

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, AUGUST 26, 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. Undersheriff Mark Allen, Aging Director Diana Crouse-Johnson, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, Norman Meng, Pat Urban, Professional Insurance Consultant Rhonda Fernandez, Jerry and Carol Brox were present for a portion of the meeting.

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

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve minutes of August 19, 2024, regular meeting as written. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of August 30, 2024, as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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

Due to observance of Labor Day, the Board of County Commissioners will not be in session the week of September 2, 2024.

Aging Director Diana Crouse-Johnson told the County Commission Reed Dodge completed charcoal canister repairs on the 2015 Dodge Grand Caravan. Commissioner Grable approved repair costs in the amount of \$885.67.

Bids were presented for the purchase of four Hankook tires for the 2021 Ford Transit Meals on Wheels van:

Bernie's Service & Repair	\$899.80
Neumann Service	\$882.16
Triple L Tire	\$760.00

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the low bid of Triple L Tire for the purchase of four tires for the 2021 Ford Transit Meals on Wheels van in the amount of \$760.00. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Undersheriff Mark Allen was present to discuss parking issues during flea market weekend on Freeport Road, south of K-7 Highway. He told the Commission he was contacted by a citizen concerned with emergency vehicles getting down the road during flea market weekend with cars parked on both sides, narrowing the roadway. Commissioner Hall made a motion to adopt Doniphan County Resolution 2024-08, a Resolution of the Board of County

Commissioners of Doniphan County, Kansas, deeming in the public's best interest, both as a safety measure and for economic reasons to determine the road, more specifically described as on the east side of Freeport Road south of K-7 Highway and between K-7 Highway and US Highway 36, hereto to be No Parking Zones from the Thursday prior to any flea market weekend through the Sunday of any flea market weekend. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Said Resolution was recorded and is on file in the office of the Doniphan County Clerk in Resolution Book 4 page 12.

Undersheriff Allen also told the Commission the Sheriff's Department, along with Elwood and Wathena City Police Departments, conducted high visibility patrol over the past weekend. A total of twenty-eight stops were made, resulting in one arrest for DUI and one arrest for fleeing to allude law enforcement and drug possession.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to execute a letter to Doniphan County banking institutes removing former county employee Heather Veach and adding Deputy Treasurer Kimberly Smith as signatory on county accounts. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins asked Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris to order "Trucks Entering" signs for 240th Road to be posted between Elgin and Diamond Springs Roads.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to purchase two 80'x48" road tubes plus four bands from Metal Culverts in the amount of \$16,198.56 for box culvert replacement on 140th Road, between K-7 Highway and Friendship Roads. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris presented the County Commission, for their consideration, a list of surplus road equipment for sale along with BigIron commission rates for selling property. No action was taken.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, told the County Commission she spoke with Kevin Koester, Kansas Department of Transportation Representative, about proposed reclassification of roadways from major collectors to minor/local routes. Routes with bridges would no longer be subject to Kansas Department of Transportation funding. The County would need to apply for FEMA funding in the event damage was caused to the structure. She recommended on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners Route 104A, 100th Road from Doniphan/Atchison County line east to Mineral Point Road containing bridge RS220 remain a major collector route, due to this being an alternative route if K-7 Highway is closed or flooding occurs in Atchison County.

Secondly, Norris requested on behalf of Doniphan County route 104B, Mineral Point Road, from 100th Road north to 110th Road remain a major collector due to it being an alternate route of K-7 Highway.

Commissioner Collins asked Road Office Manager Norris to contact the Kansas Department of Transportation and request route 105A, Ash Point Road from Doniphan/Atchison County line (334th Road) north to K-20 Highway remain a major collector route, as it is a main thoroughfare on the western side of the county.

Route RS 5046, Mesquito Creek Road from 220th Road north to the end of the road near the City of Troy water plant was omitted from the original list of roadways being considered by the Kansas Department of Transportation to be reclassified from major collector to minor/local collector road. Doniphan County objects to this portion of road being reclassified due to it leading to the City of Troy water plant and bridge RS360 being on the route.

At 9:00 A.M. budget hearing was held for adoption of 2025 township, cemetery and fire district budgets. There being no public present for comment, Chairman Grable closed the hearing at 9:04 A.M.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to accept the proposal of Engemann Drainage Co., Inc. in the amount of \$29,523.50 to run waterline and set fire hydrant at the Doniphan County Transfer Station located at 1144 St. Columbus Road, Wathena, Kansas. The project would consist of boring across St. Columbus Road and rock bore the bluff leading to the Doniphan County Transfer Station, cut 3" x 2" tee and set 2" valve, set 2" flush hydrant with fire hydrant thread, relocate 1" water meter that serves the Transfer Station trailer and move it up to service the yard hydrant at the dump station. And hook the Transfer Station trailer meter and Third District road shop meters together. Payment to be made from Solid Waste fund. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve 3200 hour service on 2017 John Deere motor grader (#155) by Murphy Tractor. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins told the County Commission he approved the purchase of steel plate from Rock Ridge Steel in the amount of \$1,100.00 to be used for bridge repair on T-422-2.

