

Wabaunsee County Commission
Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS
Regular Meeting Minutes December 28, 2020

The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday December 28, 2020. In compliance with the CDC guidelines to maintain social distancing Commissioners conduct and record the meeting over ZOOM. Members attending were Rodney L. Allen, Joel S. Fager and Jim Suber. Chairman Fager called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. County Attorney Tim Liesmann and County Clerk Jennifer Savage were in attendance.

Department Head Meeting

County Appraiser Ryan Michaelis is finishing up year end and picking up new construction and working on values. Michaelis said his new vehicle is on the way.

County Health Administrator Ray Finley said he does not have good news on COVID this week our second-long term facility has COVID. We now have 63 active cases, had death over weekend which brings the county up to 8 and one person in hospital at this point. Without the care facility in the numbers, we have 47 active cases. The Health department has received the COVID vaccine and will start those tomorrow, first round is medical and first responders. Finley said he has not received commitment on second round of vaccine as to who will be covered.

Register of Deeds Marcy Merritt will be gone rest of week due to the death of her father Robert Stuewe, who also served as a Planning Commission member.

County Attorney Tim Liesmann said the building committee met last week, he reached out to the tree contractor to clean up some of the trees in the yard and said we would like to have it done before spring. The committee received a proposal from P1 for a system that sanitizes the air to kill pathogens, it would be for the 4th floor only for approximately \$6200 as an add on. The building committee recommended adding this on, it is a relatively small cost, and the consensus was an additional step toward protection that uses ionization procedures. Commissioners agreed with moving forward. Commissioner Fager made a motion to approve the recommendation of the building committee for the air filtration system for the 4th floor. Commissioner Allen seconded; motion passed 3-0.

Liesmann said District Court got a drop box from Office of Judicial Administration (OJA) for court items only, it will need to be installed possibly on the south entrance of the building right next to the current box that is there. District Court Clerk Emma Leuthold said that district court will not allow any of their documents intermingled in the box that is currently there for drop off. Suber said eventually someone will put something in the wrong box, it will happen and cannot be avoided, Leuthold said they have been instructed by OJA that they cannot be put in the current drop box. Was the consensus to have the box installed on the south entrance of the courthouse next to the current box.

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Liesmann said the building committee will not consist of Andy Badeker, Tim Liesmann, Joel Fager, Ryan Michaelis, Brett Wilson, Abby Amick will replace Kristy Haden and Jennifer Savage has agreed to stay on.

Commissioner Allen made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-30, a resolution concerning transfer of fund for the Wabaunsee County Noxious Weed Fund. The resolution allows \$40,000 be transferred from the Noxious Weed Fund to the Noxious Weed Capital Outlay Fund as of December 30, 2020. Commissioner Suber seconded; motion passed 3-0.

Commissioners signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding employment status with Jim MacGregor to serve in the role as Economic Development Director starting January 11, 2020.

Commissioners approved Abatement 2020-AB26 in the amount of \$331.98.

County Roads Enforcement

Terry VanWey said he is here for help with the Sheriff for enforcement with county roads. VanWey said he feels they spend too much time on I-70 and should be on the county roads. He said Harveyville Road is the big problem a lot of people use the road, and it is 55 mph, and they are driving much faster. He said it seems they are not doing their jobs on the county roads. He said the current Sheriff does not even try to accommodate, when asked previously about the speed on Miller Road he just comments give me \$60,000 for another employee. VanWey said the commissioners have control of the pocketbook and maybe they could control that if they do a little more patrolling on the county roads. Commissioner Fager asked for VanWey's contact information and will have the Sheriff contact him.

Commissioner Allen passed out copies to each commissioner of a Brief in Opposition In Re Application for Conditional Use Permit for a Quarry, Case #589 Applicant Native Stone submitted by Bruce Waugh. Liesmann said this is background information for the Commissioners to review prior to the January 4, 2021 meeting at which time it will be discussed at 9:00 a.m.

Planning & Zoning

Zoning Administrator David Breiner said he would like to purchase 5 laptops for use by the Planning Commission for meetings, the members would check out the laptops to participate in their meeting at their home, the laptops would be kept at the zoning office for persons to use. Breiner said that they do have funding in the Zoning budget to cover if there are not SPARKS funding available. Liesmann said this would provide a lot of flexibility for the Planning Commission meetings.

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Breiner said is still dealing with a blood clot in his leg, is improving but not completely out of the woods. He has been doing his work from home and has been able to handle most of that by phone and thanked them for being patient with him.

Commissioner Allen made a motion to purchase 5 laptops from Network Computer Solutions (NCS) including labor to prep and install for \$5,221.63. Commissioner Suber seconded; motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner Fager made motion to go into executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel relating to 2021 Appointments. Present for the session that began at 9:50 a.m. and ended at 10:00 a.m. were the Commissioners, County Attorney Tim Liesmann, and County Clerk Jennifer Savage. No action taken following the executive session.

Commissioner Fager acknowledged one of the first responders/fireman, Joe Flerlage passed away last week, Joe was a great person and Fager wanted to pay his respects at the funeral across the street, with the Fire Departments, Sheriff Department and First Responders.

At 10:05 a.m. Commissioner Fager made a motion to adjourn until Monday January 4th at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Allen seconded; motion passed 3-0.

Minutes approved this _____ day of January 2021.

Joel Fager, Chairman

Rodney L. Allen, Vice-Chairman

Jim Suber, Member

Attest:

Jennifer A. Savage
Wabaunsee County Clerk