

Pawnee County Commissioner Meeting - October 12, 2020

- 9:00 Call to order by Chairman Rein. Commissioners Lewis and Hammeke in attendance.
Pledge of Allegiance.
Rein puts in a call to KCAMP.
- 9:10 **Lewis moves to go into executive session from 9:10 to 9:30 for reason of attorney/client privilege with Doug McNett, County Attorney present. Hammeke seconds. Motion carries (3-0). No action taken.**
- 9:34 Golden Belt Telephone – Kyle Bahr, Aaron Grumbein and Caleb present.
Aaron will be the lead in the work to re-network the entire courthouse and provide new phones – Court House, Sheriff, Landfill, Road & Bridge. Would like to start this week. Will try to disrupt as little as possible. This is a wireless network (switches & routers). Private network with guest access using password. Can shut access off at a certain time. Recommends a basic password. Desk tops will be wired to same network. Completion date estimated at Nov. 20th.
- 10:00 Bud Tabler, Sheriff Scott King, Joel Davis, GB Tribune, William Nusser and Doug McNett joined the meeting.
Commissioners have been informed by letter that County Clerk Ruth Seairight will not be attending the meeting.
Discussed the need for the County Clerk to train her personnel to do the work. She has to agree to what happens in her office.
Ruth Seairight will run the election, she ran the primary. There are less than 90 days until her term is up. Better if the elected official would communicate with the Board. The Commissioners have never said that Ruth Seairight is unfit – only work is not being done.
The letter sent to Ruth with questions needing answered is a matter of public record. Was sent three weeks ago. Will consider our options, confer with KCAMP and hopefully, have more answers for you later.
- 10:37 **Lewis moves to go into an executive session for personnel matters for 8 minutes from 10:37 to 10:45. Hammeke seconds. Motion carries (3-0).**
- 10:45 **Lewis moves to extend the executive session for 10 minutes. Hammeke seconds. Motion carries (3-0). No action taken.**
- 11:02 Recess Commissioners meeting. LEPC meeting in session.
In attendance: Commissioners Rein, Hammeke and Lewis, Cheryl Hoberrecht – public Health officer, Mark Wagner – Emergency Management, Doug McNett – County Attorney, Wayne Gore – DOC, Laure Smith – Country Living, Alex Filbert – Chamber of commerce, Bryce Wachs – USD 495, Lara Lawrence – EMT, Scott King – Sheriff, Brian Stahlecker – LSH, Larned Dispatch, Melanie Urban – PVCH, Leisa Dipman, Dr. Frick, William Nusser – mayor of Larned, Shawn Boese, Bud Tabler – Tiller & Toiler, Julie Kramp.
Rein called the meeting to order.
- Cheryl Hoberrecht reported. In last 14 days 24 cases of COVID, in last 7 days 14 cases. Puts us in Orange on the Matrix.

Wayne Gore – DOC reported. 2 inmates tested positive taken to Lansing. Intake inmates in isolation. 1 staff is positive. Total 338, 42 staff members.

Bryce Wachs – USD 495. Last week 4 positive cases at High School. 5 cases in 2 week period. Zero associated with close contact.

Melanie Urban – PVCH. Nothing changed – under 10 cases. Hays Med has 100 patients from 11 counties. PVCH can not guarantee patients will be sent to Hays. Other hospitals can be contacted to receive patients.

Julie Krampp – increase of youth in crisis. Youth placements are full, state hospital is full. Some youth are waiting for placement.

Rein – Burn Ban is in effect until further notice.

Shawn Boese – need to get with McNett or Wagner. Request for SPARKS money has been resubmitted with different wording, but have not heard back.

Rein – Shawn, there will be a meeting at 2pm on Friday. Given amount of money received – it has to be spent by Dec. 31 and there must be an audit.

McNett – Items have to be delivered by Dec. 31. Could shift the funds when delivered.

A Board of Health meeting will be held on Wednesday @ 2pm in the lounge. Joel Davis – FB live meeting on the PNCO page.

New ambulance will be delivered the Oct. 22nd or 26th.

William Nusser – Mayor of Larned. At the Board of Health meeting need to consider options and not set a double standard.

Doug McNett – County Attorney. Some are subject to quarantine others not – a double standard. First one to challenge.

Lewis – Health Department following the rules that were put in place at the time. Rein – Cheryl is doing her job to the best of her knowledge.

11:30 LEPC meeting adjourns.

11:35 County Commission meeting resumes. Commissioners Rein, Hammeke and Lewis in attendance. Also present: Doug McNett.

Questioned McNett whether he had a conflict of interest, representing the County and family.

The Health Department was notified that the quarantine was upheld.

McNett – was emailed a quarantine order that school was doing contact tracing. Never been served. Wachs was told the issue was with the letter. It was stamped at 4:30 on Thursday – some have yet to receive the letter. This violated their due process rights. Granted a special hearing.

Barton doesn't give quarantine notices. Too much quarantine volume for a reasonable amount of time. Fewer orders means less work.

12:00 Lewis moves to recess for Lunch. Hammeke seconds. Motion carries.

1:30 Reconvene County Commissioner's meeting. Rein, Hammeke & Lewis in attendance. On phone with KCAMP.

Board may issue mandates less stringent than State. Counties are the authority on COVID 19. K.S.A. 65-2-02 states use all means to prevent spread of virus. House Bill 2016 concerns procedures.

In conversation with KCAMP, Rein states it is his understanding that McNett still has a conflict of interest.

Lewis moves to recess meeting and reconvene as Board of Health. Hammeke seconds. Motion carries (3-0).

2:00 Board of Health Meeting. All Commissioner meetings are open to the public but not open to discussion.

Rein – where do we stand legally, the Local Health Officer has just been doing her job – following KDHE guidelines. Commissioners could modify or augment these guidelines.

People present to discuss their opinions; Kendra Barker, Hannah Hunley, Brandi, Julie Smith, Mark Slattery, Jason Zink, Kara Lawrence, Rawya, Doug McNett, Amanda Lakin, Buddy Tabler, Jamie Froetschner, Kayla, Cheryl Hobrecht, Kyle Grant, Joel Davis, Eli Makings, Kelsi Pelton, Sabra Dupius.

Hammeke moves to require quarantine of household members of individuals with a positive COVID-19 test, and those identified through contact tracing that were within 6 feet for more than 10 minutes of the person that tests positive following written guidance from KDHE, except no person shall be quarantined by virtue of contact tracing where both parties had on a mask with at least two layers on throughout the contact in question.

Rein seconds. Motion carries (2-1). Lewis opposed.

4:00 Adjourn Board of Health Meeting. Reconvene as Board of Commissioners.

4:10 Aaron Koehn joins the meeting to discuss the Audit Report.

Lewis moves to defer the previous motion suspending the Clerk's salary. Shall be deferred until Oct. 19 meeting @ 11:30, allowing the Clerk to appear before the Commission either in person, teleconference or video conference to answer the questions sent in letter dated 10/5/2020. Hammeke seconds motion. Motion carries (2-1).

Kyle Grant brought in amended budget for Extension for 2021. Hammeke moves to accepted amended budget as presented. Lewis seconds. Motion carries (3-0).

5:55 Meeting adjourned.



For the Board:
Chair, Board of Commissioners



Attest:
Deputy Clerk