

Pawnee County Commissioners - November 2, 2020

- 9:03 Chairman Bob Rein, Commissioners Philip Hammeke and Deborah Lewis present
- Call to order
- Report from Golden Belt Telephone. Pawnee County Courthouse Re-Networking is complete. Wire for New Phones at Sheriff's Department, Road & Bridge, and Landfill is complete. Estimated Start Date for switching Networking in All Departments is Tuesday, November 10th, Switching Networking and work on Issues - Wednesday, November 11th. Estimated completion Date: 11-13-2020.
- Rein reported that Pam Ptacek (Contract employee) might start working on financials at the end of the week.
- 9:20 Tami Keenan, County Treasurer, joined the meeting. She presented the report on receipts and expenditures in the employee benefits account. Some departments still need to re-imburse funds. If more money is needed - the transfer would be from the General funds - Special Projects.
- Tammi was asked for a report on where the County was with the budget in November of last year so they could compare to this year.
- 10:11 Reviewed Minutes of September 21 and 28. Reviewed checks and vouchers.
- 10:25 Jim Lohmeyer from Blue Cross/Blue Shield joined the meeting. He explained the reasons for the rate increase. He presented options to lower monthly rates - including higher deductibles and changes in the drug coverage. No action was taken.
- 11:00 LEPC meeting. Present in Person; Commissioners Lewis, Hammeke and Rein. Joel Davis - Deputy Register of Deeds, Cheryl Hoberrecht - Public Health Officer, Doug McNett, County Attorney, Mark Wagner - Emergency Management, Kurt Demel - Road and Bridge, Tami Keenan - Co. Treasurer.
- On Zoom - Kara Lawrence; EMS: Larned Police Chief Orth; Leisa Dipman, LSH; Wayne Gore, DOC; Larned Dispatch; Laura Smith, County Living; Sheriff Scott King; Dusty and Orley, PVCH; Bryce Wachs, USD 495 Superintendent; Julie Kramp, The Center for Counseling and Consultation; Alex Filbert, Executive Director of the Larned Area Chamber of Commerce; Casey Robinson, USD 496 Superintendent; Antonio Hearn, Larned Police Department; Jason Zink, EMS; Brad Eits, City of Larned; Melanie Urban, PVCH; Dr. Frick; William Nusser, Larned City Mayor; Shawn Boese, Rozel Fire Department; Bud Tabler, Tiller and Toiler.
- Cheryl Hoberrecht, Public Health Officer. There have been 438 cases in Pawnee County. 21 cases in the last month, 7 cases in the last week. We are in the ORANGE phase. 6 are now hospitalized and there has been one death in the Community.
- Bryce Wachs, USD 495. Notebooks ordered with SPARKS funds should be here in December.
- Mark. Deadline for use of funds is end of year. If need to change the budget do it sooner rather than later.
- Leisa Dipman. Two active cases, one in recovery. Meyer West is opened for new patients.
- Wayne Gore. They are free of virus. They are taking in patients from Oswego - mostly geriatric cases. Will be hiring for 10 positions. Will be putting out a news release.
- Brad Eits - The City has purchased a new ambulance.

Melanie Urban - No change, stable work force. The Clinic door is now open. The do have open bed capacity.

Julie Kramp. Crises funding is used for known mental health patients. One staff tested positive, a few are on quarantine. Have hired two new staff to expand program to other adult cases. Nationally there has been a 49% increase in youth problems. They are not rated to handle youth.

Jason Zink. Ambulance will be available by the end of the week. All purchases with SPARKS funds have been received. Two techs are in quarantine.

Cheryl Hoberrecht. According to Oct. 12 motion - if people had 2-ply masks on it is not considered a contact so no quarantine is required. Bryce added that recommendations are still considered requirements.

11:28 End of LEPC meeting. Regular Commissioners Meeting resumes. Kurt Demel and Doug McNett in attendance.

Kurt Demel gave update on Road and Bridge work.

OS-21 Bridge - 3 Bids with starting date of Nov - May 1. We pay 20% of bid. L&M Contractors have lowest bid.

Lewis moved to award contract commitment of County funds as presented to L&M contractors for 021 bridge dated 10/21/20. Hammeke seconded. Motion passed.

Road and Bridge needs to order new grader blades. Presented a bid from Welborn Sales for 100 blades @\$108.00 for a total of \$10,800.00. Money is in his budget. **Hammeke moved to purchase mover blades from Welborn Sales as presented. Lewis second.** Motion passed.

2 checks issued on vouchers submitted by Road & Bridge need to have the voucher change. The office will call Rein when the checks are ready to be signed. Vouchers concern project North of town. Project is being paid by City, Township, School & County

12:01 Tami Keenan joined meeting.

Lewis moved to accept order to transfer funds from General Special Fund to Employee Benefits fund (\$65,000.) Hammeke seconded. Motion passed.

Signed vouchers for purchases from SPARKS funds. Keenan brought in figures from Nov 2019 for commissioners to compare.

12:08 Cheryl Hoberrecht from Public Health joined the meeting to discuss her Letter of Recommendation for Quarantine for exposed people. It is hard to determine who had masks on to determine contact. It is not intended for Schools. It is an official notice you have been exposed.

Commissioner Lewis acting as Board of Health member moved to accept use of "Letters of Instruction for those Recommending Quarantine" as determined by the local health officer. Hammeke seconded. Motion carried with Rein voting NO.

12:41 Steve Lewis from Comfort Systems joined the meeting. Community Corrections in Annex - heat and air system not working. Damper system not working. He will change thermostats in each room and upgrade the system.

12:52 Meeting adjourned.



For the Board
Chair, Board of Commissioners


Attest: Deputy
County Clerk