

Pawnee Co. Commissioners November 16, 2020

9:14

Call to order. Chairman Rein and Commissioners Hammeke and Lewis present. Agendas, Payables and vouchers and minutes of 11/9, 11/2, 10/26 and 10/19 were handed out.

Tim Taylor brought in a payroll change notice for the custodial staff. **Lewis moves to accept payroll change notice – length of service increase – for custodial staff beginning 10/14. Hammeke seconds. Motion passes.**

Doug McNett jointed meeting to ask why tax rates were not done – so he could respond to texts received. County Clerk is working on them.

9:30

Gary Seibert arrived to participate in the coin toss to elect a Valley Center Trustee. Kenny Miller did not attend. Gary Seibert won the coin toss.

Tina Keeler from Appraiser's Office. Informed the commissioners that someone had filed for unemployment on her Social Security Number – but the last name was wrong.

Mark Wagner brought in information on door security at the Annex. **Lewis moves to accept the bid from INA alert for door security at the Annex as presented to be paid out of SPARKS funds and general fund dollars. Hammeke seconded. Motion passes.**

10:30

Kurt Demel joined the meeting. He presented two payroll changes. **Lewis moves to accept payroll change – step raise – for Road and Bridge dated 11/7/20. Hammeke seconds. Motion carried.**

Lewis moves to accept payroll change – CDL Differential – for Road and Bridge dated 11/7/2020. Hammeke seconds. Motion carried.

Kurt discussed the fuel contract. **Lewis moved to accept 2021 contract with Pawnee County Coop for 22,000 gallons of #2 red dye diesel as presented and 22,000 gallons of clear diesel as presented. Hammeke seconded. Motion passed.**

Kurt said crews were working the bridges up North, maintaining and mowing. He also had someone file for unemployment in his name. The Social Security Web site has helpful information on what to do and who to contact.

11:00

Meeting recessed. LEPC meeting in 1st floor Lounge starts. Present in person: Commissioners Lewis, Hammeke and Rein. Cheryl Hoberrecht – Public Health Officer, Mark Wagner – Emergency Management, Kurt Demel – Road and Bridge, Tami Keenan – Co. Treasurer.

On Zoom – Kristin Pearson, Dusty and Orley, Leisa Dipman, LSH, Wayne Gore, DOC, Scott King, Sheriff; Brian Stacy, Divisicare; Chuck Orth, Police Chief, Laura Smith, Country Living; Kara Lawrence, EMS; Alex Filbert, Executive Director of Larned Area Chamber of Commerce; Melanie Urban, PVCH; Brad Eits, City of Larned; Dr. Christina Frick; William Nusser, Mayor of Larned; Kim Barnes, Pawnee Co. Coop.

Commissioner Rein opened the meeting.

Cheryl Hoberrecht reported 94 cases in last 15 days, 59 in last 7 days, 67 active. Still in Red. Agencies are testing more frequently if symptomatic.

Leisa Dipman reported 7 units at LSH are quarantined. They have opened 2 more units. They have 3 active patient cases. On Thursday, they tested 50 staff

and 30 patients. 6 staff tested positive and one patient. They have 19 active staff cases.

Wayne Gore DOC. One staff positive and 2 inmates (moved to Lansing). They are testing staff more frequently. Tested 43 and one showed positive.

Brian Stacy – Diversicare. 1. Testing 130 to 300 a week. Tests given pre-symptomatic are not useful. 4 staff positive. 2. Masks are necessary to prevent spread of virus. Gave 3 examples of how effective they are. 3. Impact on residents – In lockdown for 10 months. Patients are not happy that can not have visitors. Everytime they consider reopening, the town has an increase in cases. Community not backing them by using masks.

Chuck Orth – Police Chief. Veterans Day Parade – too many people congregating and not wearing masks. People not taking it seriously.

Laura Smith – Country Living. 20% of the staff are rapid tested per week. They are still on lock=down.

Kara Lawrence – EMS. When transportation is called for, they need to know if patient has virus. Meyer West Building at LSH is being used for quarantine.

Alex Filbert – Larned Area Chamber of Commerce. The 100th annual Christmas Parade will be held but in reverse. Floats and exhibits will be on either side of street and cars will view from center. Plans are still being made. The Tree lighting is also still a go.

Melanie Urban – PVCH. Positive rate a while ago was 0.4% now it is 32% positive. There are staffing problems with 4 active cases and 14 in quarantine. Cancel elective surgery if test positive. Transferring patients in need of ICU care is a problem. Finding a bed not easy.

From records they know that there is no transfer of virus within the hospital. Exposure is from outside sources. They are looking into ways to help Cheryl with vaccinations.

Brad Eits, City of Larned. City Hall will not be open except by appointment until November 30th.

Reed - Some relief package is still a possibility in the lameduck session.

Dr. Frick reported on measures they are using to control virus. Only one client at a time. Curb service is available. All wear masks.

William Nusser – Mayor of Larned. Next meeting will probably be by Zoom. More messaging about the importance of masks is necessary.

Pawnee Co. Coop – Kim Barned. It is important to document employee absence due to virus. Reimbursement by government easier. Contact your accountant for more information on software helpful to keep records.

Cheryl – Two more cases of the virus were reported this morning. More education is so important.

11:50

LEPC meeting ends. Commissioners meeting resumes.

Cheryl Hoberrecht reported the extra TV in the lounge is owned by the Health Department. It has not been used for several years. How to get rid of it?

Lewis moves to accept Pending Change Orders 2019-37 and 2019-38 abatements to Treasurer's Tax Roll. Hammeke seconds. Motion carried.

12:17

Meeting adjourned.

For the Board:

Chair, Board of commissioners

Attest:

County Clerk