

June 8, 2020

7:00 a.m.

Reconvene. Hammeke, Lewis, and Rein present.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Aimee Norris, Deputy Clerk, gave the Commissioners: agenda; payable checks; payable vouchers; payroll checks; payroll vouchers; 2020 Primary Election filings; and a message from Joseph Allen.

Lewis asked to see these in the newspaper this week.

Rein announced he had received engineering questions from Kurt Demel.

Rein read message from Joseph Allen; he would like to rent an RV space within the next month until camping shuts down in the fall. He asked if he could get a reduced rate for the fee since it's a long-term situation. Rein believes the rate is \$400 per month for a long-term situation but the Clerk's office can look that up.

8:00 a.m.

Cheryl Hoberrecht, there is one more case of corona virus. Information regarding cases are on the KDHE website and updated three times per week. The Chamber inquired about hosting a movie on the lawn. Moffett Stadium may be a better choice, there can be more distancing there. Rein stated that planning for events should be done with contingencies. Cheryl has had conversations with Jennifer Webster about 4-H for the fair. Cheryl asked to put up a flyer in the Court House for a raffle drawing fundraiser for Mark Wagner. Rein said that would be fine. Rein asked what should be done in the courthouse now that there are cases of COVID-19. Cheryl said use precautions and to stay behind the Plexiglass when working with the public.

8:25 a.m.

Steve Lewis, Comfort Systems, reported a leak in the Register of Deeds records room on Friday, June 5th. Water was dripping from Judge Gatterman's Office on the third floor. Comfort Systems repaired the crack, but there was a stress crack in the pipe. Something has shifted and the top of the pipe is exposed. The T pipe can be cut off, but it's important to get it fixed. If odors come from the pipe, they can put silicone on it. Steve will get an estimate of the cost to repair the pipe. Rein stated since the pipe needed to be removed and replaced, they will need to get a couple bids. Steve said he would go to Judge Gatterman's office to check and report back.

8:46 a.m.

Steve Lewis reports there is the pipe runs in small corner in Judge Gatterman's office and it could be sheet rocked off. It will be a time-consuming project and Steve will get info on the cost

Rein suggested putting the hurricane windows in the Register of Deeds Record room to keep the documents safe.

9:06 a.m.

Aimee Norris, Deputy Clerk gave Interim and Clerk's report.

9:33 a.m.

Department Head Meeting. Present: Sheriff King, Rod Wheaton, Solid Waste, Kyle Grant, Extension, Doug McNett, County Attorney, Kurt Demel, Road & Bridge, Tina Keeler, Appraiser, Tim Taylor, Custodian,

Joel Davis, Deputy Register of Deeds, Mark Wagner, Emergency Management/Zoning, Samantha Parish, CC/JJ/A, Tamie Keenan, County Treasurer, Gail Antenen, CC/JJ/A Director, Judge Gatterman, 24th Judicial District Judge.

Rein asked if budgets are in. All departments said yes.

Rein announced that the courthouse will keep all precautions the same regarding COVID-19.

Gail Antenen, CC/JJ/A Director, will start to see clients face-to-face on Monday, June 15th. They need more cloth masks. Mark Wagner stated Cheryl, Health Department, should have masks for their department.

Doug McNett, County Attorney. His office is now open from 8am-5pm. They have begun first appearances in court, scheduled 30 minutes apart and its working well. They will start to see more traffic in the court again. If anyone is experiencing symptoms of COVID, they need to reschedule or do the hearing by zoom.

Kyle Grant, Extension. 4-H and Extension will open on July 5th. There is still discussion of possible furlough for the employees. The PNCO Fair is still scheduled.

Rod Wheaton, Solid Waste. Everything is still the same. The office is closed. Rod submitted permit renewals to the State. The five-year water monitoring was received. A proposal was sent back, but Rod won't hear back until September.

Tim Taylor, Custodian. Department is back to normal hours.

Kurt Demel, Road & Bridge, preliminary plans on O Road have been received. Midwest is working south of Rozel to make their transfer station bigger. Kurt has been working with them on permits. The department is still working north on the emergency relief. Kurt talked with FEMA regarding Township paperwork. Due to rain north of Burdett, the department has repaired washouts. The department has been taking care of roads, mowing, and grading in preparation of harvest.

Joel Davis, Deputy Register of Deeds. Records room was closed on Friday due to a sewer leak. A crack was found in the pipe on the ceiling. Joel asked the Commissioners if they could remove the plastic off of the records and allow researchers to come back in. Rein replied, yes because the leak is fixed.

Sheriff Scott King, opened up VIN's last week by appointment only. They have not started fingerprints yet, as that requires close contact. The department is still taking temperatures, using gloves, and face masks. Still trying to do limited contact. The department is still taking precautions due to the positive cases. Law enforcement is needing to know if cases are positive when responding to calls.

