

Wabaunsee County Commission

Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS

Regular Meeting Minutes January 9, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday, January 9, 2023. Commissioners conduct the meeting in person and over ZOOM. Members attending were Joel S. Fager, Nancy L. Hier and Rodney L. Allen. Commissioner Hier called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Sheriff Rob Hoskins, Register of Deeds Marcy Merritt, Michelle Gay, Deputy Dalton Rorabaugh, Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin, Undersheriff Eric Kirsch, Extension Program Assistant Stephanie Maiké, Nikki Fager, Ervan Stuewe, Debbie and Jim MacGregor, Appraiser Ryan Michaelis, Justin Wurtz, Health Department Administrator Ray Finley, Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush, Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester, County Clerk Abby Amick and County Attorney Tim Liesmann were in attendance in person and others joined via zoom.

Commissioner Fager moved to approve the minutes of the December 19th Commission Meeting; Commissioner Hier seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier presented Commissioner Fager with a plaque honoring his service to Wabaunsee County as Commissioner for District No. 1. Commissioner Fager served from January 14, 2019 to January 9, 2023.

County Clerk Abby Amick administered the oath of office for Jim MacGregor taking office as County Commissioner for District No. 1.

Commissioners took a 15 minute recess to attend a reception for outgoing Commissioner Joel Fager.

At 9:22 AM Commissioners resumed the regular meeting in the Commission Meeting Room.

Commissioner Allen moved to adopt Resolution 2023-01 a resolution concerning the transfer of funds in the amount of \$5,000 from Emergency Management to Equipment Reserve and \$35,000 from Noxious Weed to Noxious Weed Capital Outlay; Commissioner Hier seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Allen moved to adopt Resolution 2023-02 a resolution authorizing the transfer of funds in the amount of \$100,000 from Road & Bridge to the Special Highway Improvement Fund; Commissioner Hier seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to adopt Resolution 2023-03 a resolution waiving the requirements of Accounting Procedures as specified in K.S.A. 75-1120a(c)(1); Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Zoning Hearing

At 9:30 AM Commissioner Hier called the Zoning Hearing to order. Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester presented Conditional Use Permit #162 filed by Justin Wurtz for establishing a daycare, the CUP passed the Planning Commission unanimously. Commissioner Hier asked Wurtz about his experience with childcare. Wurtz detailed the years of experience that his wife and family have in the industry.

Commissioner Hier moved to adopt Resolution 2023-04 a Resolution for a conditional use permit filed by Justin Wurtz for establishing a daycare at 28178 Mt Mitchell Road, Wamego KS; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Sylvester presented Conditional Use Permit #168 filed by Michelle Gay for establishing a short-term rental, the CUP passed the Planning Commission unanimously. Property owner Michelle Gay shared some background on

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the property and described the renovations that have been done along with their plans for the short-term rental.

Commissioner Hier moved to adopt Resolution 2023-05 a Resolution for a conditional use permit filed by Michelle Gay for establishing a short-term rental at 28517 Hinerville Road, Alma KS; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Sylvester reported that Don Hendricks has resigned from the Planning Commission as the City of Alma representative. Commissioner MacGregor will reach out to City Council members to see how they want to proceed with appointing a new representative. Sylvester reported that the Zoning Maps are now complete and ready for integration into the Zoning Software.

Road & Bridge Update

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush reported that deconstruction is underway on Bridge 25 outside of Maple Hill. Bush presented a Request and Petition from Evergy to reroute overhead primary lines along Bison Road and Spring Creek Road, the request has been approved by Newbury Township. Commissioners approved and signed the request.

Bush presented a Notice of Award for Bridge 45 on Boothill Road with the recommendation to accept the low bid from L&M Contractors Inc.

Commissioner Hier moved to approve the bid from L&M Contractors, Inc to replace Bridge 45 in the amount of \$319,545.50; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Hier signed the Notice of Award, accepting the bid.

Bush presented an agreement with Schwab-Eaton for Professional Surveying & Engineering Services for Bridge 13 on Fairfield Road over Hendricks Creek. The grant portion of this project is for \$930,000 and the County share is approximately \$80,000.

