

Pawnee County Commissioners
Minutes
January 24, 2022

Present: Commissioners: Lewis, Hammeke, Rein and Clerk Rein

9:02 Meeting was called to order.

Clerk Rein presented payable vouchers and checks.

Commissioner Lewis gave updates of the KDADS meeting that took place on Friday, January 21, 2022. She stated that Lesia Dipman, LSH Administrator gave updates of changes that have taken place since the escape of John Freeman Colt. Discussion took place regarding an incident that occurred on Isaac Ray between a patient and a staff member.

Commissioner Rein gave an update of the security meeting that took place last week. He explains about the processes that need to take place and the process that have changed such as the RFID badges that have been initiated, which helps since employees must electronically scan their badges to go through the door. Rein updated that two Barton County Commissioner reached out regarding the issues at the Larned State Hospital. Two Barton County Commissioner came to Larned and met with Commissioner Rein and Sheriff King to further understand the issues at the Larned State Hospital. A meeting with Lesia Dipman, Larned State Hospital Administrator also took place with the Commissioners, Lesia was able to explain how the Larned State Hospital works and the type of patients that are there. Discussion took place regarding a Mental Crisis that had taken place in Barton County with a person and The Center's ability to help. Additional discussion took place regarding possible option for persons with mental health crises.

Commissioner Lewis gave an update regarding the Sheriff's meeting with KDADS that took place on Friday.

Discussion took place regarding the billing statement for John Freeman Colt. The Commissioners stated that they will send the letter and statement to Laura Howard, Secretary of Kansas Department of Age and Disability and Scott Brunner, Deputy Secretary asking them to help pay expenses incurred to Pawnee County Sheriff's department.

Clerk Rein stated County disbursements have gone out. Clerk Rein presented the Treasurers report for review.

Clerk Rein presented an update on the Historical scanner. Seth Farley, Director of Santa Fe Trail Center was going to contact the Kansas Humanity Services to inquire which companies to use for scanning historical documents. Clerk Rein gave updates of other options that may be available to get the scanner up and going.

Clerk Rein presented the ambulance title from Burdett for signature by the Commissioners to take ownership of the vehicle.

KNRC presented information on the 30 x 30 legislation.

Clerk Rein presented that Solid Waste contract that was returned for Kansas Department of Corrections.

Clerk Rein updated that Commissioners regarding the Fireman's grant that was granted to Burdett instead of Rozel. Clerk Rein stated she spoke to VonFeldt

Bauer and VonFeldt, who stated they need to see if the check could be reissued for Rozel instead of Burdett.

10:00

Kara Lawrence, Pawnee County EMS Director was present via Zoom with Omni Billing Company (Christine Harlen account representative). Kara presented information regarding a lock box for Omni payments. It helps as far as the receipting payments in a timely manner. Patient lock box, secure lock box for patients only to send payments to. Christine explained there is a monthly maintenance fee. Christine explained the PO Box go directly to Pennsylvania, and is recorded and posted more quickly. If payment is received locally copies of the checks will have to be made and sent to Omni. Christine explained the monthly maintenance fee is \$120.00, this fee includes the EFT's, copies of the checks and the statements. Christie believes she can get a discount for 6 months or a year for the monthly maintenance fee. Kara explains that the city currently takes the payments, Kara is concerned with the learning process and if she is gone that means training additional staff to record payments. Christine stated he would waive the monthly fee for the first year. If they are going to waive the fee to start, doing it this year the Commissioner will be able to obtain a yearly report for private collection. Commissioners stated if the fee is waived for the year, EMS should try this way for payments. Omni stated they will get the information started for the Lock Box. Kara stated that things are going well so far, she is currently in Burdett today for the first time. Commissioners asked how her staff were doing after the last couple of weeks in the community. Kara stated she offered a debriefing with the events within the community that has taken place the last couple of weeks. Kara stated she received help for staff from a couple of local Pastors and Dr. VanNorden.

Kara stated that they have missed two transfers from Clara Barton and Great Bend Regional. Kara stated that the transfer is not really COVID related. Kara stated she had talked to the hospital about updating policies. Kara stated a 124 telephone calls were made to attempt to try and find an ICU bed for a COVID bed.

10:30

Gail Antenen, 24th Judicial District Community Corrections Director, presented quarterly reports to the Commissioners. Gail began with Adult DOC, she stated she matched the county reports. Gail stated that she has underspent the last 6 months. The quarter underspent by about \$2000.00.

Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Rein to accept Quarterly Cash reconciliation and certification reports for Adult Doc as presented. Motion passes 3-0.

Presented a copy of the Juvenile Services Quarterly Cash Reconciliation and Certification reports, Gail stated that she matched with the county, still carrying over dollars from the audit in 2020, correction will be made in September 2022.

Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Rein to accept the quarterly cash reconciliation and certification ending December 31, 2021. Motion carries. 3-0

Gail presented Reinvestment Grant report. Commissioners reviewed the report. Gail states everything matches with the County.

Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Rein to accept quarterly cash reconciliation for the Reinvestment Grant for the period ending December 31, 2021 as presented. Motion passes 3-0.

Clerk Rein presented an updated PayScale with the 5% COLA raise for the Commissioners review.

11:00

Tina Keeler, Pawnee County Appraiser, presented payroll change notices for employees of the appraiser's office. Tina presented a rough draft of the county township boundary lines. Tina explained values the City went up 4 to 5%, rural properties are looking at going up to 12%, Commercial property will be up 4 to 10%, Appraiser will not have solid numbers until she certifies. Oil may go up she will not know until February 1, 2022.

Tina presented payroll change notices for step raises for the employees in the Appraisers office.

Motion by Rein, seconded Hammeke to approve payroll change notices dated 1/24/2022 for step raises in the appraiser's office. Motion passes. 3-0.

Clerk Rein presented health department COVID numbers as of 1/24/2022. Cases in the past 14 days 131, past 7 days 69, active cases 79.

11:30

Kurt Demel, Road and Bridge, Noxious Weed and Zoning Department Head. Payroll change notice for CDL.

Motion by Rein, seconded by Hammeke to accept payroll change notice for Road and Bridge for a class A CDL differential.

Kurt stated the mowing should be done by tomorrow, working on the project North of town going to try and get the dirt work done today.

Kurt will contact Kirkham Michael regarding the retention pond at the Elementary School.

Kirkham Michael is currently doing to bridge inspections for Pawnee County

11:28

Motion by Rein, seconded by Hammeke to enter in executive session for a period of 5 minutes from 11:28 to 11:34 for the purpose of Personnel to include Clerk Rein and Kurt Demel, Road and Bridge Department Head, Motion passes 3-0. No action taken.

11:34

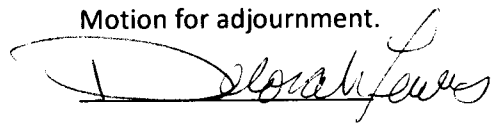
Commissioners reconvened and discussion took place.

11:34

Motion by Rein, seconded by Hammeke to approve a payroll change notice extending COVID leave for a Road and Bridge employee. Motion passes 3-0.

11:42

Motion for adjournment.



For the Board:
Chair, Board of Commissioners



Attest:
County Clerk