Tami Keenan, County Treasurer, is concerned with documents and checks leaving the Clerk's Office and going to the Clerk's home. Tami called Ruth Searight, County Clerk asking for the distribution checks to be

brought back to the court house and was informed that Ruth's office is now in her house. Rein and Lewis agreed, Hammeke nodded his head in agreement, that something needs to be done about documents and checks leaving the Courthouse. Rein stated he would draft a letter to the Clerk and asked Doug McNett, County Attorney to review it before giving it to Ruth. Doug said okay. Rein asked Tami if she received the checks back. Tami said yes, on Thursday, after her phone call to Ruth.

Tami reports that the office is seeing people and they are doing Driver Licenses. They are turning away out of county residents for Driver's Licenses at this time. The Treasurer's office is unable to do conceal and carry. Great Bend does offer that, as they offer full services.

Tina Keeler, Appraiser, they are at 17% and are not going into driveways or yards. They are using the digital review.

Judge Gatterman, District Court, opened a week ago. The Law Library and Jury room do not have access to the public. For cases, the Law Library can have 1 person at a time. They are encouraged to do everything remotely, as much as possible. Occupancy of the court room is at no more than 10 people. If clients are going to be late, they need to call in and office will call or text when it's okay for them to come in. The court room is very limited.

Mark Wagner, Emergency Management/ Zoning, submitted paperwork to FEMA for the PPE and cleaning supplies. Should hear back by the end of June.

Mark has been working on the mass notification system.

Received the EMPT check for 2019 and it has been deposited.

Doug McNett, asked who has converted to Golden Belt Telephone. The Appraiser, Health Department, and CCJAA have all switched. The bill has gone down significantly. Tina Keeler, Appraiser, mentioned she receives 250 long distance minutes free. Doug was inquiring because their contract is up soon and he is thinking about switching.

Rein stated the Budgets are being submitted to Vonfeldts and they may need to discuss the budgets with some departments later.

Rein stated the State did not extend the tax date. Tina Keeler, Appraiser reports that those who will be off of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program could appeal and meet with the NPR board. The board consists of a County Commissioner, City Manager, and the City Superintendent.

Rein stated the Commissioner's Meetings will be held on the second floor in the Commissioner's Room starting next week, June, 15th.

10:06 a.m.

Rein, Hammeke, Lewis, Tami Keenan, Doug McNett, and Kurt Demel present. Discussed documents leaving Clerk's office. Rein asked Doug McNett if there was a liability with staff leaving the Clerk's office to take documents to the Clerk's house. Doug will check with KCAMP. Rein will draft a letter to give to Ruth Searight, Clerk.

Rein stated that law enforcement needs to be notified of positive cases of COVID. Doug McNett will double check on who is to be notified of the

cases, but believes law enforcement qualifies as first responders to be notified.

Discussed the press release of COVID cases in Pawnee County. Rein stated that it has been the intention of the County to report the first case and then rely on the KDHE website for updates. Pawnee Valley Community Hospital also planned on only releasing their first case also. Lewis suggested the KDHE link to remain on the Pawnee County website.

10:20 a.m.

Kurt Demel, Road & Bridge, presented a payroll change order for approval to hire Mark Hefley. His first day is today, June 8th.

Hammeke motioned to approve payroll change notice for new hire of Mark Hefley, Road & Bridge department dated June 8, 2020. Lewis seconds the motion. Motion carries (3-0).

Kurt Demel provided updates to the Road & Bridge department. They are working on Township roads. The Noxious Weeds department are all out mowing. Kurt has been working on the Emergency Relief north of Burdett. They are running three mowers. The department will need a new mower/tractor sometime in August-October. Hammeke asked if roads are getting prepared for Harvest. Kurt said they are getting patched and they will run a grader on them.

Kurt has been tracing the budget every two weeks. Rein stated that the appropriations are not in the interim for Road & Bridge. Kurt said he could use those reports to help keep track of budgeting.

11:03 a.m.

LECP meeting. Present in room, Bob Rein, Chairperson, Philip Hammeke, Commissioner, Deborah Lewis, Commissioner, Sheriff Scott King, Doug McNett, County Attorney, Cheryl Hoberecht, Public Health Office; Amanda Lakin, Health Department. Present via Zoom: Jason Zink, EMS; Bryce Wachs, USD #495 Superintendent; Kendal Lothman, Pawnee County Sheriff's Office Detective; Joni Barringer, LSH, Dusty Thacker, Pawnee Valley Community Hospital; Brian Stahlecker, LHS Safety Officer; Lesia Dipman, LSH; Melonie Urban, Pawnee Valley Community Hospital Administrator; Wayne Gore, LSH; Kurt Demel, County Highway Administrator; Julie Kramp, the Center for Counseling and Consultation; Laura Smith, Country Living Administrator; Chief Orth, Larned Police Department Chief; Kara Lawrence, EMS; Bud Tabler, Tiller & Toiler; Cindy Smith, USD #495 School Nurse; TJ Hearn, Larned Police Department; Shaun Boese, Rozel Fire Department; Heather, Heart of Kansas; Bradley Eilts, Larned City Manager; and William Nusser, Larned City Mayor.

Cheryl Hoberecht, Public Health Officer, there have been 215 COVID tests completed and 3 positive cases. The cases are linked and there are several under quarantine for 14 days after exposure. The health department may not learn about them until they are several days into the exposure.

