

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, TROY, KANSAS, OCTOBER 30, 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. Nate Daniels, Aging Director Diana-Crouse Johnson, Emergency Management Director Julie Meng, Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris and Rainbow Communications Representatives Angie Kreider and Julie Bergman were present for a portion of the meeting.

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

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve County Commission minutes of October 23, 2023 meeting as written. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve payroll and warrants for the period of October 31, 2023 as presented. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Jerry K. Dubach Doniphan County Law Enforcement Center currently houses 9 local inmates.

Nate Daniels, Fire District No. 4, met with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss training of countywide volunteer firefighters and first responders on at least a semi-annual basis. Due to lack of volunteers and resources all five rural fire districts would need to work together during a catastrophic event. Mr. Daniels suggested formulating a plan for recruitment of younger volunteers to serve local fire departments and in first responder positions. He asked the County Commissioners to cover the cost of vehicle extrication training for rural fire districts and first responders at a cost of \$1,500.00 by Rescue Specialists of Salina, Kansas. Emergency Management Director Julie Meng, who was present for discussion, offered to pay the cost from the Emergency Management budget. Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve paying for vehicle extrication training conducted by Rescue Specialists in the amount of \$1,500.00 for volunteer firefighters and first responders from the Emergency Management fund. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable asked about emergency communications during a catastrophic event when cell phone and radio contact is lost. Emergency Management Director Julie Meng said communications would be handled through the State of Kansas. And as long as generators are installed on cell towers and radio repeaters, there should be no loss of communication for first responders.

Aging Director Diana Crouse-Johnson presented the County Commission with advertisement to accept sealed bids for sale of 2017 Dodge Grand Caravan, a transportation van no longer in use by the Doniphan County Transportation Department. Director Johnson also presented bid specifications for replacement of sidewalk and ADA compliant ramp at the Highland Senior

Citizens Center located at 102 N Kirkwood St. Highland, Kansas. The Board of County Commissioners approved both as presented.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve request and petition on behalf of MCon for boring 3” waterline on Coronado Road, 750’ north of Missouri Street, Highland, Kansas. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve Road Department expenditures to Foley Equipment for cutting edge blades in the amount of \$670.20 and Mayday Trucking \$3,074.94 for clutch repair on 2020 Peterbilt. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris presented the County Commission with Road Department expenses and Road Improvement Fund balances through September 30, 2023 for their review.

County Clerk Peggy Franken and Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris discussed with the County Commission requirements of the Kansas Infrastructure Hub Bridge Investment Program. Manager Norris told the Commission in order to apply for program grant funds the bridge project cost must be no less than \$100 million. The State of Kansas, however, has several grant funding opportunities for bridge replacement and repair projects that Doniphan County would be eligible to apply for which includes the Kansas Department of Transportation Off-System Bridge Replacement program.

At 9:00 A.M. bid letting was held for abutment berm slope repair on bridge T-35-2 located 2.4 miles west of Severance, Kansas, on 180th Road, Section 28 Township 3 Range 19E. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

Baird Excavating	\$26,267.00
Kiefer Excavating	\$54,740.00
Wagner Excavating	\$63,320.00
Urban Construction	\$67,270.00
Muse Excavating & Construction	No bid – submitted letter on bid process

Commissioner Hall made a motion to accept the best bid of Baird Excavating, based on engineer project specifications, for abutment berm slope repair on bridge T-35-2 in the amount of \$26,267.00. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Bid letting was held for abutment berm slope repair on bridge T-228-2 located 3.5 miles east and 1.9 miles south of Bendena, Kansas, on Larkinburg Road (otherwise described as south of 150th Road on Larkinburg Road) Section 12 Township 4 Range 20E. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

Wagner Excavating	\$52,940.00
Urban Construction	\$56,800.00

Commissioner Hall made a motion to accept the best bid of Wagner Excavating, based on engineer project specifications, for abutment berm slope repair on bridge T-228-2 in the amount of \$52,940.00. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall said the County needs a specific procedure and process for bidding of all projects. For the record it was not a requirement for contractors to be present for pre-bid conference on bridge T-35-2 and T-228-2. Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris suggested a bid specifications template for all projects set to be bid. Commissioner Hall also reiterated several of the County’s bridge structures serve as the only access to an individual’s property and need to be maintained. Due to lack of a maintenance program has resulted in several bridges needing

extensive repair or to be replaced. He said the County needs to implement a routine maintenance program. Commissioners Collins and Grable agreed.

Commissioner Collins inquired about the status of repair to concrete box culvert on Coronado Road, north of Highland, Kansas, in Sections 22-23 Township 2 Range 19E. Clerk Franken and Road Office Manager Lindsay Norris said the County is waiting for representatives of the City of Highland to meet with the County Commission to discuss cost share on the project.

Representatives with Rainbow Communications, Angie Kreider and Julie Bergman, met with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss the US Highway 36 corridor broadband expansion project from east of Troy, Kansas to west of Wathena, Kansas, funded in partnership with Rainbow Communications and Doniphan County, Kansas, America Rescue Plan funding. Mrs. Kreider said contractors are ready to begin fiber installation, with installation to be complete late spring or early summer 2024. Once construction begins, representatives of Rainbow Communications will meet with the County Commissioners monthly to give project updates.

At 9:43 A.M. Commissioner Grable made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential data relating to financial affairs or trades secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts and individual proprietorships with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 9:53 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. County Clerk, Angie Kreider and Julie Bergman remained.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to amend the scope of work agreement between Doniphan County, Kansas and Rainbow Communications for US Highway 36 corridor broadband expansion project from 190 locations to 124. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

County Clerk Peggy Franken told the County Commission the 2023 Doniphan County tax roll has been certified to the County Treasurer. Printing and mailing of tax statements have been outsourced to The Masters Touch. Taxpayers should expect tax statements to begin being mailed on or around November 1, 2023.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to transfer \$200,000.00 from New Sales Tax to Elwood Gladden Drainage District for 2023 levee repair payment. Commissioner Grable seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to appoint Register of Deeds Susan Shuster to serve as Doniphan County's voting delegate at the KWORCC annual meeting to be held December 5, 2023. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Grable made a motion to utilize contractor next on Contractor List on file in the Road Office to install 90' x 6' tube on 140th Road, west of Ottumwa Road, in Section 10 Township 4 Range 21E.

County Attorney Charles D. Baskins discussed with the County Commission the importance of employee training and awareness on internet security, in light of the statewide judicial system being taken offline by an unknown source.

At 10:33 A.M. Commissioner Grable made a motion to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing and protecting the interest of non-elect personnel with the meeting to be called back to order in the office of the Doniphan County Commission at 10:43 A.M. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. County Attorney and County Clerk remained.

There being no further business before the Board, Commissioner Grable made a motion to adjourn at 10:46 A.M. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

DATED THIS 30th DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.

Attest: _____
Peggy Franken, County Clerk

Wayne Grable, Chairman