



Board of Pottawatomie County Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2020

612 E Campbell
Westmoreland KS 66549
www.pottcounty.org

Public Works / Sunflower Room

8:30 a.m.

District 1 – Deloyce McKee

District 2 – Dennis Weixelman

District 3 – Greg Riat

1.0 8:30 AM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING WITH FLAG SALUTE & PRAYER

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Dennis Weixelman	County Commissioner, Vice Chair	Present 8:30 a.m.
Deloyce McKee	Chair Commissioner, Chair	Present 8:30 a.m.
Greg Riat	County Commissioner, Member	Present 8:30 a.m.
Nancy McCarter	County Clerk	Present 8:30 a.m.
Chad Kinsley	County Administrator	Present 8:30 a.m.
John Watt	County Counselor	Present 8:30 a.m.
Cody Liming	Assistant Emergency Service Director	Present 8:30 a.m.
Mark Portell	Wamego Times	Present 8:30 a.m.
Peter Clark	Public Works Director	Present 8:30 a.m.
Bob Awerkamp	Resident	Present 8:30 a.m.
Sherry Schuck	County Attorney	Present 9:00 a.m.
Scott Schwinn	Sanitarian/Landfill	Present 9:50 a.m.
Gregg Webster	Zoning Administrator	Present 10:28 a.m.

2.0 ROUTINE ITEMS:

2.1 Weixelman moved to approve the agenda, as amended. Riat seconded, carried 3-0.

2.2 Weixelman moved to approve April 6, 2020 minutes and April 7, 8, & 9 2020 special meeting minutes. McKee seconded, carried 3-0.

3.0 CONSENT ITEMS:

3.1 Ledger Transactions dated 4/7/2020 totaling \$2,002.01

Commissioner Weixelman moved to approve consent item. Commissioner Riat seconded, carried 3-0. *(Documents signed)*

4.0 Comments from the Public:

Bob Awerkamp presented photos of the Belvue Bridge from June 4, 2019, after the last inspection. Awerkamp said 80% of the deck is still the original decking; some of the patching done on the bridge was not done with the right materials. Awerkamp explained other concerns he had with the bridge but encouraged the commissioners to continue with patching the bridge.

Steve Minton expressed misconceptions about the budget and asked for clarification of spending approvals. Kinsley reported he has requested all departments to get prior approval before spending over \$250.00. Minton also inquired about the flagpole approval from last week’s meeting. Minton asked if the traffic count on Hwy 24 and Green Valley has seen any effects from the virus. Minton commented on the resale value of a backhoe. Commissioner Riat said his goal is to hold the budget and take care of road concerns and to work at becoming a more efficient County. Minton added his thoughts on the Belvue Bridge, build it to hold a twenty-ton limit with 40-year life span would be good.

5.0 DEPARTMENT UPDATES & ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Commission: Weixelman reported on the daily meetings; at first, they were 45 minutes to an hour long, and now they are down to 15 to 20 minutes. However, he but believed they are still worthwhile. Weixelman reported he had visited with a taxpayer concerning property taxes on a 4-wheeler. Riat reported he has been attending the daily meetings via Zoom. McKee reported she has been attending the commissioner's daily meetings via Zoom, as well as Zoom meetings with the State and that business loans are in the process. McKee believes the Governor's order needs to look at mental health. Today there will be a Flint Hills meeting and there is a need to review the agreement.

5.2 Administration: Chad Kinsley reported the emergency medical services are doing a great job.

Action Item: Cancel prior year encumbrances: Riat moved to cancel prior year encumbrances as presented. Commissioner McKee seconded, carried 3-0. *(Document signed)*

Chad Kinsley reported he has directed departments to try to decrease spending and asked the commissioners opinion about a hiring freeze. Riat said for Kinsley to work with department heads. Weixelman said it could be a good time to take advantage of the work force, and to look at starting some seasonal employees. It was agreed to take it case by case, no formal action was taken.

Peter Clark commented on the County's current dust control and he was looking at suspending it for a year. Clark said it would be a good conversation to have and it would benefit the County to skip the countywide application every three or four years, saving about \$150,000 in materials.

Commissioner McKee inquired about the use of the blacktop millings from McDowell Creek Road and if the County could utilize them.

Kinsley asked if the commissioners had any opinion as to holding off on all the unapproved capital improvement projects. Commissioners requested a list and to add it as a work session to another meeting.

