

COMMISSION MINUTES – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2010

At 8:30 A.M., all members of the Pottawatomie County Commission met for a regular session in the County Commission Room. Present were Pat Weixelman, chairman; Corwin Seamans, vice chairman; and Stan Hartwich, member.

Stan Hartwich moved and Corwin Seamans seconded to adopt the agenda for today's meeting. Motion carried 3 to 0.

Corwin Seamans moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to approve the minutes for February 8, 2010. Motion carried 3 to 0.

John Watt, county counselor, met with the Commissioners to update them on activities and projects he is working on.

Corwin Seamans moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to appoint John Thomason to the Economic Development Board of Directors to represent District #1. Motion carried 3 to 0.

Corwin Seamans moved to reappoint Jeff Rosell to the Economic Development Board of Directors to represent District #1. Stan Hartwich seconded the motion which carried 3 to 0.

Gregg Webster, zoning administrator, met with the Commission to present for their review a plat for Nelson's Ridge. Corwin Seamans moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to sign the final plat for Nelson's Ridge Subdivision Unit I in Blue Township. Motion carried 3 to 0. Robert Reece, administrator, informed the Commission the cost estimates provided for the project did not seem to include an estimated cost to connect the development with the county sewer system. He asked Leu Lowrey if he could provide that cost so he could begin the benefit district process. Leu anticipated he would have the estimates by the end of the day.

Jim Meinhardt was present for this morning's meeting.

Lois Schlegel, county appraiser, met with the Commissioners to update them on activities in that department. Updates were given on January sales, office & field activity, and economic development & industrial revenue bond exemptions. She discussed with the Commission a request for a vehicle for the department. She plans to purchase the vehicle through the State contract and has quotes of \$17,546 for a 4 wheel drive pickup and \$20,239 for a SUV. The department already has

one pickup. Lois stated the SUV would get better gas mileage and could be used by other departments needing transportation to conferences or meetings. The cost for the SUV is higher than the budgeted amount. The Commissioners will discuss this further and make a decision later today.

Jim Meinhardt representing Kan-Equip in Wamego gave the Commissioners a quote for a used backhoe. The road/bridge department is in the process of receiving quotes for purchase of a replacement backhoe. Meinhardt asked to be considered whenever bids for such equipment are needed. He also expressed concerns about burn permits and burning regulations for farmers and ranchers. He stated a number of the larger fires are started by individuals improperly burning trash.

Chris Trudo, emergency management director, met with the Commission to present an update for February. Topics discussed were: tornado sirens, county mitigation plan, disaster declaration for December winter storm, pre-disaster planning of cities and subdivisions, and EMGT office priorities/activities.

Pat Weixelman will attend the Combat Deployment Ceremony at Ft. Riley on March 2. Corwin Seamans will attend a Hazardous Mitigation Planning public meeting #2 on March 2.

Stan Hartwich moved and Corwin Seamans seconded to allocate \$400 from the special alcohol fund to Blue Valley High School for their After Prom Party. Motion carried 3 to 0.

The Commission reviewed annual reports for Grant, Lone Tree, and Louisville townships.

Leslie Campbell, health director, met with the Commissioners to present a department update.

At 10:30 the Chairman opened a hearing to discuss a request for exception to a setback line for property in Elbo Creek Estates. Present were Bernard Irvine, attorney; Stephen Hodges, developer; and Gregg Webster, zoning administrator. Gregg stated to adjust a platted setback would require either a replat or be granted a variance. After discussion, Chairman closed the hearing. Corwin Seamans moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to adopt Resolution 2010-11 providing for an exception to the west setback line of Lot 25, Elbo Creek Estates, Unit One Subdivision in Blue Township. Motion carried 3 to 0. (Attachment #1)

Leu Lowrey, public works director, met with the Commissioners to discuss sewer concerns for Nelson' Ridge in Blue Township. Bids for purchase of equipment for road/bridge were discussed. The Commission stated they would like to if possible, to keep purchases of equipment local. The Commission discussed with Leu real estate scheduled to be auctioned in March.

