

Pawnee County Commissioners  
Minutes  
February 22, 2021

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

Pledge of the Allegiance

9:05 Meeting was called to order.

County Clerk presented Commissioners with draft minutes for review and corrections, approved minutes for signature, payable vouchers with checks.

Clerk Rein discussed the District Coroner appropriation, she stated will be moving the \$12,000.00 from the general fund to the district coroner fund. Commissioner stated that is where the coroner should then be paid out of.

Discussion took place regarding the Haas building to be used for a Warm Shelter should the city lose power for an extended time in the future. Haynes Electric will be adding additional wiring for a generator.

Clerk Rein presented the Commissioners with Golden Belt Telephone bill. Clerk Rein listed email addresses of employees who were no longer with the county. Discussion took place how the bill should be split between the departments. It was determined that each department should pay for their telephone bill and the managed services would be paid for through the general fund. Clerk Rein updated the Commissioners that Golden Belt Telephone may be doing away with the encryption service.

Commissioners discussed briefly Emergency Medical Services.

10:30 Commissioners recessed to attend Pawnee County Department Head Meeting

Present: Pawnee County Commissioners, Stacey Rein, County Clerk, Kurt Demel, Road and Bridge Department Head, Rod Wheaton, Solid Waste Department Head, Sheriff King, Tina Keeler, Appraiser, Jessica Moore, Community Correction Administrative Assistant, Gail Antenen, Community Corrections Director, Tami Keenan, Treasurer, Joel Davis, Register of Deeds, Tim Taylor Maintenance Department Head, Doug McNett County Attorney, Cheryl Hoberecht, Pawnee County Health Administrator, Judge Gatterman, Kay Schartz, Clerk of the District Court.

Commissioner Hammeke opened the meeting. Sheriff King stated that last week his building had generator problems on Tuesday. Sheriff King stated that he got some help from Road and Bridge Department to help get it going. Rod Wheaton stated that they had trouble with the Loader freezing up last week.

Cheryl updated Commissioners and Department Head on COVID stats; 5 cases in the last 2 weeks, 3 cases in the last 7 days, 2 active cases and 592 total cases excluding LSH, LTC, LCMHF. County is currently on Level Green.

Cheryl stated that 460 doses of the vaccine have been given with 30 2<sup>nd</sup> doses. Cheryl stated an additional 100 vaccines will be given this week. Cheryl stated her department also had generator problems last week and were fixed by Hammeke Electric.

Commissioner Hammeke thanked Kurt Demel and his staff for all their work last week helping other departments. Kurt reported that Golden Valley Coop helped them last week when their grader froze up.

Judge Gatterman stated District Court is processing some cases.

Tim Taylor stated the Annex is having heater problems this morning and that the blower would need to be replaced, this heater provides heat to Healthy Living Chiropractic and the Front office of Community Corrections. Tim stated the part would be replaced tomorrow.

Doug McNett stated he had the same court schedule as Judge Gatterman. Doug stated legislation is having discussion on Court Trials that if passes would allow trials to be pushed out 3 years. Doug stated he signed a contract for a new case management system in his office.

Gail Antenen stated her security door system will be delivered on March 8<sup>th</sup> and installed on March 11<sup>th</sup> at the Annex building.

Tina Keeler stated her office is working on getting values out by next Monday. Tina stated that she spoke to Tim regarding her three North windows that have a draft.

Stacey Rein stated her office is continuing to clean. Stacey asked the rest of the departments if they would like their monthly general ledger once the month is closed. Stacey spoke to the Department heads regarding scheduling appointments with the Commissioners, they will need to be more specific on what they will be discussing with the Commissioners for the agenda.

Tami Keenan spoke briefly about Senate Bill 13 and what the consequences could be if it is passed.

Sheriff King stated that he provided testimony regarding the Larned State Hospital to the House of Representatives. Sheriff King stated after discussion and testimony the Governor made the discission to increase the beds capacity back to the original 90 instead of the current 72.

Gail Antenen stated that Community Correction may be able to certify a letter for an Offender to obtain a Kansas ID for housing and employment. Gail stated staff will start training for a Woman's risk assessment tool.

Tina Keeler stated her office will attend training PVD to Kansas Real estate Board.

Kay Schartz stated an Online Portal for protection from abuse will be rolling out.

Stacey Rein stated that Census has been pushed back to September.

Commissioner encouraged offices to have mask and take COVID precautions such as cleaning desk and wearing mask. Commissioners reminded Department Heads that due to the Courthouse being closed last Tuesday their staff will either need to make up their time or use vacation.

11:15

Commissioners reconvened to regular session.

Rod Wheaton Solid Waste Department Head presented the prior approved Larned Stated Hospital Solid Waste Contract for signature. Rod stated the State Hospital also approved the contract but wished for the Commissioners to sign it first.

11:31

Kurt Demel Road and Bridge Department Head presented CDL Training Reimbursement Agreement for Road and Bridge employees without their CDL's. County Attorney McNett stated liability does not begin until CDL is obtained by the Employee. Discussion took place.

**Motion by Lewis, seconded by Rein to approve the CDL Training Reimbursement Agreement as written. Motion carried 2-1.**

**11:44 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Rein to enter into executive session for a period of 5 minutes for personnel from 11:44 to 11:49, to include County Attorney McNett and Pawnee County Clerk Rein Department Head Demel. Motion carried. 3-0. No action taken**

**11:49 Reconvened to open session. A motion by Lewis, seconded by Rein to approve a payroll change notice by Road and Bridge to approve termination for Abandonment of Job. Motion carried 3-0.**

Kurt presented Commissioners with an equipment replacement schedule. Kurt stated that he was going to be looking at a spreader. Kurt stated he is looking to replace the spreader that broke last spring. Kurt stated that he has someone coming to see what the value of his spreader is worth.

Kurt stated that he will be attending the Spring Conference by Zoom. Himself as well as a staff member will be attending the conference by Zoom for recertification.

Kurt stated that he will have 3 new employees 1 without a CDL and 2 with CDL. Kurt stated that would leave one open position.

Kurt stated he has reached out to Sebes Hay regarding the sales of the hay bales at Camp Pawnee.

Discussion took place regarding the maintenance of Camp Pawnee, Kurt thought the septic systems would be fine, the only thing his department may need to do is spray.

Kurt updated the Commissioners on the 911 sign inspection. Kurt stated the signs are in pretty good shape and stated he did not think it would take his staff one week to fix the signs in the whole county.

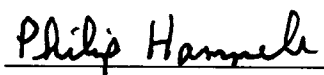
**12:12 Motion by Rein, seconded by Lewis to enter into executive session for a period of 5 minutes for personnel from 12:12 to 12:17, to include County Attorney McNett and Pawnee County Clerk Rein Department. Motion carried. 3-0. No action taken.**

**12:17 Reconvened to Regular Session. A motion by Rein, second by Lewis to Approve a leave of absence for Mark Wagner subject to available leave. Motion Carried 3-0**

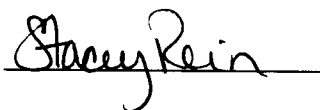
Commissioners discussed the possibility of Sheriff King and Joel Davis taking care of the Emergency Management.

**Motion by Lewis, seconded by Rein to accept the abatement change order 2020-17 through 2020-34 as presented by the Appraiser. Motion carried. 3-0.**

**12:35 Motion for Adjournment.**



For the Board:



Attest: