

Pawnee County Commissioners  
Minutes  
March 13, 2023

Present: Commissioners: Burdett, Hammeke, Rein

9:00am Meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Rein presented payable vouchers, payroll reports and checks. Draft minutes for review and corrections, approved minutes for signature, KNRC information and ballot.

Commissioner Rein presented the Proclamation for the Larned Lady Indians 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball Team. Those present were Darby Sundahl, Royce Froetschner, Shayla-Ann Ploutz, Makenzi Ploutz, Ava Fleske, Kenzi Holopirek, Finley Froetschner, Lylee Brown, Jamie Froetschner, Shane and Wendy Sundahl, Jed and Danielle Fleske, Janet Fleske, Jamie Holoepirek, Gretchen Holoepirek. Commissioner Rein read the proclamation and pictures was taken with the team and Commissioners.

Commissioner Hammeke stated they have spoken with a local physician that is possibly interested in becoming a Deputy Coroner. Commissioner Hammeke stated that he will be contacting Dr. Noordhoek, District Coroner.

10:00 Cheryl Hoberecht, Health Department Administrator presented grant information for Fiscal Year 2024. Discussion took place regarding County matches.

**Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Burdett to approve grant application for State of Kansas Department of Health and Environment for Grant Period: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.**

Cheryl updated the Commissioner on the Childcare Taskforce meeting that took place last week. Cheryl stated that she will be attending the Governor's Conference at the end of the month.

10:41 Tina Keeler, Appraiser met with the Commissioners to discuss Bill CHR 5009. Tina also discussed sales tax bill currently being discussed in Kanas Legislation.

**Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to enter into executive session for a period of 5 minutes from 10:44 to 10:49 for the purpose of Security Exception to include Tina Keeler. Motion passes, 3-0.**

10:49 Reconvened to regular session; no action taken.

10:53 Kurt Demel, Road and Bridge, Noxious Weed, Zoning Department Head met with Commissioners to review annual reports for Road and Bridge and Noxious Weed. Kurt opened the meeting by inviting the Commissioners to the Annual District Meeting hosted by Stafford County.

Kurt updated the Commissioners that Kansas Department of Transportation is changing signs.

Kurt stated the Kubota has arrived in Wichita. Kurt presented quotes from Ag Spray Equipment and from Fairbank Equipment – Wichita Branch for the equipment to set up a spray rig. Kurt informed the Commissioners that the labor would be done by his staff.

**Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to approve the bid from Ag Spray Equipment for UTV Spray rig in the amount of \$5,255.14 as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.**

Kurt presented the Annual Report for County Engineer's/Road Supervisor's. Kurt explained the General Information of the reports. Kurt reviewed the Annual County Maintenance Cost, Construction Costs and Annual County Costs, Annual Township Maintenance, Construction Costs and the Township Budgets for 2022.

Kurt presented the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report 2022. Kurt reviewed estimated acreage of noxious weeds and estimated acreage weed on private land sub-section and herbicide disbursement summary.

**Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Burdett to approve 2022 Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Report as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.**

Kurt presented 2023 Management Plan. Kurt explained the plan to the Commissioners.

**Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to approve 2023 Management Plan for Noxious Weed as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.**

Kurt presented Federal funds distribution/Federal Fund Exchange 2023 information. Kurt stated Federal funds to be exchanged were \$70,613.84. Kurt explained that County can exchange these dollars for 90% which would be \$63,552.46 in state fund. Kurt stated the state funds will be used to purchase asphalt.

**Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to approve the Request to Exchange Federal Funds under the Federal-Aid Fund Exchange Master Agreement. Motion passes, 3-0.**

Kurt presented quote sheet for mixed asphalt. Kurt explained he reached out to Heft & Sons, Coughline Company and Venture Corporation Company for bids. Kurt explained to the Commissioners that Coughline Company is unable to make cold mix – no bid, and Venture Corporation Company stated they were to busy with KDOT projects – no bid.

**Motion by Hammeke to accept the bid from Heft and Sons for asphalt for 2023 in the amount of \$78,750.00 for 7,500 tons of cold mix as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.**

11:30

Corey Meitl, Solid Waste Department head met with Commissioner to present the previously approved Agreement Regarding Acceptance and Transfer of Collected Recycled Materials by the County and now signed and approved by the City of Larned and Sunflower Recycling. The Agreement was signed on March 6, 2023, and states the City will maintain an accessible site where the general public can leave "recyclable materials" and make a reasonable efforts to avoid trash and solid waste from being included in the recyclable materials, and transport all recyclable material to Sunflower Recycling Center located in Great Bend, KS; and to provide copies of the weigh tickets to Sunflower. The agreement also states that Sunflower Recycling will accept at least once a week all recycled materials collected and transport by the City of Larned, and invoices should include copies of the weigh tickets received from the city. The County shall pay Sunflower Recycling and the City of Larned on a per ton basis for all recycled materials collected and

transported by the City of Larned, at the initial rate for 2023 in the amount \$15.00 per ton.

Kara Lawrence, Pawnee County EMS Director met with the Commissioners to discuss the plaque that will be presented to Garfield Fire Department for their successful efforts for providing CPR until EMS could arrive.

Kara stated she will be providing additional CPR and AED training at the request of the Garfield Fire Department and hopes to do quarterly trainings.

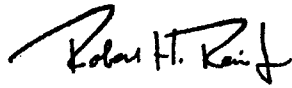
**Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to submit a yay vote on the Kansas Natural Resource Coalition (KNRC) for the Lesser Prairie-chicken Lawsuit; The organization recently received an offer from Pacific Legal Foundation (PLF), a public-interest law firm, for free legal representation challenging the FWS November 25, 2022, ESA section 4(d) rule for the northern DPS of the LPC. Motion passes, 3-0.**

Clerk Rein presented the Treasurer's Quarterly Report for Pawnee County, Kansas, quarter ending January 31, 2023.

**Motion by Hammeke, seconded Burdett to approve Treasurer's Quarterly Report for Pawnee County, Kansas, ending January 1, 2023, as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.**

12:24

Motion for Adjournment



For the Board:  
Chair, Board of Commissioners



Attest:  
County Clerk