At 9:15 A.M. budget hearing was held for adoption of the 2025 Doniphan County Ambulance District No. 1 budget. The proposed budget calls for a decrease in mill rate from 2.199 mills to 1.199 mills for total reduction in tax dollars of \$161,741.00. There being no public comment, Chairman Grable closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to adopt the 2025 Doniphan County Ambulance District No. 1 budget at a rate of 1.199 mills. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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

Foley Equipment	\$683.56 (cutting edge blades Second District)
Mayday Trucking	\$759.43 (2020 Peterbilt #206)
	\$690.66 (2020 Peterbilt #206)

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

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve Schwab-Eaton, PA invoice in the amount of \$38,500.00 for RS380 bridge replacement design services. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Doniphan County contracted with Schwab-Eaton, PA for engineering services not to exceed \$70,000.00 for RS380 bridge replacement Project No. 22C-526601, on 240th Road, west of Highland, Kansas, in Section 20-29 Township 2 Range

19E. The project is partially funded through the Kansas Department of Transportation Local Bridge Improvement program.

Norman Meng, representing the Doniphan County Fair Association, requested use of County motor grader and roller, along with assistance operating the equipment by county employee Chris Schultz during the “Thrill on the Hill” Doniphan County Truck and Tractor Pull to be held Saturday, August 31, 2024, at the Doniphan County Fairgrounds. Commissioner Hall made a motion to allow the Fair Board use of County motor grader and roller, along with assistance of employee Chris Schultz to operate the equipment at the annual truck and tractor pull. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

At 9:30 A.M. Chairman Grable called to order public hearing for the purpose of exceeding Doniphan County’s revenue neutral rate of 37.497 mills for 2025 budget year. There being no public comment, Commissioner Grable made a motion to exceed the revenue neutral rate and adopt Doniphan County Resolution 2024-07, a Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Doniphan County, Kansas, exceeding the revenue neutral rate of 37.497 mills for budget year 2025. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Commissioner Collins cast a no vote. Motion carried 2-1. Said Resolution was recorded and is on file in the office of the Doniphan County Clerk in Resolution Book 4 Page 10.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to close the revenue neutral rate hearing at 9:33 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

At 9:34 A.M. Chairman Grable opened public hearing for adoption of the 2025 Doniphan County budget at a rate of 39.726 mills. There being no public comment, Commissioner Hall made a motion to adopt the 2025 Doniphan County budget. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Commissioner Collins cast a no vote. Motion carried 2-1.

Commissioner Grable closed the 2025 Doniphan County budget hearing at 9:36 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed with County Attorney Charles D. Baskins road agreement between Grain Belt Express, LLC and Doniphan County, Kansas. Grain Belt Express, LLC plans to construct a high transmission power line through a portion of Doniphan County to move wind energy from western Kansas east to Indiana. The project will begin at the Brown/Doniphan County line on Ash Point Road and 170th Road moving south and east throughout Doniphan County, crossing the Missouri River into Missouri.

Bid letting was held for replacement of 5’ x 150’ road tube on 275th Road, between Dove Creek and Elgin Roads, Section 1 Township 2 Range 20E. Sealed bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

Engemann Drainage Co. Inc.	\$67,550.00
Urban Construction	\$65,824.00
Muse Excavation & Construction	\$26,815.00
Baird Excavating, LLC	\$23,000.00

Commissioner Collins made a motion to accept the low bid of Baird Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$23,000.00 for 5’ x 150’ tube replacement project on 275th Road. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Commissioner Grable cast a no vote. Motion carried 2-1.

Bid letting was held for 36" x 80' tube replacement on Port William Road, south of 175th Road. Sealed bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

Kiefer Excavating	\$10,480.00
Engemann Drainage Co. Inc.	\$ 9,945.00
Muse Excavation & Construction	\$ 8,000.00
Baird Excavating, LLC	\$ 6,300.00

Commissioner Grable made a motion to accept the bid of Muse Excavation & Construction in the amount of \$8,000.00 for replacement of 36" x 80' tube on Port William Road, south of 175th Road. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

County Attorney Charles D. Baskins and Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris will draft work use easements and road easements for both tube replacement projects on 275th Road and Port William Road for the Board of County Commissioners to act on.

Pat Urban, Urban Construction, questioned the Commission on acceptance of out-of-county bids for road projects, as Keenan Baird of Baird Excavating, LLC does not live in Doniphan County. Wade Joyce, contractor with Baird Excavating, LLC is a Doniphan County resident and property owner.

Jerry and Carol Brox appeared before the Board of County Commissioners thanking them for work on 110th and Elgin Roads; the County replaced several culverts and removed brush and trees along the roadway. Mrs. Brox asked about revenue neutral rate notices sent to taxpayers.

Rhonda Fernandez, Professional Insurance Consultants, called on the Board of County Commissioners to give an update on 2025 employee health insurance rates which are expected to increase 7.5%, new policy changes and discuss health insurance open enrollment to be held October 1, 2024. Doniphan County Health Department/Home Health Agency will hold a biometric screening for employees of the County and their spouses on October 4, 2024. Results of the biometric screening count toward employee's HealthQuest points to reduce monthly premiums. Sheryl Pierce, RN, Health Department/Home Health Agency Administrator, has been working with Quest Diagnostics, Marathan Health and Mrs. Fernandez to offer biometric screenings to employees and their spouses after it was learned the State of Kansas Health Policy Authority eliminated onsite health screenings.

Commissioner Grable asked Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris to contact representatives of Rainbow Communication and North Central Services (NCS), subcontractor for Rainbow Communications fiber optic install, to determine a timeline for making repairs along Port William Road, north of 190th Road in Blair, Kansas.

Commissioner Hall asked Road Office Manager to contact an engineer to obtain a cost estimate for preparing bid specifications for Doniphan County on culvert replacement projects.

Discussion was held regarding hiring an engineer/road superintendent to oversee the Road Department. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris was asked to provide the County Commission with a job description for their review.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Hall made a motion to adjourn at 11:26 A.M. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

DATED THIS 26TH DAY OF AUGUST 2024.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Wayne Grable, Chairman