Bob Cole, Economic Development Director, met with the Commissioners to present a semi-annual report and discuss other concerns of the county's economic development organization and projects ECDV is involved with. Also present for the discussion were John Thomason, Mike Rice, Jeff Rosell, Ken Werner and Julie Roller. Upon recommendation of Bob Cole, Pat Weixelman moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to reappoint Mike Rice and Ken Werner and to appoint Robert Astolfi to the Economic Development Board of Directors representing District #2. Motion carried 3 to 0. Stan Hartwich moved and Corwin Seamans seconded to appoint Greg Unruh, Joe Thomas, and Jeanne Johnson to represent District #3 on the Economic Development Board of Directors. Motion carried 3 to 0. Cole discussed with the Commissioners requests he has for changes in the contract between the County and Economic Development. The Commission, counselor, and administrator will review the document and discuss it later.

Board reviewed and Chairman signed accounts payable printouts for February 22, 2010.

Carl Eyman, representative of Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties, met with the Commissioners to present and discuss their premium and loss information for 2009. The Commission requested that Mr. Eyman provide more safety training sessions in the future.

After considering a request submitted, Corwin Seamans moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to allocate \$400 to the City of Olsburg for their park renovation project. This money is from the special park and recreation fund. Motion carried 3 to 0.

Brian Smith, EMS director met with the Commission to present a 2009 operations summary for the ambulance service. Also present for that meeting were Chris Trudo, Brian Huntzinger, Brett Stewart-Platt, and Larry Couchman. Brian has accepted a position with the Wamego City Hospital as Director of Ancillary Services. Brett Stewart-Platt will serve as interim director for the ambulance service until decisions are made about the ambulance director position.

Dustin Trego, management assistant, presented the Commission with an update on the mini bus transportation program. Corwin Seamans and Dustin will attend a regional transportation meeting in Manhattan this Thursday.

The Commissioners reviewed and Chairman signed tax roll corrections.
(Attachment #2)

Dan Rowe and Tim Cummins, representatives of Treanor Architects met with the Commission to discuss the status of plans for the courthouse/jail project. Also present were Greg Riat, sheriff; Shane Jager, undersheriff; and John Watt, county counselor. Rowe stated they will meet with the departments involved in the project next week and will return with a couple of options for the Commission to consider. The options to be presented will be less than 63,000 square feet and will meet the space requirements as identified in the pre-architectural needs assessment. They will meet again with the Commission at 1:00 P.M. on March 8.

Stan Hartwich moved and Corwin Seamans seconded to adopt Resolution 2010-12 ordering the disposal of surplus county personal property by sealed bid. Motion carried 3 to 0. (Attachment #3)

John Watt, county counselor, discussed with the Commission results of the court of tax appeals hearing regarding Uncopiers tax abatement. Stan Hartwich moved and Corwin Seamans seconded to adopt Resolution 2010-13 amending Resolution 2002-29 to conform to the opinion of the Kansas Court of Tax Appeals in Docket Number 2009-8830-EDX; granting tax abatement to Uncopiers, Inc., located in Green Valley Business Park, Unit 2, Lots 11 and 12. Motion carried 3 to 0. (Attachment #4) Corwin Seamans moved and Pat Weixelman seconded to adopt Resolution 2010-14 amending Resolution Number 2002-30 to conform to the opinion of the Kansas Court of Tax Appeals in Docket Number 2009-8830-EDX; and establishing ad valorem taxes for Uncopiers, Inc., pursuant to resolution granting tax abatement. Motion carried 3 to 0. (Attachment #5)

Leu Lowrey, public works director, met with the Commission to discuss extension of the sewer line along Green Valley Road in regards to Nelson' Ridge Unit I Subdivision. The Commission agrees the developer should be responsible for the cost of the line to connect to his development. Leu and Robert will meet with the developer to determine how the project will be financed.

Corwin Seamans moved and Stan Hartwich seconded to approve the annual renewal of the property tax abatement for Liberty Inc. Motion carried 3 to 0. (Attachment #6)

Robert Reece, county administrator, updated the Commissioners on current debt of the County.

The Commission discussed further the vehicle to be purchased through the State contract by the appraiser's office. After discussion, Corwin Seamans moved to approve the purchase of an Equinox SUV for \$20,239. The difference in the amount that was budgeted for this purchase will be paid from equipment reserve fund. This vehicle will get better gas mileage than a pickup and can also be used by any department needing transportation to a meeting. Currently the county has one van for this use. Stan Hartwich seconded the motion which carried 2 to 1. Pat Weixelman was opposed stating he would prefer the purchase of a pickup to stay within the budgeted amount.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07.

County Clerk

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Member