

Pawnee County Board of County Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes  
April 13, 2020 Regular Meeting  
Submitted by M.A. Gilmore

The Pawnee County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, April 13, 2020 in the first floor lounge of the Pawnee County Courthouse. Commissioners in attendance were: Bob Rein, Jr., chairman; Deborah Lewis, commissioner and Philip Hammeke, commissioner. Also in attendance was M.A. Gilmore, Pawnee County Clerk's Office.

Rein called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m., followed by recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

9:10 a.m. Agenda item: Department Heads meeting. A meeting of the department heads was the first item on the agenda. Attending were: Kurt Demel, Road & Bridge/Noxious Weed; Tim Taylor, custodian; Aimee Norris, Deputy Clerk; Joel Davis, Register of Deeds office; Kyle Grant, Pawnee County Extension agent; Tina Keeler, Pawnee County Appraiser, Tami Keenan, Pawnee County treasurer; Cheryl Hoberecht, Pawnee County Health Department.

Rein opened the meeting asking about the split-staffing policy instituted and other concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Keeler noted that the office was dealing with compliance, oil&gas and personal property and that activities were being completed as well as can be expected;

Keenan noted that her office was still receiving payments and motor vehicle registrations and that her office would not be pushing back established deadlines;

Davis reported that the deeds office was busy with local real estate;

Demel reported that his crews were working in separate shifts as expected on regular activity including culverts and guardrail with paperwork completed;

Taylor reported that several reports have been received with the south door sticking and that it has been reset;

Grant reported that he and his office staff has been working from home as much as possible with calls being forwarded from the office. 4-H activities have been suspended until after the July 4 holiday. He noted that stay-at-home orders may affect some early county fairs in the state, but Pawnee County's fair is scheduled outside of the shutdown. A possibility would be to have county fairs with all open events excluding 4-H;

Norris reported that the Clerk's office is currently working with two teams on rotation;

Hoberecht reported that Pawnee County was still case-free of the COVID19 virus and that not a lot of testing was currently going on. She said she believed that the stay-at-home orders have helped limit local exposure.

Department head meeting ended at 9:25 a.m.

Pawnee County Attorney Doug McNett joined the meeting at 9:30.

9:30 a.m. Agenda item: Kurt Demel, Road& Bridge, Noxious Weed. Demel reported that he had lost one crew member but gained a new hire. Taylor Thomas has been hired to replace departing Mike Quimby, who has taken a position in Oakley. His hire as Level III, Step 1 is effective April 27, 2020.

**Commissioner Rein called for a motion for change in Payroll. Hammeke moved, Lewis seconded to approve a change in payroll for new hire Taylor Thomas effective April 27, 2020. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

Demel also discussed planned bridge repairs within the county. He reported receipt of two counteroffer letters of purchase regarding Off-System Bridge 21 for temporary construction easement.

**Hammeke moved, Lewis seconded, to accept a letter of purchase counteroffer from Allen Klein for the amount of \$200 for OS21 right-of-way. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

**Hammeke moved, Lewis seconded, to accept a letter of purchase counteroffer from Midway Development, L.L.C., in the amount of \$1,500 for OS21 right-of-way. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

Demel also reported to the Commissioners that it would be the responsibility of the county to take care of fencing in the project vicinity.

Demel left the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

10 a.m. Agenda item: Cheryl Hoberect, Pawnee County Health Department. Hoberect informed the Commissioners that the PCHD had received two grant funding opportunities regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, through its Bureau of Community Health Systems, is offering Coronavirus Preparedness and Response supplemental funding. Hoberect noted that the funding is separate from the state formula and must have its own tracking mechanism.

Hoberect said that the PCHD is eligible for \$13,220 for preparedness and response activities.

PCHD has also received support funding in the amount of \$750 as a rural population with no confirmed COVID-19 cases. The funding, from Sunflower Foundation, may be received through the state formula and will be allocated in two rounds.

The Commissioners took no action regarding the grant awards. Chairman Rein suggested that Hoberect check with Aaron Koehn of VonFeldt, Bauer and Von Feldt and report back at a later meeting regarding possible funding parameters.

10:20-10:22. a.m. Began review of checks and vouchers for approval.

10:22 a.m. Conference call with Gail Antenen, 24<sup>th</sup> District Community Corrections, Pawnee County. Antenen presented four funding requests for Commissioners' approval.

**Hammeke moved, Lewis seconded, to accept the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Community Corrections Plan grant for FY2021 as presented. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

**Lewis moved, Hammeke seconded, to accept the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Behavioral Health grant for FY 2021 as presented. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

**Lewis moved, PH seconded, to accept the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District KDOC Juvenile Justice Program (Part II) grant for FY 2021 as presented. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

A fourth grant, concerning intermediate level intervention programming for the 24<sup>th</sup> District, was deferred due to incorrect document language. The grant may be presented at a later meeting for review and approval.

Antenen requested that she be placed on the April 27, 2020 meeting agenda to revisit the grant discussion.

11: a.m. Agenda item: LEPC Meeting. Rein called the regular meeting of the Larned Emergency Preparedness Committee delivered by Zoom internet conferencing to order.

Attending via internet were members Scott King, Bryce Wachs, Cindy Smith, Mark Wagner, Kara Lawrence, Julie Kamp, Lesia Dipman, TJ Hearn, Laura Smith, Brad Eilts, Diversicare, and William Nusser. Kim Barnes as interested citizen.

Discussion of latest activity due to COVID-19 outbreak shared by various community sectors.

Meeting ended at 11:29 a.m.

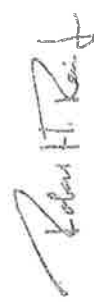
11:30 a.m. Commissioners' discussion of Department of Labor Shared Work Program. No action taken.

12:05 p.m. Reviewed and corrected Commissioners' minutes from March 23, March 30 and April 6 meetings.

12:30 p.m. **Commissioner Rein called for a motion for change in Payroll. Lewis moved, Hammeke seconded to approve a change in payroll for new hire Michael Gilmore part-time in County Clerk's office effective April 9, 2020. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

12:32 p.m. Checks and vouchers.

12:38 p.m. **Chairman Rein called for a motion to adjourn. Lewis moved, Hammeke seconded to adjourn meeting to next Monday, April 20. Motion carried, 3-0.**



**For the Board:**

**Chair, Board of Commissioners**



**Attest: Deputy II**

**County Clerk**