

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**  
**DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, JANUARY 29, 2024**

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. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, Emergency Management/Zoning/ADA Coordinator Julie Meng, Custodian Laura Winkel and Clint Peden were present for a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve meeting agenda as amended, removing from the agenda 9:00 A.M. meeting with Northeast Kansas Environmental Services. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve minutes of January 22, 2024, regular meeting, as written. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of January 31, 2024, as presented. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve added taxes in the amount of \$61.54 and abated taxes in the amount of \$365.96 to the 2023 Doniphan County tax roll. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris told the Board of County Commissioners Doniphan County Road Department reimbursed the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska \$25,000.00 for asphalt overlay on 315<sup>th</sup> Road, per agreement with the Tribe.

Norris presented the County Commission with historical numbers of employees who have worked for the Road Department over the past 10 years. She also told the County Board representatives with Vance Brothers contacted her regarding 2024 chip seal projects. The Commission agreed to submit 30 miles of roadway to obtain cost estimate for the 2024 season.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, presented the County Commission with contractor invoices totaling \$45,425.00 for assistance in opening county roads following blizzard like conditions January 10-17, 2024. She compiled a map, from contractor invoices, complete with address points of roads opened for future reference on priority routes and roads that tend to drift. Commissioner Hall stated the Third Road District did not hire contractors; the Road Crew cleared roads in the district.

The Board of County Commissioners held discussion with Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris regarding contractor rates for 2024. Norris will reach out to local contractors to determine if they are interested in being placed on the county project list and ask them to submit a list of equipment with cost per hour for each piece of equipment.

Bid specifications for the purchase of pickup trucks for each Road District were presented to the County Commission by Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris. The County Board agreed to seek bids for the purchase of three 2024 ¾ ton pickup trucks, one for each of the three Road Districts.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the following Road Department invoices:

- Michael Todd \$1,337.93 (3<sup>rd</sup> District chains)
- Murphy Tractor \$1,198.82 (2020 JD Motor Grader #201 2<sup>nd</sup> District)
- Doniphan Electric \$1,700.02 (pole replacement 1<sup>st</sup> District)

Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the purchase of items for the First Road District: two sets of motor grader chains at a cost of \$1,475.22, fifty cross chains \$465.00, and have the doors on the shop repaired by Heartland Door and Window at a cost of \$600.00. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Clint Peden appeared before the Board of County Commissioners offering to give the County a display case for use in the County Courthouse. The Board of County Commissioners took no action.

At 8:55 A.M. Commissioner Hall made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect road personnel, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 9:05 A.M. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. County Clerk, Road Office Manager and Jonathan Edie remained.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris reviewed with the Board of County Commissioners requirements and costs for obtaining Commercial Driver's License (CDL). Including Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) which can be taught by a private company or in-house. In order to obtain a CDL employees must complete CDL test, ELDT training, log hours and complete driving portion of the test. Norris told the County Commission she will be meeting with representatives of Atchison County, Kansas, this week to gather further information prior to development of a policy for the Road Department regarding requirements for obtaining CDL while employed with Doniphan County.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to hire Jonathan Edie as a full-time operator in the First Road District subject to successful completion of CDL written examination, pre-employment screening and 90-days to obtain CDL Class A license. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall told the County Commission any family relationship between job applicants and county employees, including County Commissioners, needs to be made known upfront when reviewing applications.

Commissioner Grable told the County Commission he would be meeting with Chris Adelman of Husker Steel, to determine cost estimate and specifications for replacement of bridge T228-3 located on Larkinburg Road, south of 150<sup>th</sup> Road, in Section 7 Township 4 Range 21E.

Julie Meng, who serves as Emergency Management/Zoning and ADA Coordinator, along with Custodian Laura Winkel, met with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss quote from Otis Elevator Company, Kansas City, Kansas, to repair or replace the courthouse elevator. The Board of County Commissioners asked Coordinator Meng to set up a time with Representatives of Otis Elevator Company and RS Electric to meet with the Board of County Commissioners to review the scope of the project. In addition, the County Commission requested Meng contact Engineers with Schwab-Eaton, PA to determine status of design and bid specifications for ADA accessible ramp into the courthouse building.

Zoning Administrator Julie Meng informed the Board of County Commissioners Doniphan Electric has withdrawn their zoning application for Conditional Use to locate a solar farm at 1810 190<sup>th</sup> Road, Wathena, Kansas. Doniphan Electric plans to continue with Conditional Use permit for location of solar farm on a four-acre tract at 1438 180<sup>th</sup> Road, Troy, Kansas. Mrs. Meng told the County Commission Doniphan County Planning & Zoning denied the application due to there being no regulations in place for solar farms, however the County Commission could grant the permit and set the conditional use terms. The Board of County Commissioners have set the zoning change request for hearing on Monday, February 5, 2024, at 9:30 A.M. in the office of the Doniphan County Commission.

The Board of County Commissioners held discussion with Zoning Administrator Julie Meng regarding setting regulations or moratorium on solar farms and wind turbines in Doniphan County, Kansas. Administrator Meng reminded the County Commission solar panels and wind turbines less than 150' are allowed for personal use in the County.

Emergency Management Coordinator Julie Meng told the Board of County Commissioners Kansas Governor Laura Kelly issued a State of Disaster Emergency Proclamation for severe winter weather January 7-21, 2024. Coordinator Meng said for Doniphan County, Kansas, to qualify for any disaster related funds they must meet the threshold as determined by the Kansas Division of Emergency Management.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to hire Holly Williams, part-time Homemaker working 8-10 hours per week for the Doniphan County Health Department/Home Health Agency, at a rate of \$16.00 per hour subject to pre-employment screening. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to hire Rebecca Gilmore, part-time Economic Development Assistant, at a rate of \$16.00 per hour subject to pre-employment screening, effective May 14, 2024. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall asked County Attorney Charles D. Baskins the status of a County Resolution establishing the parameters for granting financial assistance to businesses wanting to locate in Doniphan County, Kansas. County Attorney Baskins will present a draft Resolution to the County Commission for their review at a future meeting of the County Board.

County Clerk Peggy Franken informed the Board of County Commissioners S&C Delivery Services filed a claim against Doniphan County's liability insurance for damages to delivery vehicle due to becoming stuck on county roadway in the area of 502 Randolph Road on January 5, 2024. KCAMP, Doniphan County's liability insurance carrier, determined the County was not negligent in maintaining the road on which damages were suffered and therefore denied the claim.

Commissioner Collins asked the status of repairing concrete box culvert on Coronado Road, north of Highland, Kansas, Section 22-23 Township 2 Range 19E. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris said invoice for one half of the 2020 survey cost was sent to the City of Highland for reimbursement. Doniphan County has covered the cost for all additional surveying and engineering services. No action has been taken on repair status.

Commissioner Hall recommended concentrating on bridge repair, in particular bridges listed on the critical fracture list and interim bridge inspection report. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris will give the County Commissioners a list of those bridges at the next board meeting for action.

At 10:43 A.M. Commissioner Grable made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect personnel, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 10:53 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. County Attorney and County Clerk remained.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to pay employees of the Courthouse and Health Department/Home Health Agency for the day of January 23, 2024, when the courthouse and health department were closed due to inclement weather. Employees of the courthouse and health department who voluntarily worked will accrue comp time for hours worked. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Hall made a motion to adjourn at 11:04 A.M. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

DATED THIS 29TH DAY OF JANUARY 2024.

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

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Wayne Grable, Chairman