

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, FEBRUARY 14, 2022**

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 absent.

The Kansas Chief Reporter Melanie Davis and C.B. Lackey observed the entire meeting. Second Road District Foreman Sean Price, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, G.E. Pierce, Wathena City Mayor John A. Cluck and Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson were present for a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve County Commission meeting agenda as amended to include 9:00 A.M. appointment with G.E. Pierce and appearance by Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve County Commission minutes of February 7, 2022 regular meeting as written. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period February 15, 2022 as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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

In observance of Presidents Day February 21, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners will hold their next regular meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2022.

C.B. Lackey asked the status of culvert repair on Coronado Road in Sections 22-23 Township 2 Range 19E. Commissioner Collins said a bridge contractor will be needed to drive sheet pilings; he will contact representatives with Husker Steel to obtain a cost estimate and timeframe for repair.

The Board of County Commissioners discussed funding of County ambulance service. Commissioner Hall suggested contacting neighboring counties and Buchanan County, Missouri about expanded ambulance service into Doniphan County. Commissioner Grable asked County Clerk Peggy Franken the possibility of implementing a countywide sales tax to offset the cost of property tax. Clerk Franken said the County currently has a 1% sales tax, any additional sales tax would require legislative authority. She will research implementation of additional sales tax for operations of countywide ambulance service. The Board of County Commissioners were in consensus a countywide ambulance service is vital to Doniphan County, financing and operations need to be determined.

Second Road District Foreman Sean Price told the County Commission the 2012 Freightliner is being taken back to Redneck Diesel for antifreeze leak.

Foreman Price said the road crew has finished repair of low water crossing on 215th Road in Section 6 Township 3 Range 21E. Price also stated the low water crossing on Oxide Road in Section 35 Township 2 Range 21E was mended and the structure can be saved by pumping concrete underneath to shore up.

Second Road District Foreman Sean Price and Commissioner Hall presented the Commission a list of roads to be considered for 2022 chip seal season showing 9.3 miles in the Second Road District and 9.5 miles in the Third Road District. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris said she has First Road District's list and will compile a complete list for the Board.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris presented the County Commission with road improvement fund balances as of January 31, 2022, as well as, Road Department expenses for their review.

A completed list of repairs made to RS Bridge structures in need of immediate attention was presented to the County Commission for their review by Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris.

Norris asked the County Commissions' interest in purchasing asphalt millings from Herzog Contracting Corporation, Inc. The County Commission will take under consideration and talk with Road Foremen.

Jackson County, Kansas, will host the Northeast Kansas County Highway Officials Association meeting on March 4, 2022.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to hire Schwab-Eaton, PA to perform the interim bridge inspection on 23 structures at a cost not to exceed \$4,900.00. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris met with representatives of Atchison County, Kansas, Road Department to formulate a county line road maintenance agreement. Once finalized in draft form it will be given to County Attorney Charles D. Baskins for review prior to adoption by the Board of County Commissioners.

The Board of County Commissioners executed agreements with Herzog Contracting Corporation, Inc. for 3" asphalt overlay and shoulder rock on 175th Road from Wathena City limits to Peck Road in the amount of \$660,930.00 and 2" asphalt overlay and shoulder rock on Elgin Road from Kansas Highway 20 to St. Benedict's Road in the amount of \$197,495.00.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris will work on developing road work agreements between Doniphan County and adjoining landowners for culvert replacement project on 140th Road in Sections 10, 11 and 15 Township 4 Range 21E.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve Road Department expenditures to Berry Tractor in the amount of \$770.00 for loader repair and Murphy Tractor \$1,236.90 for warning light repair on #200 motor grader. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Second Road District Foreman Sean Price suggested the County Commission consider replacing the Fiat-Allis and Caterpillar bull dozers with one machine to be used countywide by one operator assigned to the equipment.

G. E. Pierce met with the County Commission to ask when a load of crusher run road rock approved in July 2021 would be hauled on Castleton Road between 140th and 150th Roads. Commissioner Collins said he would speak with First Road District Deputy-Foreman Tom Miller about hauling this week. Mr. Pierce said he has removed fence along Castleton Road and asked if the County would like to push in banks and build the road up before he puts up new fencing. Commissioner Collins will contact adjoining landowners.

G. E. Pierce speaking in favor of county ambulance service asked if there was any federal grant funding available as a financing option to ease the burden on property tax.

G. E. Pierce thanked the County Commission for their efforts and work in keeping the historic courthouse building in good shape and looking nice.

City of Wathena Mayor John A. Cluck addressed the Board of County Commissioners regarding countywide ambulance service. Mr. Cluck offered to hold a public forum during a Wathena City Council meeting with the County Commissioners present to address concerns and get information out on the operations and financing of a countywide ambulance service. Cluck said the survey sent out to taxpayers was confusing and construed as an election rather than a survey. Commissioner Collins said the survey sent out to taxpayers was to gauge support of a countywide ambulance service. Commissioner Hall suggested talking with adjoining counties and Buchanan County, Missouri on expanding ambulance service into Doniphan County. Mayor Cluck said the ambulance service should be countywide and self-sustaining within Doniphan County. He offered the use of Wathena City Hall or facilities within the City of Wathena for a public forum. Commissioner Grable said the County Commissioners will need more information prior to holding a public forum in order to ensure factual information is relayed to the public. Mo-Kan Regional Council has been retained to develop Requests for Proposals for third party administration of an ambulance service. Mayor Cluck stated he would work with Wathena City Council on adoption of city ordinance in support of countywide ambulance service.

C. B. Lackey asked who Highland City representative on the EMS Committee is. County Clerk Peggy Franken stated Ken Stewart represents Highland EMS. EMS Committee Members and the organizations they represent are:

Mike Brissett	Troy City Council
Bob Ryser	Fire District No. 1
Cory Shue	Wathena City
Eric Tracy	Fire District No. 2
Kevin Thompson	Fire District No. 3
Joel Euler	Legal Representative
Ken Stewart	Highland EMS
Matt McKittrick	Doniphan County Ambulance No. 1
Bobby Hall	Elwood City

Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson presented the County Commission with a letter of support for the City of Elwood's application to the Kansas Department of Commerce Building a Strong Economy Grant for extension of high pressure waterline and force main sewer line to service ClearSky rehabilitation facility. After review, Chairman Grable executed letter of support on behalf of City of Elwood's grant application to the Kansas Department of Commerce for Building a Strong Economy grant funding.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Hall made a motion to adjourn at 9:32 A.M. Commissioner Grable seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

DATED THIS 14th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Wayne Grable, Chairman