

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, MARCH 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. Marvin “Corky” Smith, Aging Director Diana Crouse-Johnson, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, Second Road District Foreman Sean Price, Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce, Appraiser Danielle Kiefer, Register of Deeds Susan J. Shuster, KANZA Mental Health and Guidance Center CEO Jackie Feathers and retired CEO David Jasper, EMS Committee Members Mike Brissett, Kevin Thompson, Ken Stewart and Joel Euler were present for a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve County Commission meeting agenda as amended removing 9:15 AM appointment from agenda. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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

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

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve \$632.72 abated taxes to the 2021 Doniphan County tax roll. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Currently the Jerry K. Dubach Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center houses 6 local inmates.

Marvin “Corky” Smith, representing Doniphan County Historical Society, told the County Commission a tree on the southeast corner of the Tennent-Baker House property located on Walnut Street is split all the way through and is in danger of falling, causing a liability concern. The Board of County Commissioners will look at and contact tree service vendors to secure bids for removal and cleanup.

A request to increase meal delivery fees from \$15 per day per site to \$20 per day per site was received on behalf of Doniphan County Services and Workskills, who currently deliver meals on wheels for Doniphan County. Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve the request for increase in meal delivery services to \$20 per day per site payable to Doniphan County Services and Workskills for meals on wheels. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce, Appraiser Danielle Kiefer and Register of Deeds Susan Shuster met with the County Commission to request an increase in meal stipend for County employees while attending conferences, meetings, seminars or trainings as part of employment requirements for Doniphan County. Currently Doniphan County reimburses up to \$8.00 for breakfast, \$12.00 for lunch and \$20.00 for supper. Pierce, spokesperson for Department Heads and Elected Officials, asked for the Commissioners consideration in

increasing the meal reimbursement to \$60.00 per day, in addition allow reimbursement for service tip in the amount of 20% of meal cost. County Clerk Peggy Franken informed the County Commission the current federal daily meal rate is \$59.00. She requested employees be required to continue submittal of itemized receipt for reimbursement of meal and tip expenses.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to amend the Doniphan County Personnel Policy regarding travel expenses removing the per meal reimbursement and setting a reimbursable meal stipend of up to \$60.00 per day while attending conferences, meetings, seminars or trainings as part of employment requirements for Doniphan County and add reimbursement of service tip up to 20% of meal costs, upon submittal of itemized receipt to the County Clerk's office within the pay period. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Register of Deeds Susan Shuster requested permission to update Doniphan County's Microsoft licensing at a cost of \$3,282.00 annually with payment to be made from Capital Improvement fund. Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve updating of Microsoft licensing in the amount of \$3,282.00 annually with payment to be made from Capital Improvement fund. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to purchase filters for #151 motor grader in the Second Road District shop at cost of \$527.00. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable asked Second Road District Foreman Sean Price to report the number of equipment and labor hours spent removing concrete dumped along Larkinburg Road to Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris for reimbursement by contractor.

Commissioner Grable also asked Second Road District Foreman Price to smooth out 195th Road and other county roads in need of blading.

At 8:45 A.M. bid letting was held for purchase of Road Department tires. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

Neumann Services	\$21,945.86
Berwick Oil	\$17,419.18
Kansasland Tire	\$24,367.26

The Board of County Commissioners took no action pending review of bids as submitted.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris asked for Board approval of overtime and comptime accrued by employees of the Road Department during the week of March 7, 2022 for snow removal. The Board of County Commissioners made no objection.

Commissioner Collins asked Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris to obtain information for repair of concrete culvert located on Coronado Road, north of Highland, Kansas, in Sections 22-23 Township 2 Range 19E.

Lindsay Norris, Road Office Manager, told the County Commission during the bi-annual bridge inspection Engineers with Schwab-Eaton, PA noted bridge located on 195th and Oxide Road, south of US Highway 36, in Section 15 Township 3 Range 21E is in bad shape. She said 195th Road is used as an alternate route to US Highway 36 in the event the highway is closed. Discussion was held regarding removal of the bridge structure. Norris cautioned the County Commission to verify Union Pacific Railroad has abandoned the rail line, the property has reverted back to adjoining landowners and Union Pacific Railroad has no plans to re-open, prior to taking action on removing the bridge structure.

Retired KANZA Mental Health and Guidance Center CEO David Jasper introduced new CEO Jackie Feathers to the Board of County Commissioners. They updated the Board on substance abuse services and the crisis stabilization bed center to open at the former Cushings Hospital in Leavenworth, Kansas, September 2022. The Board of County Commissioners thanked Mr. Jasper for his service to the mental health community.

C.B. Lackey asked the County Commission the next step for formation of countywide ambulance service. The Board said discussion would be held later in the meeting with the Doniphan County EMS Committee.

At 9:15 A.M. Commissioner Grable made a motion to recess into executive session to discuss confidential data related to trade secrets, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 9:20 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded. Motion carried 3-0. County Clerk and Economic Development Director remained.

Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson informed the County Commission the Feed Store Café, Troy, Kansas, has been awarded the “Best Pie on Highway 36” in Doniphan County by the US Highway 36 Association.

The Board of County Commissioners were in receipt of correspondence from Doniphan County property owners Daniel Woodruff, Patricia Woodruff, Sharon Peuker and Henry Peuker opposed to funding a countywide ambulance service solely with property tax, suggesting an increase in sales tax as a more evenly distributed way of funding the service.

Doniphan County EMS Committee Members Mike Brissett, Kevin Thompson, Ken Stewart and Attorney Joel Euler met with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss the next steps in forming and operating a countywide ambulance service. Mr. Brissett informed the County Commission MO-KAN Regional Council is making final amendments to the Request for Proposals (a draft copy of which was given to the County Commissioners) prior to sending to third-party administrators for operations of countywide ambulance service. Discussion was held in regard to funding, with the Board of County Commissioners considering dissolving current Doniphan County Ambulance District No. 1 made up of Fire District No.1 and Fire District No. 5 and forming a new countywide ambulance service district by May 1, 2022 for budgeting purposes; levying up to the current 2.2 mills for operations. Fire District No. 2 and Fire District No. 3 would no longer levy a tax for Highland Ambulance Service but would be included in the countywide ambulance service district along with Elwood, Kansas. The proposed tax of 2.2 mills for countywide ambulance service district would remain neutral for some taxpayers, reduce property tax for others and slightly increase property tax for those not currently paying for ambulance service. In addition, the County Commission discussed placing a 1% designated sales tax referendum for EMS Services pursuant to K.S.A. 12-187(b)(5) on the August 2, 2022 primary election ballot. No action was taken.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Grable made a motion to adjourn at 10:06 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

DATED THIS 14th DAY OF MARCH 2022.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Wayne Grable, Chairman