

COMMISSION MINUTES – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2008

At 8:30 A.M., two members of the Pottawatomie County Commission met for a regular session in the County Commission Room. Present were Stan Hartwich, vice chairman; and Tom Doperalski, member. Corwin Seamans was on vacation.

Tom Doperalski moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to adopt the agenda for today's meeting. Motion carried 2 to 0. Corwin Seamans was absent.

Tom Doperalski moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to approve the minutes for February 4, 2008. Motion carried 2 to 0. Corwin Seamans was absent.

Gary Conklin, county counselor and John Watt, assistant county counselor met with the Commissioners to update them on projects they are working on. Gary stated he and John had attended a BOTA hearing in Topeka on February 5th. On February 18th, they will be in Topeka with Devin Sprecker, commercial appraiser contracted with the County. On February 20th, they will be in Topeka for a BOTA hearing. Gary updated the Commission on the tax foreclosure project he is working on. He stated nearly 50% have been paid. John stated he had not gotten a response from the City of Wamego regarding the document he had sent them for the Balderson Blvd project. Gary stated Robert Reece, administrator had reviewed and made a few proposed changes to the agreement he had drafted regarding the Coldwater Creek Subdivision. Gary stated he thought it would be a good idea to send the document to the City of Wamego and Schultz Construction for their consideration also. This will give him input from all parties for the contract. John has been working on delinquent sewer and water payments. A few have set up a payment plan to get caught up. The Commission agreed to suspend the late fees for those trying to bring their accounts up to date. If the payments stop, the late fees will again be activated.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved tax roll corrections.
(Attachment #1)

Robert Reece, county administrator, presented the Commissioners with copies of minutes from the Jail/Courthouse Committee meeting held on 2/5/08. The Committee met in the Sunflower Room along with Corwin Seamans, Robert Reece, and Dustin Trego. Dan Rowe, with Treanor Architects presented the group with information concerning options for

assessing jail and courthouse needs. At the meeting, the Committee voted to request the BOCC contact two needs assessment firms. They are Voorhis & Associates and Carter Goble. They will be asked to give an estimate to perform a needs assessment on the courthouse and jail facility. Tom Doperalski moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to direct staff to develop an RFP for a needs assessment consultant for the jail and courthouse improvements. Motion carried 2 to 0. Corwin Seamans was absent.

Robert presented the Commissioners with copies of a letter he had received from KDOT. Pottawatomie County has been approved for assistance on the Economic Development project for US-24, 1 mile east of the Big Blue River. This will be for the intersection near the sale barn. KDOT has approved funds based on an estimated total project cost of \$475,000. KDOT's participation will be 75% of the construction, construction engineering and preliminary engineering. The County will be responsible for the remaining construction, construction engineering and preliminary engineering as well as 100% of any right of way or utility costs.

Robert presented the Commissioners with copies of the Emergency Watershed Protection Program, Project Agreement (PA) No. 68-6215-8-5, Grade Stabilization, Rock Creek, Pottawatomie County, Kansas. The Commission had previously agreed to this project. Stan Hartwich, vice chairman, signed the agreements. (Attachment #2)

Rodney Biesenthal, noxious weed director, met with the Commissioners to present his annual noxious weed report. Tom Doperalski moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to accept the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Report submitted by Rodney Biesenthal, noxious weed director. Motion carried 2 to 0. Corwin Seamans was absent. (Attachment #3)

Robert Reece, administrator, presented the Commissioners with copies of the overtime/overpay report.

Tom Doperalski moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to adopt Resolution 2008-9 reconfirming a regional economic development organization has been established for the purpose of qualifying the County of Pottawatomie as a designated non-metropolitan business region. Motion carried 2 to 0. Corwin Seamans was absent. (Attachment #4)

Tom Doperalski moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to enter into a lease agreement between Pottawatomie County and Gary Blume for management of hay and grass near the county landfill. Motion carried 2 to 0. Corwin Seamans was absent. (Attachment #5)

Robert reported to the Commissioners on the interviews conducted on February 7, 2008 by the 24 Corridor Consultant Negotiating Committee to choose a consulting firm. Tom Doperalski moved to direct staff to begin contract negotiations with HWS Consulting Group as recommended by the Hwy 24 Corridor Consultant Negotiating Committee. The negotiation is to formalize a contract for services that will produce a specific plan to address Access Management, Land Use and an overall Transportation approach in the study area. Once adopted, the State and local units of governments will then utilize this plan as a tool to promote smart growth along the corridor. Stan Hartwich seconded the motion which carried 2 to 0. Corwin Seamans was absent. Doperalski stated he wants the consultant to review rural intersections along the corridor.

At 9:30 the Vice Chairman opened a hearing to discuss a request for an exception to the north setback line of Lot 166, Timber Creek Subdivision, Unit II, Phase V in Blue Township. Jeff Elder, attorney; and Tony Classen, landowner were present for the hearing. Elder stated the property is just a few inches over the setback. Classen is requesting the exception to allow for that space. To sell the property, Classen wants to be sure the property is within correct and legal bounds. Stan Hartwich closed the hearing at 9:35. The Commission agreed to allow Elder to draft a document and have it approved by the county counselor before the Commission signs it.

At 10:00, the Vice Chairman declared bidding closed for the Green Valley Road Sanitary Sewer Extension project. Leu Lowrey, public works director, opened the bids. Bids submitted were:

J & K Contracting L.C. of Junction City, KS for \$317,301.00

Larson Construction Inc of Manhattan, KS for \$267,639.00

Meadows Construction Co, Inc of Tonganoxie, KS for \$334,515.00

Engineers Estimate was \$275,000

Leu will review the bids and submit a recommendation to the Commissioners.

The Commissioners reviewed and signed the accounts payable printouts for February 11, 2008.

Stan Hartwich adjourned the meeting at 10:10.

Tom Doperalski and Robert Reece went to a local officials housing update at Ft. Riley.

County Clerk

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Member