

Wabaunsee County Commission
Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS
Regular Meeting Minutes March 23, 2020

The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday March 23, 2020. Commissioners moved the meeting to the courtroom to comply with the CDC recommendation to maintain 6 ft social distancing. Members present 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.

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush, Health Administrator Ray Finley, Emergency Manager Amy Terrapin, Register of Deeds Marcy Merritt, County Attorney Tim Liesmann, Noxious Weed Director Tonya Hensley, Custodian Jenny Henderson, County Clerk Jennifer Savage, Deputy County Treasurer Karen Callaway, Sheriff Rob Hoskins were in attendance.

Department Head Meeting

Liesmann said he is going to hold off setting the tax sale.

Hensley said the new spray truck is in and she will be going to pick it up.

Terrapin said the EOC is on enhanced steady.

Fager said on Thursday March 19th there was a meeting with Finley to discuss restricting access to the courthouse due to the fact there were confirmed COVID-19 cases in counties adjoining Wabaunsee County. It was decided that on Friday March 20th public access would be restricted to county courthouse, all visitors and public would be screened (questions and temperature taken) prior to entering the building. Over the weekend more cases confirmed in adjoining counties and Savage recommended closing to the public and minimize staffing. Finley said immunizations are important and would ask that persons call in for an appointment for immunizations. Finley said that anyone that comes in the building should be screened. Merritt said she would work with the title companies for information they are needing. All offices will be working and encourage citizens to try and take care of as much business as possible over the phone or by email.

Fager said to recap beginning today:

- Building will be closed to public access
- Minimize staffing

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- No face to face meetings
- Health department by appointment only

Finley said he would like to revisit the issue each Monday as things are changing to quickly. Liesmann said there will be employees worrying about pay. Allen said this would be Admin pay.

Finley said persons would be posted at the door to screen anyone entering the building from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and anyone that comes in after that would go to the health department.

Commissioner Fager made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-07, a resolution limiting operations due to Novel COVID-19

“WHEREAS, pursuant to K.S. A. 65-201, the Wabaunsee County Board of County Commissioners is the local health board for the County and as such has the power under K.S.A. 65-119 to prohibit public gatherings as necessary to control infectious disease;

WHEREAS, the recent COVID-19 crisis has led to various closures and the limiting of operations around the state and country including schools, businesses and government functions based on the recommendations and orders of the CDC, KDHE, and local health officer;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that County operations will be modified such that all county buildings including the courthouse are closed to the public except the Courthouse will be open for the duration of the regularly scheduled commission meeting beginning at 9:00 a.m. each Monday. All departments will still operate with business to be conducted by phone or electronically. Staffing may be limited at department head discretion. The Health Department will offer services by appointment. The health officer shall have discretion to issue directives consistent with this resolution and/or to clarify aspects of this resolution. This resolution shall be reviewed each Monday at the Commission meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be effective upon execution of this document.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of Wabaunsee County, Kansas this 23rd day of March 2020.”

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Bush said his department will continue working on and maintaining the roads and working by themselves.

Hoskins said his department is business as usual, dispatchers are screening calls and all prisoners are screened before entering the building.

Treasurer Daily Statements for March 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 & 10 were viewed and signed.

Commissioners presented County Treasurer Linda Coon with a plaque for retirement. The Commissioners all thanked Coon for her many years of dedicated service to the county and wished her well in her retirement.

At 10:15 a.m. Commissioner Fager moved to adjourn until 9:00 a.m. Monday March 30th, 2020. Commissioner Suber seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Minutes approved this _____ day of March 2020.

Joel Fager, Chairman

Rodney L. Allen, Vice-Chairman

Jim Suber, Member

Attest:

Jennifer A. Savage
Wabaunsee County Clerk