

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, JANUARY 9, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the office of the Doniphan County Commission, Troy, Kansas, at 8:47 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. Second Road District Foreman Sean Price, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris, Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson, Aging Director Diana Crouse-Johnson and Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce were present for a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve meeting agenda as amended to include appointments with Aging Director and Economic Development Director. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve County Commission minutes of December 30, 2022 regular meeting as written. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Fee reports for the month of December 2022 were presented to the Board for their review on behalf of the County Clerk, Register of Deeds and Sheriff.

The Jerry K. Dubach Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center currently houses 10 local inmates.

Due to observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, the Board of County Commissioners will hold their next regular meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 8:30 A.M.

County Clerk Peggy Franken presented the County Commission with departmental budget and cash summary report for year end 2022 for their review.

Second Road District Foreman Sean Price told the County Commission he is seeking bids for the purchase of a mini excavator for Board consideration.

Commissioner Hall asked Foreman Price if he is aware of how many contractors in the County own a bulldozer. He requested a list of contractors be made for the County Commissioners consideration in contracting with when dozer work is needed as opposed to the County purchasing a bulldozer and not being able to use it due to staff shortages.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris informed the County Commission of emergency decking repair needed on bridge T-148-1 located on 210th and Toulon Roads in Section 10 Township 3 Range 22E. The County Commission agreed to close and barricade the bridge to all thru traffic until bridge planks can be ordered and the deck replaced. County Commissioners directed Foreman Price to place permanent barricades and advance warning signs and signals to warn motorists of the bridge closure.

Norris also told the County Commission Kansas Department of Transportation bid letting for replacement of bridge structure T-831-1 located on 195th Road, east of Troy, Kansas, in Section 15 Township 3 Range 21E will be held on February 15, 2023. Construction on the Kansas Department of Transportation Off-System Bridge Replacement project will commence in May 2023.

An agreement between the Boards of County Commissioners of Atchison and Doniphan Counties, Kansas, providing for the allocation of responsibility for the construction, repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, culverts and supporting infrastructure located on or near the county line between said counties was presented to the County Commission and County Attorney for review by Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris. No action was taken pending review and future discussion.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris presented the County Commission with Road Department expenses and road improvement fund balances as of November 30, 2022 for their review.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the following Road Department invoices: Mayday Trucking \$780.00 (motor grader batteries 1st District) Dave's Diesel \$1,043.95 (2012 Freightliner 1st District) Henke \$522.72 (V plow parts 1st District) and Schwab Eaton PA \$1,865.36 (final engineering fees for bridge RS160). Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commissioners held discussion on bidding 22.5 acres of County farm row crop and 9.5 acres of hay ground located at the Doniphan County landfill/transfer station in Section 21 Township 3 Range 22E. The Board was in agreement to honor current cash rent agreements and put out for bid in 2024, giving advanced notice to tenants.

Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson informed the County Commission she will be attending a Retreat for Rural Leaders Conference sponsored by Kansas Sampler Foundation, as well as, the Kansas Department of Commerce Broadband Summit.

Commissioner Collins asked Economic Development Director Johnson about broadband expansion throughout Doniphan County. Director Johnson said Doniphan County has contracted with Rainbow Communications for expansion of broadband along the US Highway 36 corridor from Troy easterly to Wathena, expanded out 2 miles north and south of the Highway, dedicating American Rescue Plan funds for the project.

Additionally, third round funding of the Kansas Department of Commerce Capital Project Fund (CPF) grants program to provide access to high-quality reliable broadband throughout Kansas has not yet been announced.

Leah B. Johnson, Economic Development Director, said the Kansas Department of Commerce is announcing new grant opportunities, which she is relaying to all the cities and communities throughout the County.

Commissioner Hall asked Economic Development Director Leah B. Johnson for a letter from potential fast food franchise businesses she has contacted stating they are not interested or it isn't feasible to locate in Doniphan County. Johnson said she welcomes contact information and input from the Commissioners and Attorneys who may know of potential fast food businesses to reach out too. The Board also discussed with Director Johnson the sale of Simpson's Grocery Store in Wathena, Kansas, and the potential for keeping the grocery store open in the community. Mrs. Johnson said the new owners are open to leasing the building as a grocery store as long as the lessee has a viable business plan.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve Doniphan County Meals on Wheels policy as presented by Aging Director Diana Crouse-Johnson. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Aging Director Diana Crouse-Johnson told the County Commission she has received concern from Senior Citizens over the increase in suggested donation (\$5.00) for meals through the Meals on Wheels program. She reminded the County Commission and public meals for patrons 60+ are a suggested donation only and if they cannot pay \$5.00 for the meal they are eligible to receive the meal for any donation amount or free of charge.

Diana Crouse-Johnson, Aging Director, requested permission to apply for grant funding in an amount not to exceed \$13,800.00 through Northeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging for American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds to be used to replace carpeting at the Highland Senior Citizens Center. She will seek three bids pursuant to Doniphan County's procurement policy. The Board of County Commissioners made no objections to applying for grant funding through Northeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging for replacement of carpeting at Highland Senior Citizens Center.

Aging Director Johnson also informed the Commission she has applied for funding through the Ruth and Roger Wolfe Trust for funds to replace the flooring at the Elwood Leisure Hour Senior Citizens Center.

At 9:38 A.M. the Board of County Commissioners recessed for a break with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 9:43 A.M.

The Board of County Commissioners discussed previous request of Leslie Suba and Terri Hegarty for permission to access County road right-of-way on Larned Road in Section 19

Township 3 Range 21E in order to place driveway for location of home and outbuilding in blocks 43-44 in the old town of Maynard. According to survey on file in the office of the Register of Deeds, Book 10 Page 90, a 65' road right-of-way exists. Commissioner Grable and Second Road District Foreman Sean Price viewed the area. Commissioner Grable would like to meet with Mrs. Suba to flag off exactly where the driveway is to be located. Commissioner Grable asked County Attorney Charles D. Baskins the status of platted streets and alleys in the old town of Maynard. County Attorney Baskins opined vacation of streets and alleys was not necessary for placement of driveway across County right-of-way.

At 10:00 A.M. bid letting was held for electrical upgrade at the Doniphan County Health Department building located at 201 S Main Street, Troy, Kansas. One bid was received, opened and read aloud: G.E. Grable Electric \$5,400.00. Commissioner Hall made a motion to accept the lone bid of G.E. Grable Electric for electrical upgrade at the Doniphan County Health Department building per bid specifications in the amount of \$5,400.00, with payment to be made from New Sales Tax fund as capital improvement to County owned facility. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

At 10:06 A.M. Commissioner Collins made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing matters of legal nature with counsel, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 10:11 A.M. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. County Attorney and County Clerk remained.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to order a bundle of bridge planks for repair of bridge T-148-1 located on 210th and Toulon Roads. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Hall made a motion to adjourn at 10:21 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

DATED THIS 9th DAY OF JANUARY 2023.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Wayne Grable, Chairman