

Wabaunsee County Commission

Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS

Regular Meeting Minutes June 05, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday, June 05, 2023. Commissioners conduct the meeting in person and over ZOOM. Members attending were Nancy L. Hier, Rodney L. Allen and Jim MacGregor. Commissioner Hier called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the Public Bob Dieball, Suzanne Simon, David Stuewe and Jim Johnson, Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester, Sheriff Rob Hoskins, Undersheriff Eric Kirsch, Road & Bridge Supervisor Josh Hinch, District Court Clerk Emma Leuthold, County Clerk Abby Amick and County Attorney Tim Liesmann were in attendance in person, others joined via zoom.

Road & Bridge Update

Road & Bridge Supervisor Josh Hinch provided pricing options for a fence along the south side of the Road & Bridge shop property, the adjoining landowner is ready to make an offer on the strip of land between them. Hinch presented a report from Cook, Flat and Strobel Engineers for load ratings on two structures near Pronghorn Road and Fairview Road south of Harveyville. The structures are recommended to be posted at 5 ton and 11 ton weigh limits. Hinch reported that Caughlin Construction has experienced delays on other jobs and will be starting late on the Old K-10 project. Commissioners discussed the three options that have been presented for bulk fuel and fuel tanks.

Zoning Hearing

Commissioner Hier opened the Zoning Hearing at 9:30am. Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester presented the Lake Wabaunsee Short Term Rental Standards that were adopted by the Planning Commission and have been in use since November 2022. Commissioner Hier proposed two edits to the standards: Number 1 edit to specify that contact information for the guests be made available upon request from law enforcement, but is not publicly available; Number 7 edit the ownership length of time allowing for the property to pass to family or designated heirs and count toward the two year minimum ownership requirement. Commissioners discussed the edits and heard feedback from lake property owners Jim Johnson, Suzanne Simon and David Stuewe.

Commissioner Allen moved to adopt Resolution 2023-28 a resolution amending the Wabaunsee County Zoning Regulations concerning short-term rentals at Lake Wabaunsee District; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Flint View Sewer District

Sylvester reported that the overflow pond has water in it, but the main pond does not. Sylvester is getting bids to clean out the ponds. There is an old pipe repair that has failed, Sylvester is getting that fixed.

Budget Requests

Commissioners met with Departments and Agencies to review the submitted budget requests. 2024 requests include: District Court \$109,563 an increase of 22% over the prior year due to attorney fees increasing.

Wabaunsee County Fair Board members Mary Reed Spencer, Adam Luckert, Kelsey Stamm and Travis Poovey presented the 2024 Budget request of \$45,000; an increase of \$15,000 over the prior year.

Pottawatomie Wabaunsee Regional Library Director Judith Cremer and board president Pam Bales presented the 2024 Budget request of \$137,530.88 for the Wabaunsee County share, an increase of \$10,896.72 over the prior year.

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Congressman Jake LaTurner

District Representative Grace Greene and Senior Advisor Jeff Kahrs from Congressman Jake LaTurner's staff joined the meeting in person. Commissioners discussed opportunities for the Congressman to support projects in Wabaunsee County, including broadband, roads, bridges, water projects and other infrastructure. Commissioner Hier informed the staff of the concerns that citizens have with the railroad blocking driveways for many hours at a time.

Plumb Township

Doyal Robinson and John Hill joined the meeting in person. Robinson and Hill shared concerns for the drainage along Dragoon Creek Road pooling and flooding the crop fields. Road & Bridge Supervisor Josh Hinch shared photos of the water flow and pooling. Commissioners recommended following up with the Township and the company that did the dirt work to see if there was a performance bond in place.

Symphony in the Flint Hills

Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin updated the Commissioners on plans for the Symphony in the Flint Hills. The event is planned for Saturday, June 10th with a rain date of Sunday, June 11th. The Sheriff Department, AMR, Harveyville Fire, Emergency Management and the National Weather service will be onsite for the event.

Comprehensive Plan Review

Economic Development Director Stephanie Imthurn reviewed the Infrastructure and Economic Development sections of the Comprehensive Plan. Commissioners discussed the need for additional utilities at most exits, concerns for flood plains and opportunities for business development and retention programs.

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Other Business

Commissioners accepted the offer from Bob and Kayla Dieball for the purchase of 5 acres along Old K-10 Road. Commissioners signed the Geographic Name Proposal Recommendation for Mount Mitchell.

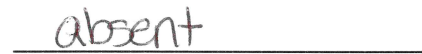
Commissioner MacGregor moved to approve the minutes of the May 22nd Commission Meeting; Commissioner Hier seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

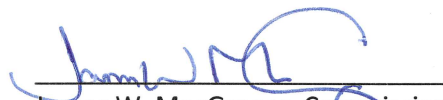
Commissioners reviewed and approved wage change forms. Chairman Hier reviewed and signed Daily Statements for May 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31 & June 1, 2023.

At 12:27 AM Commissioner MacGregor moved to adjourn until Monday, June 12th at 9:00 AM; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes approved this 12th day of June 2023.


Nancy Hier, Chairman


Rodney Allen, Vice Chairman


James W. MacGregor, Commissioner

Attest:



Abby L. Amick
Wabaunsee County Clerk