Jason Zink, EMS. Asked when they get paged out, does dispatch inform them if the patient has a positive case or are under quarantine or do, they need to rely on the individual to tell them.

Rein stated that they need to get to the bottom of what the current legislation states. Should first responders be included?

Doug McNett, County Attorney, stated that the legislation can be interpreted broadly to include all first responders but questioned whether they can legally be informed if the patient is under quarantine.

Cheryl reports the Health Department will not do a daily report or weekly press release. The public can go to the KDHE website. Lewis stated there is a link to the website on the KDHE website and is publicly available.

Doug McNett asked Cheryl if there are any county restrictions. Cheryl said not at this time, patrons need to act responsibly and with precautions. Wear masks, wash hands, avoid large crowds, and keep a six-foot distance. As of right now, there are no restrictions in Pawnee County. Cheryl encourages following the Ad Aspera guidelines.

Bryce Wachs, USD #495 has no new updates.

Kendal Lothman, Sheriff's Office Detective. Has no new updates.

Dusty Thacker, Pawnee Valley Hospital. Has no new updates.

Brian Stahlecker, LSH Safety Officer, has no new updates.

Lesia Dipman, LSH. Informed group that they are moving to Phase C tomorrow, June, 9th. This will allow up to 30 people in a space. They will begin to seek medical outside of the hospital. They will begin to take clients in for court dates. They are still wearing masks. Sister units at LSH can begin to have sessions together. They will begin clinics on campus such as dental and eye clinic starting this week. There will be one patient at a time and they will disinfect after each person. Staff will receive bonus pay for three pay periods.

Joni Berringer, LSH. Agrees with what Lesia said.

Melonie Urban, Pawnee Valley Community Hospital Administrator, they are still using universal masking. Staff are wearing eye protection anytime they provide care to a patient. Patients are also wearing masks. PVCH has dedicated staff to care for the COVID 19 patient. They will only do one press release on the first COVID patient. Staff are using precautions. They are still performing Telehealth visits. The hospital is open to visitors. They are performing elective surgery. The hospital is safe for people to come into because of the precautions.

There is a designated nurse for COVID patients and are isolated to only COVID patients. PVCH has the option to float staff from Hays Med to fill in any gaps in staffing.

Wayne Gore, LSH. They are doing active screening. They are open to take patients to court. They are not allowing volunteers or visitations at this time.

Kurt Demel, County Highway Administrator. Has no new updates.

Julie Kramp, The Center for Counseling and Consultation. They are starting groups again.

Laura Smith, Country Living Administrator. They were hoping to allow family to visit starting today, but they are postponing a couple more weeks. Families can visit on the patio.

Larned Police Chief Orth, has no new updates.

Kara Lawrence, EMS. They are doing what they can to be prepared and are working with dispatch to adjust to positive cases.

Bud Tabler, Tiller & Toiler. Has no new updates.

Cindy Smith, USD #495. Has no new updates.

TJ Hearn, Larned Police Department. Has no new updates.

Shaun Boese, Rozel Fire Department. Has no new updates.

Heather, Heart of Kansas. There has been an uptick in patients getting tested. Patients still need to wear masks. They are working on testing others outside of the Heart of Kansas.

Rein asked if someone needed a test, do they have to have symptoms?

Amanda Lakin, Pawnee County Health Department. Stated a person only has to have one symptom to be tested. Amanda asked Heather if they are still using Lab Corp and is it still taking a week to get results. Heather replied that yes, they are still using Lab Corp but Brett is looking for a faster turn-around.

Heather reports that employers are able to test their employees.

Rein asked if employers test their employees, would the employee be required to quarantine. Amanda replied, yes, they would have to quarantine until the test results came back.

Melonie Urban, PVCH Administrator. They are providing drive through testing and are using Quest labs, which provides results in one day.

Heather, Heart of Kansas. They are talking to their patients to let them know they will have to quarantine until their test results come back.

Bradly Eilts, Larned City Manager. The council decided not to open the pool. They will open the Splash pad.

Sheriff Scott King, they are looking at opening fingerprinting back up, but will relook at that due to the positive cases.

William Nusser, Larned City Mayor. Asked as more cases come, what are the symptoms?

Cheryl Hoberrecht, Public Health Official. Headache, fever, fatigue, gastro intestinal, cough, shortness of break, chest discomfort. Some atypical

symptoms include a syndrome associated with children where they have changes in their toes and can experience confusion.

Rein suggested the Police Chief, Sheriff, and EMS coordinate to make sure they are receiving information about positive cases when they respond to calls.

Rein stated the next LEPC meeting will be next week, July 15th at 11:00 a.m.

11:48 a.m.

Clerk's Office. Brought in some mail for Lewis.

Lewis read that a family is concerned about not being able to visit their son at LSH. Doug will look into it.

11:49 a.m.

Lewis motions to adjourn. Hammeke seconds. Motion Carries (3-0).

Adjourned until Regular Meeting, Monday, June 15th, 2020, at 7 am.



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


Attest:
County Clerk

Ruth Seavight by Aimee
Aimee Seavight
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