

# Wabaunsee County Commission

## Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS

### Regular Meeting Minutes August 21, 2023

---

The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday, August 21, 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. Undersheriff Eric Kirsch, Road & Bridge Supervisor Josh Hinch, Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester, Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin, Economic Development Director Stephanie Imthurn, Richard Orton, District Court Clerk Emma Leuthold and County Clerk Abby Amick were in attendance in person, others joined via zoom.

Richard Orton gave public comment sharing concerns for political nature of a recent county department Facebook post. Commissioners agreed that county departments should consider their social media content and avoid political controversy.

District Court Clerk Emma Leuthold announced her resignation as Clerk of the District Court, effective September 1<sup>st</sup>.

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

Road & Bridge Supervisor Josh Hinch presented a Utility Permit Application from Schadegg Electric LLS to run a utility line under the road at 38200 Locust St, Wamego in Wabaunsee Townsite. Commissioners reviewed and signed the application.

Hinch provided two bids for a low water crossing on Clapboard Ravine Road, where there are constant washouts. The project is expected to be completed this fall, the road will be closed during construction. Hinch announced that chip seal started on Keene-Eskridge Road and will go on to Carlson Road and then Miller Road. Paint Striping will be done a month later.

Commissioner Allen asked Hinch to check on the status of Bronc Rider Road being designated as a non-commercial route, he also asked to have speed limit signs added on the road.

#### **Planning and Zoning Update**

Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester reviewed the recent Planning Commission meeting. There was one quarry renewal on the agenda. The Planning Commission discussed impact fees and recommends an increase. Commissioner MacGregor asked that the quarry operators be notified of the proposed changes and given an opportunity to comment. The Planning Commission will revisit the issue at the September meeting.

Economic Development Director Stephanie Imthurn discussed the Housing Committee's progress and requested guidance on subdivision zoning restrictions and recommendations.

#### **Emergency Management Update**

Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin reported on the recent LEPC meeting where they discussed the proposed bridges for replacement. Commissioner Hier attended the meeting and asked each Fire Department to inventory their medical equipment for First Responders. Terrapin reported that another EMR class is being scheduled, anyone interested in receiving training to drive the ambulance needs to get signed up. Terrapin reported that the Burn Permit Workgroup will continue to meet.

Wabaunsee County Commission  
Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS  
Regular Meeting Minutes August 21, 2023

---

**Other Business**

Commissioner MacGregor moved to approve the 2024 Budget for Fire District #2 with \$25,270 in Ad Valorem Tax; as published; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

County Attorney Tim Liesmann joined the meeting in person. Liesmann presented a Memorandum of Understanding detailing the Pottawatomie and Wabaunsee County valuations used to determine the cost share on the Belvue Bridge.

Commissioner Hier moved to approve the MOU between Pottawatomie and Wabaunsee County; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

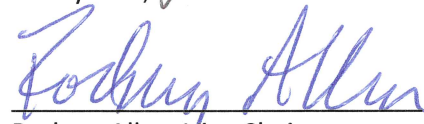
Commissioner Allen moved to approve the minutes of the August 14<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting; Commissioner Hier seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

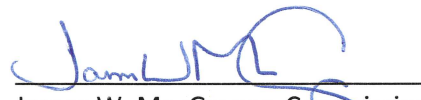
Commissioners reviewed and signed expenses for August 3 – 16, 2023. Chairman Hier reviewed and signed the Daily Statements for August 10, 11, 14, 15 & 16, 2023.

At 10:20 AM Commissioner Allen moved to adjourn until Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes approved this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 2023.

  
Nancy Hier, Chairman

  
Rodney Allen, Vice Chairman

  
James W. MacGregor, Commissioner

Attest:



Abby L. Amick  
Wabaunsee County Clerk