5.3 Attorney: Sherri Schuck reported her office was currently working under County, State, and Supreme Court guidelines. Tuesday mornings they are doing hearings, and most court dates have been moved to June. Once the courts open up, they will have three months of back court cases. The office is continuing to answer phone calls, working with people as they can, taking care of child in need of care cases, and looking at setting up more technology systems for court such as videoconferencing.

5.4 Environmental Health: Scott Schwinn briefed on permits, facilities inspection, water testing, grass/leaves received, and Landfill Transfer station tonnage shipped. Scale replacement contract awarded to WH Scale of Topeka. Commissioner McKee informed Schwinn of a complaint they had received from a resident in the City of Louisville. Schwinn said the County has no jurisdiction. The City could contact the Kansas Department of Health. Commissioners directed Schwinn to send the individual a letter concerning the sites and how to contact KDHE. Schwinn also

reported the sites within the County currently under clean up order are showing progress slowly. Schwinn gave an update on Fostoria Sewer discharge and lagoons with-in the county needing inspections. Household residents with lagoons do not seem to be taking care of them, and would like to start at one end of the County and do inspections. To address poor conditions, there are many lagoons with trees and poor fencing. Schwinn reported on the amount of grass and leaf loads they have been receiving at the Landfill; about 250 loads a week and 284 loads just last week. Discussion occurred concerning a possible fee for this type of dumping, no action was taken. Commissioner Riat directed Schwinn to look at safety in the landfill, such as railing over the pit.

(Commissioners took a break from 10:15 until 10:29)

5.5 Zoning: Gregg Webster presented information on March building permits, little ahead of last year this time, and supplied a map with the locations of the build sites. Webster informed commissioners that the Planning Commission meeting will be held via Zoom this week in order to review a site plan for a new church. Weixelman expressed concerns about the way the public hearing was handled. Webster explained the property owners were given five weeks total to respond to the zoning request. The best solution they had was via Zoom. John Watt outlined the petition process.

5.6 Public Works: Peter Clark explained how backhoe cost per hour is needed before purchasing one. Commissioner Riat stated the lowest cost per hours is best for the county, Clark agreed. Riat requested more up to date data on truck cost and repair, etc. Clark gave an overview of on call hauling prices and reviewed a quote for a Peterbilt 138,500 year 2020; no action needed today, but will return with comparable models. Clark reported a normal operation for the County is ten trucks on the road during a snow. Peter presented the cost for on-Call material hauling and reviewed cost per mile from each bidder, then compared cost to county hauling. Clark reported on the storm damage from over the weekend in the northwest corner of the County, they received about six inches of rain. We have a bridge down to one lane due to an exposed abutment. Clark briefed on looking at contracting tube cleaning and leaving blade men to take care of their own ditches in their area. Clark feels it would be the best way to go forward. Commissioners requested information for an on call maintenance contract, get price per hour for backhoe, dump truck, excavator and have the county motor graders act as the inspector. This also needs to include mobilization cost, or cost by district. Clark will prepare a document for Commission to review.

Action Items:

Flood damage recovery engineering Services: Clark requested authorization to advertise for a request for qualifications for flood engineering due to a couple of landside areas. The cost of the engineering service will be eligible for reimbursement by FEMA and KDEM at 75%. McKee moved to approve as requested. Riat seconded, carried 3-0.

Heritage Hills Unit 2 Engineering Agreement: Requesting authorization to execute an engineering agreement with SMH Consultants for design of sewer, water and streets, for Heritage Hills Unit 2. McKee moved to go ahead. Weixelman seconded 3-0.

Commissioners reviewed a drainage structure on Clear Creek Road.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner McKee moved to recess to executive session to begin at 12:30 p.m. for up to 20 minutes under: attorney-client privilege exception; preliminary discussion, potential litigation K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(2). Commissioner Weixelman seconded, carried 3-0, others in attendance, Chad Kinsley, Peter Clark, Gregg Webster and John Watt. Regular meeting resumed at 12:50 p.m. No action was taken as a result of the session.

6.0 Adjournment: Chair declared meeting adjured at 12:52 p.m.

Chair, Deloyce McKee

Vice Chair, Dennis Weixelman

Member, Greg Riat

seal

Attest:

County Clerk, Nancy McCarter