

Wabaunsee County Commission  
Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS  
Regular Meeting Minutes June 22, 2020

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The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday June 22, 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, County Clerk Jennifer Savage, Health Administrator Ray Finley, County Appraiser Ryan Michaelis, Sheriff Rob Hoskins, Undersheriff Brett Wilson, Zoning Administrator David Breiner, Register of Deeds Marcy Merritt, Noxious Weed Director Tonya Hensley, were in attendance either in person or by Zoom.

**Department Head Meeting**

Commissioner Fager reminded everyone that Custodian Jenny Henderson would be off a couple weeks and everyone was responsible for themselves.

County Appraiser Ryan Michaelis said everything is going well nothing to report.

Health Administrator Ray Finley said currently Wabaunsee County has 32 COVID cases with 0 active. Finley said the state has stayed fairly level with some surrounding counties showing spikes. Wabaunsee County is currently in Phase 3.

Register of Deeds Marcy Merritt said all is going well nothing to report.

Noxious Weed Director Tonya Hensley said all is well nothing to report.

Sheriff Rob Hoskins said he is still actively looking for employee, he is currently down two officers and is focusing on hiring two school resource officers so he can access the federal grant money.

County Attorney Tim Liesmann said the commissioners hired P1 Group to do work/repairs to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, P1 has offered some additional scopes of work and it may be nice to do that at the same time but will have to see if we have enough financing.

County Clerk Jennifer Savage said they are getting a large number of advance ballot requests and are encouraging persons to vote advance. This week townships and cemeteries will be coming in to prepare their 2021 budget. Savage said that servers for

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the jail cameras were in need of upgrades and asked if the Commission would consider paying that out of building maintenance as paying out of the Sheriff Department budget would cause a hardship. Commission agreed \$1200 could be allocated from the building maintenance to purchase the servers.

Commissioner Fager said he had received a complaint from a citizen about Fire District No. 5 Chief storing a boat in the fire station and a number of people have been frustrated. County Attorney Liesmann said he did receive a response from the Fire Chief and yes it was going on but the Chief did not see a problem with it, he also said the boat has been moved. Commissioner Suber felt this should not be going on and said the Commission has a right to be concerned about this, Liesmann said it is not appropriate for that official store the boat in the building and that the Fire Chief felt it wasn't a problem. Commissioner Fager would like to ask Fire District No. 5 board to respond. Liesmann will contact Fire District No. 5 Board Members.

**Zoning update**

Zoning Administrator provided an update from the June 18<sup>th</sup> planning commission meeting:

- Sage Quarry off of Keene-Eskridge Road was tabled
- Thane Brethour travel plaza request was approved
- Alex Gnadt two rock quarries were approved
- Board Member Dan Riley resigned effective immediately
- Higgins Quarry in the Frazee pasture is up for renewal
- Quarry off of Harveyville Road which has been in operation prior to zoning regulations has a large pile of rocks that is an eye sore, he will get a hold of the operator to see if this can be taken care of

County Appraiser Ryan Michaelis said he has received phone calls on a gun range in the southern part of the county and if that will affect the value of adjoining landowners' property. County Attorney Tim Liesmann said it does require a conditional use permit. Breiner said the owner said it is private land that family are the only ones that go there. Sheriff Hoskins said his department uses the Pottawatomie County gun range. Undersheriff Brett Wilson said they do pay to shoot at the range. After discussion it was determined that the landowner does not charge and only family are using the range a conditional use permit will not be required.

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**Other Business**

Commissioner Joel Fager said he has contacted the following people to form a committee to discuss the future of economic development for Wabaunsee County; Joel Fager, Tim Liesmann, Nancy Hier, Stephanie Melhus, Abby Amick, Jerry Haahr and Jennifer Savage.

At 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Allen made a motion to adjourn until 9 a.m. Monday June 29th. Commissioner Fager seconded; motion passed 3-0.

Minutes approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June 2020.

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Joel Fager, Chairman

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Rodney L. Allen, Vice-Chairman

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Jim Suber, Member

Attest:

Jennifer A. Savage  
Wabaunsee County Clerk