

Wabaunsee County Commission
Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS
Regular Meeting Minutes June 20, 2022

The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday, June 20, 2022. Commissioners conduct the meeting in person and over ZOOM. Members attending were Joel S. Fager, Nancy L. Hier and Rodney L. Allen. Commissioner Fager called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush, Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester and County Clerk Abby Amick were in attendance in person, others joined via zoom.

Road & Bridge

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush provided a draft of a Board Order to vacate Hewes Drive outside of Maple Hill, the hearing is scheduled for June 27th. Bush provided a draft Resolution restricting the usage of Snokomo Road by Commercial Vehicles having gross weight rating (GVWR) in excess of 33,000 from the City of Paxico to the Interstate. Commissioners will consider the resolution and discuss at the next meeting.

Bush reported that in working with Senator Moran's Office to pursue federal funding for the Belvue Bridge Project, they have been told that the funding source is quite competitive and asked if the counties would consider any additional match. Bush provided estimates of what additional match would be for Wabaunsee County. Commissioners agreed to provide their share of up to a 40% match. Later in the meeting Bush received an update from Pottawatomie County, stating that they had approved a 35% match. Wabaunsee County Commissioners agreed. The estimated project cost is \$9,175,829; Wabaunsee County's share is 12% of the 35% match estimated to be \$385,385.

Bush reported that adding chips to the Old K-10 road surface and working them in with the roller has helped stabilize the chip seal. If the surface begins leaching again, additional chips may need to be added. As a reminder, the speed limit is 45 mile per hour, at that rate of speed there is minimal disturbance to the loose chips limiting damage to vehicles.

Bush recommended that the county use existing impact fees from quarry operations to pay for the engineering study to be done in the City of Paxico. Commissioners agreed.

Planning & Zoning

Planning & Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester reviewed the actions of the Planning Commission from Thursday, June 16th. The Planning Commission approved two variances for new construction, one at Lake Wabaunsee and one on Snokomo Frontage Road. The Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit for Defense Midwest LLC, the hearing will come before the County Commission on July 11th. The Planning Commission had a discussion regarding commercial solar farm development regulations. There was a large group in attendance and a lot of discussion, the Planning Commission would like to hold townhall meetings in regard to the pros and cons.

Sewer District #1

Sylvester reported that the recent compliance review for the Sewer District #1 Lagoons requires a response back by the end of the month. The lagoons are in compliance, so there are no major concerns. The recommendations are to cut weeds closer to water level, maintain 3 feet of water in each pond, duck weed control and the depth markers need moved to center or removed all together.

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Sylvester will work with the Noxious Weed Department and Road & Bridge to take immediate action on the Duck Weed control.

Other Business

Accountant Randy Gassmann met with the Commissioners to discuss the 2023 Budget process, no draft was available.

County Treasurer Karen Callaway reported that she had recently been notified that the Disabled Veterans license plates will no longer automatically qualify a vehicle for handicap parking. Starting on July 1 Disabled Veterans will have to recertify, requiring additional verifications. Callaway will be working to notify local disabled veterans of the change and encourage them to start the process on recertifying prior to their tag renewal.

Commissioner Fager reported that the EMR class had 7 complete the classroom portion and all 7 have officially passed their practicum. There were participants from Maple Hill, Eskridge, Lake Wabaunsee and Harveyville.

Clerk Abby Amick presented estimates for a new copier/printer/scanner to be used by Transportation, Elections and the Clerk's Office. The lowest quote was from NCS at \$6,866; the copier will be paid partially from Transportation Grant funds and the remainder from the Clerk Technology Fund. Commissioners agreed.

Commissioners received notification that the Sump Barn had been accepted and listed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 19, 2022. Commissioners received an invitation to the Fire District #5 Independence Day Celebration ending with a fireworks display on July 3rd at Lake Wabaunsee.

Commissioner Hier moved to approve application for a Cereal Malt Beverage Permit for the Plaza of the Flint Hills at 32691 K-99 Highway, Alma submitted by Thane Brethour; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Fager moved to approve the 3 year contract renewal for coroner services and autopsies with Forensic Medical Management Services, PLC and Dr Alan Martinez; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.


Commissioner Hier moved to approve the minutes of the June 13th Commission Meeting; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners reviewed and approved expenses for June 8 - 15, 2022 and Wage Change Forms. Chairman Fager reviewed and signed Daily Statements from June 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 16, 2022.

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At 10:37 AM Commissioner Fager moved to adjourn until Monday, June 27th at 9:00 AM;
Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes approved this 27th day of June 2022.



Joel S. Fager, Chairman



Nancy L. Hier, Vice Chair



Rodney L. Allen, Member

Attest:




Abby L. Amick
Wabaunsee County Clerk