

Wabaunsee County Commission

Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS

Regular Meeting Minutes March 13, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday, March 13, 2023. Commissioners conduct the meeting in person and over ZOOM. Members attending were Nancy L. Hier, Jim MacGregor and Rodney L. Allen. Commissioner Hier called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush, Assistant Supervisor Josh Hinch, Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin, members of the public Joe and Carla Kormanik, Dennis Buchman, Sheriff Rob Hoskins, Deputy County Clerk Alissa Barber and County Attorney Tim Liesmann were in attendance in person, others joined via zoom.

Road & Bridge Update

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush reported that he has been working with contractors to re-evaluate Old K-10 Road and take some corrective actions this summer, possibly in June. Bush and Hinch attended a meeting regarding the Belvue Bridge project. The project is now waiting on KDOT to establish the project in their system. Bush has been working on the culvert inventory, identifying condition and estimated lifespan. There are 34 culverts in the southeast area of the county that are in need of replacement or removal. There are roads that have multiple culverts that need attention and may become candidates for removal and closing the road. KDOT is hosting a meeting this week regarding the bridge over I-70 north of McFarland. Hinch reported that he is looking for a replacement semi.

9:40 AM Commissioner Hier moved to enter executive session for 10 minutes to discuss wages for non-elected personnel with Thayne Bush; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

9:50 AM Commissioners returned from Executive Session. No action was taken.

Core Community of Alta Vista

Community Liaison Directors Joe and Carla Kormanik introduced the services that Core Community provides local residents, helping families to get out of poverty. Kormanik provided statistics regarding poverty, stating that in 2021 Wabaunsee County had 31.74% of children participating in free and reduced lunch programs. In 2020 23.8% of Alta Vista households were at or below the poverty level. There have been numerous successes reported across the state from families who participate in Community Core programs. Commissioners complimented the Kormaniks on brining the program to Wabaunsee County.

Emergency Management

Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin distributed the Fire District Map to the Commissioners. The biggest concern on the horizon is the closure of K-177 for construction this year. During that time, Geary County will dispatch mutual aid and cover any fires that they can access.

Public Comment

Dennis Buchman from Alta Vista reported that his business had been broken into resulting theft of a vehicle and a substantial amount of tools and equipment. Buchman requested additional law enforcement presence in Alta Vista. Undersheriff Kirsch committed to additional patrol in the area.

E-Building Landscaping

Extension Program Assistant Stephanie Maiké and Amy Terrapin asked about the status of gravel along the west side of the E-Building. Wabaunsee FFA students are available to assist with landscaping the front of the building, and would like to coordinate the whole project for one installation. Commissioners recognized that the building is multi-use and the grounds maintenance are the responsibility of the county fund for maintenance, not the individual departments.

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Executive Session

10:20 AM Commissioner Hier moved to enter executive session for 25 minutes to discuss wages for non-elected personnel with Stephanie Imthurn; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

10:45 AM Commissioners returned from Executive Session. No action was taken.

Other Business

County Attorney Tim Liesmann presented the updated contract regarding the sale of the Historic Tax Credits from the courthouse improvement project in 2020. Commissioner Hier signed the contract.

Commissioner MacGregor reported that there is another broadband opportunity opening up for application in the next few weeks. Letters are going out to all of the residents in the proposed coverage area, requesting support for the application.

Commissioner Hier moved to approve the minutes of the February 27th Commission Meeting; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Allen moved to approve the minutes of the March 6th Commission Meeting; Commissioner Hier seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

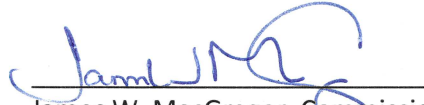
Chairman Hier reviewed and signed Daily Statements for March 3, 6, 7, 8 & 9, 2023.

At 11:18 AM Commissioner Hier moved to adjourn until Monday, March 20th at 9:00 AM; Commissioner MacGregor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes approved this 20th day of March 2023.


Nancy Hier, Chairman


Rodney Allen, Vice Chairman


James W. MacGregor, Commissioner

Attest:



Abby L. Amick
Wabaunsee County Clerk

