

Pawnee County Commissioners
Minutes
April 3, 2023

Present: Commissioners: Burdett, Hammeke, Rein

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

Those present for the reading of the proclamation were: Katie McClendon, Jaime Hagerman, Mallory Cineceros, Aysjah Yeager, MacKenzie Reinert, Skye Feldman, Teagan Walker, Cortney Craft, Cassidy, Ary, Jasmine Evers, Coach Rassmussen, Rusty McClendon, Tina, McClendon, Rawya Evers, JoAnna Yeager, Jody Ary and Vanessa Feldman.

Commissioners honored the Lady Indians Power Lifting State Champion Team with a Proclamation. Commissioner Rein read the proclamation The Lady Powerlifters introduced themselves and pictures were taken.

9:13 Vanessa Feldman, Director of Dispatch City of Larned met with the Pawnee County Commissioners to personally invite them to 911 Dispatch Open House on April 10, 2023, at 7:00pm. Vanessa presented information on the computer aided dispatch (CAD)/ Records Management System (RMS). Vanessa stated the CAD/RMA system was purchase July 2018. Vanessa presented statistics for year 2019-the end of February 2023 with call volumes. Vanessa explained her office dispatches for Larned Police Department, Pawnee County Sheriff's Office, Pawnee County EMS and Fire Departments for: Burdett, Garfield, Larned and Rozel. Discussion took place regarding equipment that could help if a tragic event happened in the County.

10:00 Clerk Rein presented payable vouchers and checks, minutes for review and approved minutes for signature, draft road agreement from Grain Belt Express LLC ("Grain Belt").

Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Burdett to appoint Brian Hagerman as Morton Township Clerk. Motion passes, 3-0.

Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Burdett to appoint Troy Amspacker to Morton Township Treasurer. Motion passes, 3-0.

Commissioner Rein updated the Commissioners on the City of Garfield burn pit. Commissioner Rein stated the Road and Bridge/Noxious Weed Department will be clearing the debris from the current location of the City of Garfield burn pit and taking it to the Pawnee County Landfill and will doing dirt work to make a berm around the pit. Commissioner Rein stated the City of Garfield will pay the County \$3,500.00.

Commissioners briefly discussed the need to keep the Burn Ban in place due to upcoming weather days.

Commissioners and Clerk Rein discussed State of Kansas Legislative Updates.

Clerk Rein presented letter from the City of Larned regarding bid information for the Larned – Pawnee County Airport project 3-20-0046-020/021.

Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to nominate Chairman Rein to sign the grant application for Larned – Pawnee County Airport Project 3-20-0046-020/021 on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners. Motion passes, 3-0.

10:36 Sandra Herman, Conservation District Manager, Jamie Holoperik, Jed Fleske, Jared Skelton, and John Dryden met with the Commissioners to

discuss the 2024 Budget Allocation. Sandra presented Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Justification. Jed opened the meeting stating they are asking for increase from past years, they are asking for \$27,500.00 and hoping the state will match the funds at 100%. Jamie explained for every \$1.00 invested by the County, there is \$22.74 economic return in Pawnee County from Conservation District Programs. If the Commissioners would consider this amount, the funding would allow for education for youth, salary, benefits, community involvement activities. Discussion took place.

11:00 Mark Hinde, President/CEO Southwest Developmental Services, Inc., Steve Sandoval, Chief Programs Officer, Cheryl Hoberecht, Pawnee County Health Administrator. Mark gave a history of Southwest Developmental Services, Inc. Mark stated they are requesting appropriations in the amount of \$38,726.00. Mark explained their budget amount is based on population base. Mark stated they have 17 clients living in Pawnee County.

11:32 Alex Filbert, Executive Director Larned Chamber of Commerce/Pawnee County Economic Development met with the Commissioners to ask permission to use the Courthouse lawn 5/26 and 5/27 during Santa Fe Trail Days for the movie on the lawn, and the Larned Hospital Ice Cream Social.

Commissioners and Alex discussed the possibility of planting a Christmas Tree on the Courthouse lawn. Alex stated a new speaker system will be installed next week downtown.

11:50 Commissioners recessed for lunch to reconvene at 12:30pm.

12:30 Commissioner reconvened to regular session. Commissioners met with Kara Lawrence, Pawnee County EMS Director to discuss the Month End Activity Report for March. Report shows EMS responded to 112 calls: 108 in Larned and 4 at the Burdett Station. Kara stated EMS had 21 Transfers to 5 different facilities, 1 Airport/Scene Flight, 1 PR/Standby Events, 34 Patient Refusal with a total of \$92,661.00 department billing.

Discussion regarding coverage in Burdett Station took place as well as possibly hiring an additional staff member to help cover call and be available should another 911 call come in while a crew is already out. Discussion took place.

1:23 Kurt Demel, Road and Bridge/Noxious Weed Department Head met with the Commissioners to discuss the bids for South Rozel Road Drainage Project on 280th Avenue between K & L Roads for 2 – 5' X 9' X 30' reinforced concrete box structure. Kurt presented the bids for this project, from Eakin Enterprises, Inc. with a bid of \$74,832.00, L&M Contractors, Inc with a bid of \$89,759.25 and a bid from Reece Construction Co, Inc. with a bid of \$123,586.68.

Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to accept the bid from Eakin Enterprises for 2 – 5' X 9' X 30' reinforced concrete box structure in the amount of \$74, 832.00, with an estimated start date of 4/24/2023 as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.

Kurt gave road updates, stating they will be working on erosion control.

Kurt stated he would like to schedule the Zoning Commission's Public Hearing on 4/27/2023.

Kurt presented an updated equipment replacement schedule for the Commissioners review.

Commissioner and Kurt discussed the draft road agreement between Pawnee County and the Grain Belt Express LLC. Kurt stated he would

like to visit with Barton, Stafford and Edwards Counties regarding this agreement.

1:56

Cheryl Hoberecht, Pawnee County Health Department Administrator, Sabra Dupuis, Office Manager, Stacy Johnson, Nurse, and Sadie Strain-Shepherd, Breast Feeding Peer Councilor/Home Visit Coordinator were present for the Public Health Week proclamation which was read by Commissioner Rein.

2:04

Board of County Commissioners recessed, and the Board of Health was called to Order.

Cheryl gave Commissioners a COVID update stating there has been 11 cases in the past 2 weeks and 10 cases in the past 7 days. Cheryl stated she investigated a potential Hepatis A case at the Larned State Hospital, determined not a case. The Health Department is working a latent TB case working to get medication for.

2:10

Commissioner reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

Cheryl presented a bid for a chairlift for the Topeka Street Annex. Commissioners requested Cheryl receive two more bids before additional discussion takes place.

Cheryl updated the Commissioners on information she learned from the Governor's Conference.

Cheryl stated the Health Department sign is up in the courthouse lawn, she will be learning how to add additional information.

Cheryl updated the Commissioners on events her staff have been participating in.

Cheryl stated she is working with Emergency Manager Josh Huff to get an LEPC meeting scheduled, so she will meet her grant requirements. She stated she is having an Immunization audit performed today.

3:00

Motion for Adjournment



For the Board:
Chair, Board of Commissioners



Attest:
County Clerk