

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, NOVEMBER 13, 2023

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, Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce, Health Department Registered Nurse Bethani Jarrett, Register of Deeds Susan Shuster and Sheriff Chad Clary were present for a portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve meeting agenda as amended to include 9:15 A.M. meeting with Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve County Commission minutes of November 6, 2023 regular meeting as written. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of November 15, 2023 with exception of Sheriff's Department Direct TV bill in the amount of \$604.69 pending looking into the billing statement further and discussion with Sheriff Chad Clary. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve abated tax changes in the amount of \$898.46 to the 2023 Doniphan County tax roll. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Jerry K. Dubach Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center currently houses 11 local inmates.

The Board of County Commissioners, acting as the Board of County Canvassers, recessed at 8:35 A.M. to canvass election returns from the November 7, 2023 General Election. After review of ballots cast in advance, at polling locations and provisional ballots, returns were found to be accurate and just. A tie vote for Leona City Council between Tiffany Ernzen, Joel Parker and Kelly Sale was broken by lot with Tiffany Ernzen being the successful elector.

The Board of County Commissioners meeting was called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 8:47 A.M. in order to conduct regular business.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris reported construction of bridge T-831-1 on 195th Road east of Troy, Kansas, in Section 15 Township 3 Range 21E, is complete and the roadway open to thru traffic.

Berm slope repair on bridge T-35-2, located east of Black Jack Road or 2.4 miles west of Severance, Kansas, Section 28 Township 3 Range 19E, has also been completed by Baird Excavating. Engineers with Schwab-Eaton will perform a final inspection.

A mini excavator has been rented from Equipment Share for a period running November 8, 2023 through December 6, 2023 at a monthly rate of \$1,600.00 to assist with installation of road tubes, according to Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris presented the County Commission with contractor bid specification templates for their review.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve request and petition on behalf of Rainbow Communications for buried fiber optic cable along US Highway 36 east of Troy, Kansas to west of Wathena, Kansas, for broadband expansion project. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve 5,000 hour service on #184 John Deere motor grader in First Road District. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris reported 90' x 6' tube for replacement project on 140th Road, west of Ottumwa Road, Section 10 Township 4 Range 21E, is scheduled to be delivered to project site November 20, 2023.

Commissioner Grable asked about the status of ordering 40' x 8' tube to replace bridge T-538-2 on Oxide Road, north of 215th Road, Section 35 Township 2 Range 23E. Removal of the bridge structure (referred to as sacrifice bridge by Kansas Department of Transportation) will allow \$50,000 toward replacement of bridge RS-380 located on 240th Road, west of Highland, Kansas, Sections 20-29 Township 2 Range 19E.

At 9:19 A.M. Commissioner Grable made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect Health Department personnel, with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 9:29 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. County Attorney, County Clerk, Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce and Health Department Registered Nurse Bethani Jarrett remained.

Sheryl Pierce, Health Department/Home Health Administrator, announced the resignation of Registered Nurse Elizabeth Cluck from the full time position effective November 3, 2023. Nurse Cluck will remain on staff in an on-call position.

Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce presented the County Commission with Kansas Department of Health and Environment Transforming Public Health in Kansas by Strengthening Our Workforce Grant in the amount of \$75,935.47. Administrator Pierce requested permission to apply for the grant funding, which will be used for transparent salary assessments leading to pay adjustments and increase workforce development opportunities for new and existing Registered Nurses of the Doniphan County Health Department. Pierce discussed with the County Commission keeping wages competitive with other local health organizations in order to keep the Doniphan County

Health Department viable; continuing to serve as a local resource to County residents. The Board of County Commissioners made no objection to applying to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Transforming Public Health in Kansas by Strengthening Our Workforce Grant with a decision to be made at a later date on use of funds, including wage increases for Registered Nurses of the Doniphan County Health Department.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to purchase USB toggle tokens from Lockit Technologies to be used for two authentication code for departmental email's in order to provide protection against compromised emails, in the amount of \$1,980.00, with each County Department responsible for payment of tokens by the number of users. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

On recommendation of Register of Deeds Susan Shuster, Commissioner Hall made a motion to update Doniphan County's Microsoft Office programs to Microsoft Office 365 in the amount of \$3,900.00, with each County Department responsible for payment based on the number of users. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commissioners were in receipt of list of Household Hazardous Waste items collected by Jackson County Environmental Services and Noxious Weed Department on November 2, 2023.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to purchase three computers for the Doniphan County Clerk's Office from Lockit Technologies at a cost of \$1,221.00 each. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

County Clerk Peggy Franken reviewed with the Board of County Commissioners current terms for leasing 9.5 acres County hay ground and 22.5 acres row crop ground. The Board of County Commissioners were in agreement to advertise for sealed bids cash renting the County's 9.5 acres hay ground and 22.5 acres row crop beginning with crop year 2024 based on current terms; being a term of one year, with ability to extend lease for additional one year periods not to exceed a total lease term of three years.

The Board of County Commissioners met with Sheriff Chad Clary to discuss 2023 budget status and funding through the remainder of the current year. Sheriff Clary said unexpected expenses arose from car repairs throughout the year. In addition, he will have expenses related to housing of dogs and veterinarian bills from a recent case. Commissioner Hall requested invoices be brought to the County Clerk's office for payment on at least a monthly basis. Sheriff Clary said he takes blame for not getting bills to the County Clerk's office timely for payment and needs to be better at making sure they are submitted for payment on time.

Commissioner Grable told Sheriff Chad Clary the Board of County Commissioners declined payment of Direct TV invoice in the amount of \$604.69 due to questionable charges including several pay per view channels. Sheriff Clary said he is currently in discussions with Direct TV for allowing inmates access to pay per view channels, when he thought he had a plan where inmates would not be allowed to purchase channels. Commissioner Grable asked why Direct TV is being provided to inmates. Sheriff Clary said when Rainbow Communications ended cable service, he replaced it with Direct TV. Sheriff Clary will check

with Rainbow Communications on internet options for providing a streaming service to replace Direct TV.

Commissioner Hall told Sheriff Chad Clary he was approached by several residents questioning why deputies leave their vehicles run for several hours while attending ball games. Sheriff Clary said deputies are not supposed to leave their vehicles run idle, unless responding to an emergency or during road stop while on patrol. He will send a memo to deputies reminding them of policy to not leave cars running idle unless assisting with emergency or during regular patrol.

Sheriff Clary told the County Commission he is trying to get his department back to full staff hiring four employees the week of November 6, 2023. One of those employees has been terminated, with the position to be filled after January 1, 2024. He asked County Clerk Peggy Franken if she was aware of the State of Kansas Smart Money Sharing Program, where the County is reimbursed \$100.00 per day by the State of Kansas for holding State inmates. Clerk Franken was not aware of the program and will work with the Sheriff on finding out the specifics of the program.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve sensor repair to 2018 Western Star (#11) dump truck in Third Road District by Matt Cluck in an amount not to exceed \$1,450.00. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable asked Commissioners Collins and Hall thoughts on increasing the County Commissioners spending authority above the current \$1,500.00, per conversation by the Board of County Commissioners during the previous meeting. Both Commissioners Collins and Hall said they are still giving it some consideration. Commissioner Grable also reminded the County Board rock hauling for the year 2023 will end on November 15, 2023.

Commissioner Collins asked the status of repairing concrete box culvert on Coronado Road, north of Highland City Limits, Sections 22-23 Township 2 Range 19E. Commissioners Grable and Hall said they are waiting to discuss cost share options with representatives of the City of Highland.

Commissioner Hall congratulated MCon Racing on their 2023 SuperCat APBA National and 2023 SuperCat Key West World championships. MCon, a local business, giving Doniphan County worldwide exposure.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Grable made a motion to adjourn at 11:01 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

DATED THIS 13th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Wayne Grable, Chairman