

Pawnee County Commissioners  
Minutes  
May 8, 2023

Present: Commissioners: Burdett, Hammeke, Rein

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

Commissioner Burdett stated Camp Pawnee's Maintenance Employee is concerned about the amount of animal waste on the grounds especially around the building. Commissioners will continue discussion on ideas to control the animal waste.

Clerk Rein presented payroll reports, payable vouchers, checks, payroll change notice, Jordaan Memorial Library Budget for 2024, draft minutes for review and corrections.

**Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Burdett to approve the payroll change notice for EMS employee's six-month step raise from Step 1 to Step 2 dated 5/1/2023 as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.**

**Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to approve Treasurers Quarterly report ending 4/30/2023 as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.**

10:00 Shelby Zeniga, Executive Director Sunflower Diversified Services, Inc and McKinley Phillips, Special Education Teacher, Sunflower Diversified Services. McKinley explained the early intervention services that are offered to the coverage area at no cost to the parents from birth to 3 years of age. McKinley and Shelby explained the programs offered for school age children, and that referral can come from anyone for the youth. McKinley stated currently they have 2 students they work with at the Fort Larned Elementary School 4 hours daily. She stated they have a Physical Therapist, Speech Therapist and Social Workers that come to the school to work with these students.

Shelby explained the funding base, that insurance does not pay the total cost to help each student. Shelby stated the cost per student, per year is \$2,600.00. Commissioner Hammeke asked if the government funding is staying the same or increasing. Discussion took place.

**Motion by Hammeke, seconded by Rein to accept Agreement for Services in the amount of \$25,000.00 between Pawnee County and Sunflower Diversified Services, Inc. as presented. Commissioner Burdett abstained from voting. Motion passes, 2-0.**

10:30 Landon Erway, Treasurer, Economic Development met with the Commissioner to discuss Downtown Larned. Landon gave an update on funding the City of Larned has received to improve the downtown area. Discussion took place.

11:00 Commissioners convened to the Court House Lounge to attend the LEPC meeting. Those present for the meeting: Joel Davis, Assistant Emergency Manager, Undersheriff Larry Atteberry, Emergency Manager/Lieutenant Josh Huff, Interim Chief of Police Lance Duft, Sheriff Scott King, Brian Stahlecker, Larned State Hospital Safety Officer, Wayne Gore, Kansas Department of Correction, Commissioner Rein, Deputy Clerk Rein, Commissioner Burdett, Commissioner Hammeke, TJ Hearn, Larned Fire Department, Cheryl Hoberecht, Pawnee County Health Department Administrator, Melanie Urban, Pawnee Valley Community Hospital Administrator, Dusty Thacker, Pawnee Valley Community Hospital, Director of Cardiopulmonary Services/Emergency Management, Kara Lawrence, Pawnee County EMS Director.

Josh Huff opened the meeting with introductions. Josh stated he sent out bylaws for review to see if the group would like to adopt the by-laws. Discussion on what additional groups/people needed to be added to the invite list. TJ suggested finding a community tornado shelter, discussion took place. Josh stated the Emergency Operation Plan is valid until 2025. Josh stated the group needed to elect a slate of officers: Chairman, Vice-Chair, Public Information Officer and Secretary. Nomination were as follows: Josh Huff, Chair, TJ Hearn, Vice-Chair, Joel Davis, Public Information Officer, Cheryl Hoberecht, Secretary.

**Motion by Atteberry, seconded by Stahlecker to approve the slate of officers nominated. Motion passes unanimously.**

**Motion by Hoberecht, seconded by Stahlecker to set meetings for the first Monday of every quarter at 11:00am. Motion passes unanimously.**

Cheryl presented ESF8 Scenarios and a list of ESF coordinating agency responsibilities.

Discussion on topic the group would like to see.

11:38 LEPC meeting adjourned. Commissioners recess for lunch to reconvene at 12:30pm.

12:30 Commissioners reconvened to regular session. Corey Meitl, Solid Waste Department head met with Commissioners to discuss equipment quotes on a box blade for the Solid Waste Department. Corey stated he received quotes from Radke Implement in Hays, Ks in the amount of \$5,100.00. Corey stated this equipment would not be available for a month or two. Quote from KanEquip, Inc for a Scraper in the amount of \$5,900.00. Quote three was from LDI for a Box Blade Scraper with Tilt and Weight Box in the amount of \$12,957.07, and a final quote from Jones Machinery, Inc. for Box Blade with tilt and weight in the amount of \$4,000.00.

**Motion by Burdett, seconded by Hammeke to approve the purchase from Jones Machinery in Smith Center in the amount of \$4,000.00 to be paid out of Solid Waste, upon looking at the equipment, as presented. Motion passes, 3-0.**

Corey and the Commissioners discussed the burn pit at the Landfill. Corey stated he will see if additional rain comes before lighting the pile again.

Corey informed the Commissioners 45 people brought items to the Hazardous Waste Pickup on Saturday.

Discussion took place regarding repairing/replacing the floor at the transfer station. Commissioners asked for additional details regarding the repair such as a time frame for the repair. Commissioners agreed they would independently visit Landfill to look at the issue.

Corey discussed the possibility of getting a flammable cabinet. Commissioners asked that Corey obtain quote for the cabinet.

Corey discussed recycling pallets. Corey stated he will get with Joel and get it out to the public.

Corey stated he has been asked to attend the Rozel City Council meeting this evening to give a presentation.

1:15

Cheryl Hoberecht, Pawnee County Health Department Administrator met with Commissioners to discuss additional quotes for the chair lift. Cheryl and the Commissioners discuss that the Chairlift will not bring the annex to ADA Compliance for basement use. Cheryl stated the Chairlift would help with her Continued Plan of Operation if an incident happened that would not allow the Health Department to work out of the Courthouse.

Cheryl stated she has also been thinking of using her grant funds to purchase AED units for each floor of the Courthouse and Annex if they do not already have one. Cheryl asked the Commissioners if their permission to purchase a Health Department Shed to store some of their emergency equipment. Discussion took place with Sheriff King, Commissioners and Cheryl on where the shed could be placed. Sheriff King suggested placing the shed between the Sheriff's Department and Fire Department if they had no issues with the placement of the shed.

Cheryl discussed adding a position to the step scale under the Health Department for Peer Breast Feeding Counselor, Office Assistant and Home Visit Coordinator. Commissioners suggest Cheryl working with the County Clerk to get this position set up on the Pay scale under the Health Department.

1:36

County Attorney Doug McNett met with Pawnee County Commissioners to discuss the possibility of his office changing their business hours. Those also present for the meeting were: Sheriff King, Clerk Rein, Treasurer Keenan. Doug stated that his staff approached him about adopting the City of Larned's new office hours. 7:30am – 5:00pm, Monday through Thursday and 7:30am to 11:30am on Fridays. County Attorney McNett stated most attorney offices are closed on Friday, so the change would not really affect his office. Discussion took place, Commissioners tabled the discussion for one week.

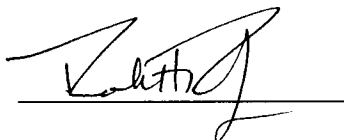
Discussion took place regarding the MOU for the Resource Officer for USD 495 and 496.

Sheriff King stated he has requested the MOU from Providence Working Canines.

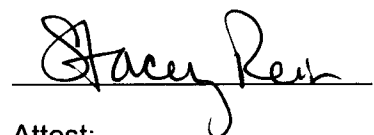
County Attorney McNett updated the Commissioners on the future Tax Sale.

2:18

Meeting Adjourned



For the Board:  
Chair, Board of Commissioners



Attest:  
County Clerk