

## April 27, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Reconvene. Rein, Hammeke, and Lewis present. Also in attendance: Kevin Holt, Pawnee County Clerk's Office.

Pledge of Allegiance.

9:00 a.m.

Kurt Demel, Pawnee County Road & Bridge. Presented a request from Northern Natural Gas Company to install a temporary bypass natural gas pipeline crossing 350<sup>th</sup> Avenue in northwest Pawnee County. He noted the temporary cut in the roadway would extend for 10 days.

**Lewis moved and Hammeke seconded to approve the county road crossing permit as presented. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

Demel handed out copies of the 2018 Summary of County Engineers' Annual Reports as compiled by the Kansas Department of Transportation Bureau of Local Projects to review. No action required.

Demel noted that a new hire changed his mind about taking the position.

Demel presented photos of a department truck damaged by a blown tire that also injured a department worker. The tire damaged the truck hood that would take an estimated \$3,500 to \$5,000 to repair. Demel said he replaced the blown tire with a new one and replaced the other front tire with a new one as well.

9:15 a.m.

Mike Gilmore, Pawnee County Clerk's Office, joined the meeting.

9:30 a.m.

Department Head Meeting. Attending: Kurt Demel, Road and Bridge; Rod Wheaton, Solid Waste; Doug McNett, Pawnee County Attorney; Bruce Gatterman, 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Judge; Joel Davis, Register of Deeds Office; Cheryl Hoberecht, Pawnee County Health Department; Kevin Holt, Pawnee County Clerk's Office, Tina Keeler, Appraiser; Kyle Grant, Pawnee County Extension Agent; and Scott King, Pawnee County Sheriff.

Hoberecht prefaced the meeting with a short briefing on a PSP worker at Larned State Hospital which had tested positive for coronavirus and was later quarantined in her Barton County home. She reported that KDHE had run asymptomatic testing on potential contact workers and patient with no positive results.

Chairman Rein then asked for reports from department heads on work activity.

Judge Gatterman noted that a recent zoom internet conference explored opening courtrooms on at least a modified basis, but did not expect any to be open in the next 14 days. He said that courtrooms would be looking at possible screenings, protection protocols and possibly plastic barriers, but no particulars were offered. He noted that if the stay order is lifted, courtrooms may still remain shut.

Keeler noted that workload and upcoming deadlines are pressing the appraiser's office to be allowed to return to full staff. She noted that there was a limit to what her staff could do at home due to because of access to necessary computer programs at the office.

McNett noted that his office was tied to the court system and activity was extremely slow.

Wheaton reported adherence to split staffing and social distancing protocols at work. He initiated disinfection procedures when a trash truck

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comes in that may continue after stay orders have been lifted. He reported an initial increase in activity from the public but that it has settled down. Demel reported that work is continuing with split staffing and the department operating with reduced staff. He is considering hiring a temporary worker for the office to help with paperwork. Hoberect noted that the PCHD is still engaged in follow-up and is busy with WIC activity. She said that the department has a supply of hand sanitizer for other department use if the empty bottles could be brought in to refill.

King said that the jail currently has a population of four, but would like it at two. Fielding calls from the public but the department feels like it is in a holding pattern until normal operations can be resumed. Grant reported that the Extension Office is still fielding calls and dealing with normal springtime activity such as weeds out of the office. Holt said the Clerk's Office is still split-staffing as election activity is ramping up. A public information campaign is being formulated that is focused on boosting advance vote ballot opportunity in the county. Antenen noted that her office is looking toward response protocol capability among her populations. The meeting ended.

10:06 a.m.

10:10 a.m.

Gail Antenen and Samantha Parish, community corrections, by zoom internet conference on second quarter financials looking ahead to third quarter activity.

**Lewis moved, Hammeke seconded, to accept the 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District KDOC Juvenile Services Reinvestment and Regional Collaboration grant for FY 2021 as presented. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.** Antenen reported changing shredding service with an estimated saving of \$2,000.00 annually. Reviewed financials for quarter ending March 31<sup>st</sup> with commissioners.

**Hammeke moved, Lewis seconded, to accept the KDOC Kansas Community Corrections Act Original and BH Budgets for the quarter ending March 31, 2020 as presented. No discussion. Motion carried, 3-0.**

**Hammeke moved, Lewis seconded, to accept the KDOC Juvenile Services GS & Prevention Budgets for the quarter ending March 31, 2020 as presented. No discussion. Motion passed, 3-0.** **Hammeke moved, Lewis seconded, to accept the KDOC Juvenile Services Reinvestment & Regional Budgets for the quarter ending March 31, 2020 as presented. No discussion. Motion passed, 3-0.**

Parish followed with a quarterly review of goals and activity, noting the challenges with access to their population due to the limit placed by coronavirus procedures. The session ended.

10:48 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Larned Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting convenes. The LEPC met by zoom internet conference, Attending: Commissioners, Cheryl Hoberect, Pawnee County Health Department; Doug McNett, Pawnee County Attorney and facilitator; Jason Zink; Scott King, Pawnee County Sheriff; Bryce Wachs, Superintendent USD 495; Dustin Thacker, Laura Smith, Kurt Demel, Road & Bridge; Julie Krampe, Director of The

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Center for Counseling and Consultation; Leisa Dipman, Superintendent of Larned

State Hospital; TJ Hearn, Wayne Gore, Heart of Kansas, Diversicare; Melanie Urban and Brad Eilts.

Discussion of current activity, improvements in testing turnaround and challenges going forward for various community sectors.

11:25 a.m.

Session ended.

11:30 a.m.

Discussion of antibody testing for county employees with Doug McNett, Cheryl Hoberrecht and Amanda Lakin in attendance.

Chairman Rein initiated discussion by stating that a finger-stick test had been developed for the antibody testing as a follow-up to the blood-draw testing suggested by Dr. Mark Van Norden, PCHD physician pf record, in earlier discussions. The test would be \$149.00 administered by employee consent propr to plans to reopen the courthouse to the public. Rein maintained that knowledge of the presence of virus antibodies would be beneficial information toward structuring a response plan.

Hoberrecht stated that she was reluctant tp use the test as offered, because antibody tests currently developed have been shown not to be specific to the novel strain COVID-19 and could result in a number of false positive results.

Commissioner Lewis noted that she would like to get a second opinion regarding the test and asked what other medical professionals would be available for a panel discussion. It was suggested that Dr. Chris Whittington, chief of staff of Pawnee Valley Campus, and Dr. Michael Burke, at the Larned State Hospital, ne invited to join a panel discussion with the commissioners on the testing issue.

Consensus of the commissioners was to host a panel discussion, by teleconference if necessary, to discuss the merits of the proposal.

12:21 p.m.

Discussion ended.

12:30 p.m.

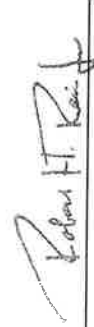
Tina Keeler rejoined the meeting. Keeler presented a table of oil and gas assessed values in the county indicating a projected loss of revenue in excess of \$1.7 million for 2020. She explained that a legislative move to exempt additional minimum value or low-producing sites would mean a loss of an additional \$668,000, which could mean a total projected hit reaching 3.3% to the annual county budget.

12:45 p.m.

Tami Keenan, Pawnee County Treasurer, joined the meeting. Commissioners discussed adhering to split-staffing protocols during the duration of the Governor's shelter-in-place order as a function of continuity of operations for each department.

12:53 p.m.

Meeting adjourned to May 4, 2020.



**For the Board:**

**Chair, Board of Commissioners**



**Attest:**

**County Clerk**

*Deputy*