00, total expenditures \$120,570.00. Brandon Lorenz seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chad Hallsworth made a motion to close Fire District No. 3 2024 budget hearing at 9:41 A.M. Rick Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chairman Grable opened public hearing for the purpose of hearing and answering questions and concerns regarding adoption of 2024 Doniphan County and Ambulance District No. 1 budgets. There being no public comment, Chairman Grable closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to adopt the 2024 Doniphan County budget at a tax rate of 36.917 mills with \$5,850,611.00 ad valorem tax collections, total expenditures \$15,519,224. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to adopt the 2024 Doniphan County Ambulance District No. 1 budget at a tax rate of 2.199 mills with \$348,516.00 ad valorem tax collections, total expenditures \$1,372,916. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to enter into contractual agreement between Kansas State Employees Health Care Commission and Doniphan County, Kansas (Non-State Public Employer) to provide health care benefits beginning January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ADA Coordinator Julie Meng informed the County Commission of maintenance work performed on the courthouse elevator by Otis Elevator on August 25, 2023.

At 10:08 A.M. Commissioner Grable made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of consulting with the County Attorney on matters deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 10:13 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. County Attorney and County Clerk remained.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Grable made a motion to adjourn at 10:14 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

DATED THIS 28th DAY OF AUGUST 2023.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Wayne Grable, Chairman