

Pawnee County Commissioners

Minutes

March 29, 2021

- Present:** Commissioners: Rein, Lewis and Hammeke, County Clerk Rein
- 9:03** Pledge of the Allegiance.
- County Clerk Rein presented Commissioners with payroll vouchers and checks, as well as payable voucher and checks.
- 10:00** Robin Niederee, Ronnie Ruff, Danny Thompson, and Dillon Thompson were present to discuss closing the road on 30th Avenue in Burdett. Also present were Kurt Demel, County Road and Bridge Department head as well as County Attorney Doug McNett. Robin presented the Commissioners with pictures of the road. Robin gave a history report of the landowners of both sides of the road. Robin stated there was dumping occurring on the road as well. Ronnie explained the work he has done on the road with the permission of the township. Mr. Ruff explained that he tries to keep his semi's from going through Burdett and that 360 Avenue. Commissioners stated that there were power lines on the road in the right of way. The Thompson family stated that those lines service their property only. Commissioners stated they would like to discuss this further and would be in touch with the family.
- 10:30** Department Head Meeting those present: Tami Kennan, Treasurer, Cheryl Hoberrecht County Health Administrator, Tina Keeler, Appraiser, Sheriff King, Jessica Moore, Community Correction Administrative Assistant, Gail Antenen, Community Corrections Director, Doug McNett, County Attorney, Kurt Demel, Road and Bridge Department Head, Rod Wheaton, Solid Waste Administrator, Tim Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor, Joel Davis, Register of Deeds, Judge Gatterman and Stacey Rein, County Clerk.
- Tim - stated that he is getting ready to get the sprinklers turned on.
Rod - stated the loader is having some mechanical issues.
Kurt- stated his crew is getting ready for a chemical mow. Kurt stated he is working on a couple of building permits last week.
Gail - stated the security doors are being installed this week at Community Correction and Court Services.
Sheriff King - stated that things were picking up.
Tina- stated her office were finishing up with property values. Tina stated the Saltwater well hearing was scheduled for April 23 and 24th.
Cheryl - stated the county is still in Green with zero cases in the last seven days and two in the last 14 days.
Tami - stated her office has been processing approximately 11 titles per day.
Judge Gatterman - Judge stated there was no change in Administrative Orders.
- Discussion regarding the employee handbook to begin up again in April.
- Commissioners discussed Senate Bill 13 with staff and thinking about getting budget prepared sooner this year due to senate bill 13.
- 11:00** Kurt Demel, Road and Bridge Department Head presented quotes for a roof repairs on the steel building for Welding shop and equipment storage building.

Motion by Rein, seconded by to Lewis to accept the bid from Melton Industries, LLC for roof repairs at the county road and bridge department. Motion passes. 3-0

Kurt spoke to the Commissioners regarding a 2003 Kenworth truck from Money Chevrolet. Discussion took place regarding equipment.

Motion by Rein, seconded by Lewis the approval to purchase 2003 Kenworth truck from Money Chevrolet. Motion passes. 3-0

Kurt updated the Commissioners on grading of roads in the Southwest, Northwest, and Southeast routes.

Kurt stated the sanding projects on roads: John Lewis Road, Ward Road, Posey Road, Bird Road, Doll road, Frizell Road and Correction Line Road.

Kurt updated the commissioners on zoning permits that were issued in the County last Week.

Motion by Lewis, seconded by Rein to extend Covid 19 Public Health Emergency Declaration as presented on March 29, 2021 to May 28, 2021. Motion passes. 3-0

Motion by Rein, seconded by Lewis to approve the purchase of a Hustle Mower from Jim Delaney by the Custodian for the Pawnee County Courthouse. Motion Passes. 3-0

11:34 Commissioners and Clerk recess to Burdett Senior Center for Ambulance Discussion and Tour.

12:00 Those present for the ambulance meeting/luncheon at the Burdett Senior Center were: Commissioner's Philip Hammeke, Deborah Lewis and Bob Rein; Stacey Rein, Co Clerk; Doug McNett, Co Attorney; Scott King, Sheriff; Josh Huff, Lieutenant Sheriff/Emergency Management; Brad Eilts, Larned City Manager; Kim Barnes, Larned City Counsel; George Elmore, Larned City Counsel; Kara Lawrence, Larned EMS Director; Jason Zink, Larned EMS; Erin Josefiak, Mayor of Rozel; Helen Thorne, Rozel City Clerk; Linda Schadel, Mayor of Burdett; Ashley Selfridge, Burdett City Clerk; Chelsea Hoffman, Burdett EMS; Rochelle Miller, Counsel; Burke Pelton, Burdett City Counsel; Kelcee Pelton; Shawn Boese, Larned EMS.

Commissioner Hammeke opened the meeting. Kara Lawrence discussed having a fully stocked ambulance and 2 people on call in Burdett 24/7, 365 days per year. Rochelle Miller shared some citizens are concerned the ambulance will be taken away. Commissioner Rein stated this is to make EMS services better in the county, not take anything away.

There was discussion about scheduling a town hall meeting in the next few weeks. Kim Barnes asked about a timeline of when this would take place. The Commission stated if communities are supportive, they would make a formal statement. They would like to have a decision made by July and consolidate by January 1, 2022.

Jason Zink asked about funding EMS. Commissioners Lewis and Rein and Co Attorney, Doug McNett explained the Health 1% Sales Tax Fund was set up in Pawnee County for Healthcare and they intend to use it to fund the hospital and EMS. The intention is to not put a bigger tax burden on the citizens of the county.

Shawn Boese asked about where the ambulance will be stored in Burdett. Discussion took place about the purpose of this meeting was to tour the facility to find out if the current situation is viable.

Burke Pelton, Burdett City Counsel stated that Burdett EMS is mostly funded through donations and they would like to see those funds stay on the ambulance in Burdett. Commission and Larned EMS agreed.

Additional discussion took place about how the ambulance would be stocked in Burdett. Kara Lawrence shared the plan would be for all trucks to match so they would be able to provide the same level of care all over the county. Josh Huff added consolidation would be a huge advantage to this community due to the availability for higher level of care.

Tentatively the group will plan to schedule a Town Hall Meeting in Rozel April 26, 2021 at 7:00pm.

1:30

Meeting Adjourned.

Philip Hammel

For the Board:

Stacy Rein

Attest: