

April 20, 2020

- 9:02 a.m. Reconvene. Rein, Hammeke, and Lewis present. Also in attendance: Michael Gilmore, Pawnee County Clerk's Office.
- 9:03 a.m. Chairman Rein called for a motion to recess into executive session. Lewis moved, Hammeke seconded, to enter into executive session for non-elected personnel for five minutes. Motion carried, 3-0.**
- 9:08 a.m. Reconvene. No action taken.
- 9:10 a.m. Courthouse mail drop box procedure discussion. Box is checked daily, with contents quarantined for 24 hours.
- 9:15 a.m. Received and delivered breakfast rolls and donuts to department, courtesy of Sweets 'N' Eats and Kim Barnes.
- 9:20 a.m. Checks and Vouchers review. Review and correct minutes from March 6, March 13 and April 13.
- 9:30 a.m. Cheryl Hoberecht, Pawnee County Health Department Executive Director.
- Cheryl Hoberecht informed the commissioners that the department received an insurance check of \$694.40 from a party responsible for damage to department vehicle in an accident. Hoberecht was instructed to place the check in the department's fund tagged for vehicle replacement.
- Hoberecht told the commissioners that the department has received the first payment of COVID-19 Preparedness and Response funds, in the amount of \$3,305.00 or 25% of the \$13,220.00 awarded. Pawnee County Doug McNett would be bringing in a resolution establishing a Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Fund for the county.
- 9:33 a.m. Doug McNett joined the meeting.
- 9:34 a.m. Lewis moved, Hammeke seconded, that the commissioners accept Resolution No. 2020-R-006, establishing the coronavirus preparedness and response fund. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-R-006**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CORONAVIRUS PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE FUND**

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment through its Bureau of Community Health Systems desires to partner with local health departments and tribes to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment awarded the Pawnee County Health Department \$13,220.00 for COVID-19 pandemic preparedness and response activities as part of the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS**, that the **Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Fund** is hereby established to be administered as hereafter provided:

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**Purpose of Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Fund:** This fund is to account for monies awarded to the Pawnee County Health Department as part of the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020. Said fund is separate and distinct from monies awarded in accordance with the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Program and shall be tracked accordingly.

**Use of Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Fund:** Monies deposits in this fund shall be expended by the Pawnee County Health Department in its discretion to carry out surveillance epidemiology, laboratory capacity, infection control, mitigation, communication and other preparedness and repose activities concerning the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) consistent with applicable grant regulation of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Program six domains.

**Applicable Time Period:** Unless otherwise extended, said fund shall be closed February 28, 2021.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS** that directs all monies received from KDHE as part of the Coronavirus Preparedness and Repose Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020, shall be deposited in the **Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Fund**.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** this resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon adoption, and shall remain in effect until further Order.

**ADOPTED** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Bob Rein, Chair

/s/ Philip R. Hammeke, Commissioner

/s/ Deborah Lewis, Commissioner

ATTESTED:

/s/ Ruth Searight, County Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM

/s/ Douglas E. McNett, County Attorney

Hoberecht told the Commissioners that the funds would cover expenses incurred back to January 2020.

Hoberecht also reported the PCHD currently had no COVID-19 test pending and Pawnee Valley Hospital had tested one person with a negative result. The county remains free of positive cases.

Chairman Rein initiated discussion of a recent Stanford University study focused on antibody testing for the virus that was extremely accurate. The non-peer reviewed study indicated that a significant number of subjects showed antibodies from virus exposure over the reported positive and symptomatic cases. A blood draw test would be available at a cost of \$150.00 per patient.

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Rein noted that a county database of antibodies information would be valuable in evaluating virus impact going forward, especially toward later infection control and mitigation. He said that he had invited Dr. Mark Van Norden to visit with the Commissioners at a later time about the parameter of the antibody test.

9:55 a.m.

Hoberect and McNett left the meeting.

10:00 a.m.

Kurt Demel, Pawnee County Road and Bridge.

Demel discussed status of several projects, including culvert and bridge work, including off-system bridge 21. Demel said that the bridge project remains on track.

10:15 a.m.

**Lewis moved, Hammeke seconded, to extend an offer letter of purchase to John and Matthew Bittle for IS-21 right-of-way in the amount of \$4,000.00 as presented. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

Demel also noted he had finished annual reports for both county engineer/road department and noxious weed activity for 2019 that would be submitted to the state. Demel explained that the information is recorded annually and can be used for comparison to other counties. Demel noted that while other counties may have more bridges, of Pawnee County's 140 bridges only two have been tagged deficient, with replacement plans under way.

Lewis noted that she had received a letter from rural resident Kathleen Foster, who was seeking action for flooding problems near her residence in Larned Township. Lewis noted that Foster had also sent a letter to township officials.

Demel explained that a contributing factor to the flooding was a railroad bridge near the intersection of 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue and R-5 Road that impeded drainage into Ash Creek because it was built too small. Demel noted that a lawsuit naming KDOT has been dismissed and that KDOT had deferred responsibility to the railroad with no further action taken.

Demel noted that, outside of the bridge, there was little that the county could do to alleviate the problem.

10:55 a.m.

Kurt Demel left the meeting.

11:00 a.m.

LEPC meeting. Attending: Commissioners, Cheryl Hoberect and Amanda Lakin, Pawnee County Health Department. Attending by Zoom: Melanie Urban; Kara Lawrence; Brian Stahlecker; TJ Hearn; Bryce Wachs; Leisa Dipman; Wayne Gore; Scott King; Jodie Barringer; Julie Kramp; Mark Wagner and Kurt Demel.

Discussion of current sector activity with some sectors beginning to look at recovery plans.

11:50 a.m.

Meeting ended.


**Lewis moved, Hammeke seconded, to recess for lunch until 1:30 p.m. Motion carried, 3-0.**

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- 1:30 p.m. Reconvene. Continue with checks and vouchers; review of meeting minutes from March 16<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup> and April 13<sup>th</sup>.
- 2:00 p.m. University of Kansas Health System Pawnee County Campus financial report.
- Teleconference call with Melanie Urban, PCC Hospital administrator; George Harms, Hays Med CFO; and Shae Veach, Hays Med regional vice-president.
- Melanie Urban submitted March 2020 financial report and balance sheet for Commissioners' review. Discussed cancellations of hospital public events and PVCH Foundation upcoming events.
- Reported hiring of clinic nurse manager; director of nursing and other hires. Reported hospital COVID-19 activity as "very low," with less than 10 tests administered with no positive cases.
- Discussed March financials with Harms. Stoppage of elective procedure3s reduced March revenues.
- 2:35 p.m. Lewis moved, Hammeke seconded, motion to adjourn to Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried, 3-0.



**For the Board:**  
**Chair, Board of Commissioners**



**Attest:**  
**County Clerk**

*Ruth Seavight*  
Nobis,  
Deputy