

Pawnee County Commissioners
Minutes
April 10, 2023

Present: Commissioners: Burdett, Hammeke, Rein
Reporter for Tiller & Toiler: Art

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

Clerk Rein presented payable vouchers, payroll reports, checks, a voucher from the Sheriff for LATCF/ARPA funds, 2 abatements, approved minutes for signature and draft minutes for corrections.

Commissioner Rein had individual proclamations made for the 4 girls that placed in the top 3 at State Powerlifting as he forgot to have those completed the previous week when they honored the team. The 4 Proclamations signed were for Aysjah Yeager, Jayme Hagerman, Mackenzie Reinert and Teagan Walker.

Commissioner Rein gave an update on SB248 regarding the Local Food Sales Tax, the bill appears to have died this year but may return in the future.

Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Burdett to approve Tax Roll Correction Abatement numbers 2023-56 & 2023-57. Motion passes, 3-0.

10:00 Cory Meitl, Sold Waste Director met with Commissioners to give some department updates. The trees were hauled out of the Garfield burn pile and Kurt has the pit dug. The new hours at the Landfill are working out well. B&B Hydraulics repaired the compactor. The refrigerant recovery machine is installed and working. The landfill will start accepting scrap metal on April 24th and there will be no fee to the public. The Hazardous Household Waste collection will be held on the first Saturday of May. Discussion took place regarding electronics recycling.

Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Burdett to approve a Solid Waste Payroll Change Notice for an Equipment Operator I new hire effective 3/30/23. Motion passes, 3-0.

Discussed reviewing Camp Pawnee Employment Applications next Monday.

Discussed moving the Pawnee County Leadership Meeting to May 15, 2023.

10:30 Doug McNett, County Attorney met with the Commissioners to discuss the list of properties eligible for the Tax Sale. An abstract will need to be done on each property at \$250 each. The County received the exemption from Ad Valorem taxation from BOTA on the property purchased in the previous tax sale at 1004 Fry in Larned.

Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to Permit/Instruct County Attorney McNett to proceed with the Tax Sale. Motion passes, 3-0.

10:37 **Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Burdett to enter into executive session for a period of 10 minutes from 10:37 to 10:47 for purpose of Attorney/Client Privilege to review the KCAMP Quarterly Report to include Clerk Rein. Motion passes, 3-0.**

10:47 Reconvened to regular session; no action taken.

Discussion took place whether or not an individual could serve on both a Township Board and as Mayor, where the 3rd class city pays into the

township. Commission asked Attorney McNett to research this statute and put the Mayor of Garfield on notice.

10:58 **Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Burdett to enter into executive session for a period of 5 minutes from 10:58 to 11:03 for the purpose of personnel to include Clerk Rein, Kara Lawrence and Attorney McNett. Motion passes, 3-0.**

11:03 Reconvened to regular session; no action taken.

Kara Lawrence, EMS Director along with Kelcee Pelton, EMS Station Supervisor in Burdett met with the Commission to discuss the additional full time EMT proposal submitted last week. Discussion regarding staffing and the pressures of scheduling in Burdett took place. Pelton stated right now they only have about 3 people that volunteer in that community. The goal is to have 2 people always on-call out there to man the ambulance; the problem is there is just not enough people to do so. Discussed if there is only a First Responder with the Sprinter, usually there isn't much wait time to transport as they are able to prep the patient while the ambulance is on the way. Either way, there is no change in care from the Ambulance versus the Sprinter. Commissioner Burdett inquired about statute K.S.A. 65-6135 regarding having only 1 technician in the ambulance as opposed to 2. Lawrence explained they are able to do that as long as we file a variance with the Kansas Board of EMS. This may help but would not fix our problem. More discussion took place. Commissioner Rein reviewed the Revenue/Expenditure Report from 2022 and asked for a motion on the Proposal to add one full time EMT to the roster.

Motion by Hammeke to add 1 full time EMT position to Pawnee County EMS as presented. Motion dies for lack of a second.

Commissioner Burdett stated that he would need more time.

12:22 Kurt Demel, Road & Bridge/Noxious Weed/Zoning Director updated the Commissioners that the Off-System Bridge Program for 2024 is open to accept applications. He is planning to apply for Bridge OS88, located on R Road in Larned Township. The Local Bridge Improvement Program for 2024 is also open. He will be applying for FAS460 Bridge, located on O Road (O'Rourke Rd) in River Township.

Camp Pawnee utilities were turned back on and was already busy last weekend. Playgrounds look good. Mower may need replaced.

Kurt gave additional updates on the Garfield burn pit. They put an 8-foot dike around the whole thing and dug some pits to do quicker smaller burns.

Kurt presented pictures of the South Rozel Road project they will be working on. They will also be working on J Road and 240th Avenue west of 183 and L Road between 150th and 160th Avenue.

Kurt requested to purchase a 2012 Ford F-350 pickup from Colorado Federal Credit Union that has been impounded for the last year. The pickup will be used to pull the skid steer.

Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to approve the purchase of the pickup out of Road & Bridge Equipment Account for \$15,500. Motion carries, 3-0.

Kurt asked that the Kawasaki Mule be transferred out to the landfill for Cory to use instead of selling. Commissioners approved.


Discussion took place regarding the Federal Exchange Program. The reimbursement will be approximately 10% less.

1:00

Tami Keenan, Treasurer met with Commissioners to have the Kubota title signed.

1:05

Motion for Adjourned



For the Board:
Chair, Board of Commissioners



Attest:
County Clerk