Commissioner Hier moved to approve the agreement with Schwab-Eaton regarding Bridge 13; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Sewer District #1

Commissioner Hier convened the annual meeting of Sewer District No. 1 Operating Board of Directors. County Sanitarian Noel Sylvester reported on the events of the prior year. Commissioners asked that Sylvester determine the cost of dredging the sewer ponds and any other maintenance that needs to be addressed in the coming year. Commissioners will revisit the annual assessment in April 2023. Commissioner Hier closed the annual Sewer District No. 1 Operating Board meeting.

Local Board of Health

Commissioner Hier convened the meeting of the Local Board of Health with County Health Administrator Ray Finley present. Finley presented the annual contracts for Health Services with no changes from the prior year.

Commissioner Allen moved to re-appoint Dr. Dianna Katt as the County Health Officer and Medical Director at a rate of \$75 per month, and re-appoint Audra Bayless as Pharmacist-in-charge; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners signed the contracts.

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Commissioner Hier closed the annual meeting of the Local Board of Health.

Reorganization

Commissioner Allen moved to appoint Commissioner Hier as Board Chairman; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to appoint Commissioner Allen as Board Vice-Chairman; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to appoint Stockgrowers State Bank as the depository bank for active accounts for 2023; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to designate the Wabaunsee County Signal Enterprise as the Official County Paper for 2023; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to appoint Dr Alan Martinez County Coroner for 2023; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to appoint Amy Terrapin Emergency Management Coordinator for 2023; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to appoint Noel Sylvester as Zoning Administrator, Flood Plain Manager and Sanitarian for 2023; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to approve a \$50 per diem for IRS qualifying events; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to approve the mileage reimbursement at the IRS rate of ^{\$065.5}~~\$0.625~~ per mile; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners discussed covid leave and decided not to extend the policy for 2023.

Commissioner Allen moved to approve the 2023 Sheriff Fee Schedule and adopt Resolution 2023-06 a resolution formalizing inmate costs for Department of Corrections inmates at \$50 per day; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to appoint Commissioner MacGregor as the voting member representing Wabaunsee County on the Flint Hills Regional Council; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

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Commissioner Hier moved to designate the following 2023 holidays; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

New Year's Day	Monday, January 2, 2023
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 16, 2023
President's Day	Monday, February 20, 2023
Memorial Day	Monday, May 29, 2023
Independence Day	Tuesday, July 4, 2023
Labor Day	Monday, September 4, 2023
Veterans Day	Friday, November 10, 2023
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 23, 2023
Thanksgiving	Friday, November 24, 2023
Christmas Day	Monday, December 25, 2023
Christmas	Tuesday, December 26, 2023
Discretionary Day	Day of Employee Choice

Commissioners agreed to schedule an In-service Day on Monday, October 9, 2023; offices will be closed to the public that day while employees receive additional training.

Commissioner Hier moved to keep the courthouse open to the public until noon on Friday, December 29th, closed for the remainder of the day to finish year end procedures and closed Monday, January 1, 2024 for the New Year's Day Holiday; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session

At 10:38 AM Commissioner Hier moved to enter Executive Session to discuss non-elected personnel, reviewing the applicants for the Economic Development position for 10 minutes; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At 10:48 AM Commissioners returned from Executive Session; interviews will be scheduled with two of the applicants.

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Other Business

Commissioners reviewed and approved wage change forms and expenses for December 15, 2022 – January 4, 2023. Chairman Hier reviewed and signed Daily Statements for December 16, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 30, 2022; January 3 and 4, 2023. Commissioners reviewed and signed Tax Abatement #2021-AB25 for \$76.22; 2022-AB13 for \$88.84; 2022-AB14 for \$59.52; 2022-AB15 for \$21.38; 2022-AB16 for \$101.90; 2022-AB17 for \$75.54; 2022-AB18 for \$101.70 and Added Taxes 2022-15 in the amount of \$312.30; and 2022-16 in the amount of \$182.20.

The Courthouse will be closed Monday, January 16th in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

At 11:00 AM Commissioner Allen moved to adjourn until Monday, January 23rd at 9:00 AM; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes approved this 23rd day of January 2023.


Nancy Hier, Chairman


Rodney Allen, Vice Chairman


James W. MacGregor, Commissioner

Attest:



Abby L. Amick
Wabaunsee County Clerk

