



**Board of Pottawatomie County Commissioners**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**August 17, 2020**

612 E. Campbell  
Westmoreland KS 66549  
[www.pottcounty.org](http://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.
Mark Portell	Wamego Times	Present 8:30 a.m.
Steve Minton	Resident	Present 8:30 a.m.
Dorothy Campbell	Resident	Present 8:30 a.m.
Nathan Bolls	Resident	Present 8:30 a.m.
Robin Knoblauch	County Appraiser	Present 8:30 a.m.
Jennifer Mellow	Director of Emergency Management	Present 8:30 a.m.
Peter Clark	Public Works Director	Present 8:30 a.m.
Jared Barnes	Fire Supervisor	Present 8:30 a.m.
Hal Bumgarner	Director of Emergency Services	Present 8:30 a.m.
Scott Schwinn	Sanitarian/Landfill	Present 8:55 a.m.
Francis Awerkamp	Resident / House of Representative	Present 8:55 a.m.
Matthew Childs	Administrator / St Marys College	Present 8:55 a.m.
Crystal Malchose	HR Director	Present 9:50 a.m.
Phillip Hayes	The Arnold Group	Present 9:50 am.
Becky Ryan	Administrative Specialist/HR	Present 10:00 a.m.
Lance Forgy	Equipment Operator III (section patrolman)	Present 10:00 a.m.
Betty Abitz	Register of Deeds	Present 10:00 a.m.
Tim Eisenbarth	Noxious Weed Director	Present 10:00 a.m.
Shane Jager	Sheriff	Present 10:00 a.m.
Doug Adams	Undersheriff	Present 10:00 a.m.
Lisa Wright	Treasurer	Present 10:00 a.m.
Susan Snapp	GIS Director	Present 10:00 a.m.
Gregg Webster	Zoning Administrator	Present 10:00 a.m.
Sherri Schuck	Attorney	Present 10:00 a.m.
Andrea Karnes	Victim Witness Coordinator, Office Manager	Present 10:00 a.m.

**2.0 ROUTINE ITEMS:**

**2.1** Weixelman moved to approve the agenda. Riat seconded, motion carried 3-0.

**2.2** Weixelman moved to approve August 10, 2020 meeting minutes. Riat seconded, motion carried 3-0.

**3.0 CONSENT ITEMS:**

**3.1 Tax Correction:** STMA0010 St. Marys City \$162.24-

Commissioner McKee moved to approve all consent items. Commissioner Riat seconded, motion carried 3-0. *(Document signed)*

#### 4.0 Comments from the Public:

4.1 Nathan J. Bolls presented a request for authorization to use an original map from the County GIS Book in his books storyline. Commissioner McKee moved to approved Mr. Boll's request. Commissioner Riat seconded, carried 3-0. *(Document signed)*

4.2 Steve Minton commented on Elm Slough Road, gravel, lots, etc.

#### 5.0 DEPARTMENT UPDATES & ACTION ITEMS:

5.1 **Commission:** Commissioners discussed Elm Slough Road, Belvue Bridge, and data request on cost for development, SPARK meeting, KAC webinar, and Election Canvassing.

5.2 **Administration:** Chad Kinsley reported the CARES Plan was submitted.

5.3 **Counselor:** John Watt reported:

- Road statutes concerning speed limits on county, urban, and subdivision roads. Commissioners do have the authority to lower speed limits.
- Ubel property has closed and the deed filed.
- Governor's Executive Order No. 20-59, schools need to take steps to mitigate COVID-19 and the County can opt out of the order. Local School Boards could do less or more strict rules, schools are in control. Private schools are noted in a footnote for Order 20-59, commissioners could put private in with public to be treated the same. County Commissioners need to call a special meeting for the determination of the implementations of any or all of the order along with consulting with the local health officer before any implementation. Francis Awerkamp added that Order No. 20-59 lacked a lot of clarity; school boards should have home rule. Awerkamp presented commissioners with a letter from Flint Hills Christian School on how they plan to work with teachers and students to satisfy education needs. Matthew Childs reported the St. Marys Academy plans to start school September 2, 2020. Commissioner Riat would like to have a special meeting. Commissioners agreed to hold a meeting Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at the Wamego Training Facility on 406 Miller Drive.

5.4 **Appraiser:** Robin Knoblauch gave an update on county compliance with Division of Property Valuation, 2020 Compliance review document, board of tax appeal information, monthly sales, and other activities in the appraiser's office.

6.0 **NEW BUSINESS: Wage Study:** Phil Hayes with The Arnold Group provided information from the employee classification and compensation study. The Arnold Group presented a recommended pay scale showing ranges for skilled, professional and executive grades. Hayes added if the commissioners agreed to adopt the recommendations, the County would be communicating a two-fold message, one to the tenured employees as well as an equally strong and clear message to newer employees that their employment with the County will be rewarded with a commitment to a formal compensation plan.

#### Continued: 5.0 DEPARTMENT UPDATES & ACTION ITEMS:

5.5 **Emergency Management:** Jennifer Merrow briefed commissioners on regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, siren testing, damage from flooding, animal disease training, fireworks event with

Wamego, new printer needs and weekly meetings continuing with Healthcare and City Officials concerning COVID.

**5.6 Fire:** Jared Barnes briefed commissioners on year-to-date response calls, Fire 5 lease purchase to replace a tanker and looking at similar purchased for Consolidated Fire.

**5.7 Emergency Services:** Hal Bumgarner briefed commissioners on Blue Township Station issues, lighting and a leak in the sprinkler system. Staffing all positions currently filled. July 2020 EMS billing report showing the difference from last year.

**5.8 Sanitarian/Landfill:** Scott Schwinn briefed on environmental health: permits, inspections, water test and consultations. Update on illegal dump program saying an administration order has been placed on the property on Blackjack Road. WH Scale of Topeka completed scale replacement.

**Action Items:**

1. Appointment to Solid Waste Committee: Commissioner Riat moved to appoint Richard Weixelman to the committee. Commissioner McKee seconded, carried 2-0. Commissioner Weixelman abstained.
2. Hearing for Solid Waste Plan: Commissioners agreed to set September 28, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. for the hearing.

**General discussion occurred:**

Elm Slough ticket information  
Road and bridge issues

**7.0 Adjournment:** Chair declared meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

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Chair, Deloyce McKee

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Vice Chair, Dennis Weixelman

seal

Attest:

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County Clerk, Nancy McCarter

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Member, Greg Riat