

# Wabaunsee County Commission

## Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS

### Regular Meeting Minutes January 22, 2024

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The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday, January 22, 2024. Commissioners conduct the meeting in person and over ZOOM. Members attending were Nancy L. Hier, Rodney L. Allen and Jim W. MacGregor. Commissioner Hier called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Sheriff Rob Hoskins, Undersheriff Eric Kirsch, Road & Bridge Supervisor Josh Hinch, Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester, Economic Development Director Stephanie Imthurn, Boyd Davis, Richard Orton, Road & Bridge Assistant Supervisor Jared Falk, Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin, Appraiser Ryan Michaelis, Ken Smith, Forrest Rhodes, County Clerk Abby Amick and County Attorney Tim Liesmann were in attendance in person and others joined via zoom.

#### **Road & Bridge Update**

Road & Bridge Supervisor Josh Hinch presented Utility Request and Petitions for Cox Communications and WTC for the installation of fiber in the Maple Hill area and along Carlson Road and Willard Road. Townships have already signed off on the requests, Commissioners reviewed and approved both requests.

Hinch provided three mower quotes. Commissioner Allen moved to approve the rotary mower purchase from Schulte for \$28,703.80; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner MacGregor moved to adopt Resolution 2024-04 a resolution transferring authorizing the transfer of funds in the amount of \$75,000 from Road & Bridge to the Special Machinery Fund; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Allen moved to adopt Resolution 2024-05 a resolution authorizing the transfer of funds in the amount of \$185,500 from Road & Bridge to the Special Highway Improvement Fund; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners shared their appreciation for the work that the Road & Bridge crews did through the snowstorms. Sheriff Hoskins reported that there were 14 rescues in the County, several of which required a snowplow to gain access to the stranded individuals.

#### **Neighborhood Revitalization Hearing**

At 9:30 AM Commissioner Hier opened the Hearing for the Neighborhood Revitalization Plans. Commissioners reviewed the plans as presented editing the reporting requirements for the Economic Development Office.

Commissioner MacGregor moved to adopt Resolution 2024-06 A Resolution adopting a Neighborhood Revitalization Residential Rehab Program for Wabaunsee County; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner MacGregor moved to adopt Resolution 2024-07 A Resolution adopting a Commercial Neighborhood Revitalization Program for Wabaunsee County; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At 10:00 AM Commissioner Hier closed the hearing.

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**Wabaunsee County Land Bank**

Commissioner Hier convened a meeting of the Wabaunsee County Land Bank Board. Imthurn provided an Annual Report for the Board's review.

Commissioner MacGregor moved to accept the Land Bank Annual Report with a Balance of \$0 as of December 31, 2023; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**Executive Session**

At 10:05 Commissioner Hier moved to enter Executive Session to discuss the topic of a civil demand made upon the County; the justification is attorney-client privilege communication with Attorney Forrest Rhodes, County Attorney Tim Liesmann, County Clerk Abby Amick, County Commissioners Hier, MacGregor and Allen present; the meeting shall resume at 10:35 AM here in the County Commission Meeting Room; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At 10:35 AM Commissioners returned from Exec Session. No action was taken.

**Zoning Update**

Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester provided an update from the recent Planning & Zoning Board Meeting. Three Short Term Rentals and one quarry passed the Planning Commission and will be heard by the County Commissioners at the hearing on February 5<sup>th</sup>. The Planning Commission also discussed a minimum impact fee and will be meeting with Road & Bridge to discuss the use of impact fees. Sylvester provided an annual report on Zoning activities in 2023. There were 81 Building Permits Issued, 25 Conditional Use Permits, 29 Septic Inspections, 3 Special Event Permits and 1 Variance with a total of \$35,425 collected in permit fees in 2023.

**Emergency Management**

Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin provided an update from the recent Winter Weather Disaster Declaration. The Declaration was in effect for seven days from January 13<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Commissioners reviewed the Workman's Compensation Volunteer Election and agreed to add the Wildfire Task Force Volunteers to the County's coverage.

**Other Business**

Commissioner Allen moved to adopt Resolution 2024-08 a resolution authorizing a Tax Sale; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to reappoint Geri Moore as the North Central Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors Representative for Wabaunsee County for a two-year term; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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Commissioner MacGregor agreed to continue serving as the Ex-Officio Member of the Pottawatomie-Wabaunsee Regional Library Board, as well as the Wabaunsee County Representative on the Flint Hills Regional Council.

Commissioner MacGregor moved to approve the minutes of the January 8th Commission Meeting; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

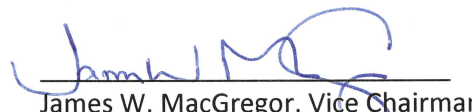
Chairman Hier reviewed and signed the Daily Statements for January 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 16 & 17, 2024. Commissioners reviewed and approved expenses for January 4-17, 2024. Commissioners reviewed and signed Tax Abatement #2023-AB51 in the amount of \$213.60 and Added Tax 2023-18 in the amount of \$227.70.

Commissioners will not meet on Monday, January 29, 2024.

At 11:02 AM Commissioner Allen moved to adjourn until Monday, February 5th at 9:00 AM; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes approved this 5th day of February 2024.

  
Nancy Hier, Chairman

  
James W. MacGregor, Vice Chairman

  
Rodney Allen, Commissioner

Attest:

  
Abby L. Amick  
Wabaunsee County Clerk

