

# Wabaunsee County Commission

## Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS

### Regular Meeting Minutes March 14, 2022

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The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday, March 14, 2022. Commissioners conduct the meeting in person and over ZOOM. Members attending were Joel S. Fager, Rodney L. Allen and Nancy L. Hier. Commissioner Fager called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Health Department Administrator Ray Finley, Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush, Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester, Health Department Administrative Assistant Paula Soldan, Sheriff Rob Hoskins, Deputy Ralph Dunn, Deputy County Clerk Juanita Hedges, Kathleen Feyh Hall, Stephanie Maike, County Clerk Abby Amick and County Attorney Tim Liesmann were in attendance in person and others joined via zoom.

#### **Years of Service Awards**

Commissioner Fager presented Years of Service Awards to county employees. Each year the Kansas Association of Counties recognizes county employees and elected officials for their years of service. Hundreds of employees are recognized annually. Awards are given for the completion of 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 44 and 48 years of service. Certificates and pins were presented to Deputy Sheriff Ralph Dunn, 8 years; Sheriff Rob Hoskins, 16 years; Health Department Administrative Assistant Paula Soldan, 16 years; and Deputy County Clerk Juanita Hedges, 24 years. Commissioners shared their appreciation for each of the recipients' dedication to public service.

#### **Health Department**

Health Department Administrator Ray Finley reported 2 active Covid cases, 0 hospitalizations and 22 deaths since March of 2020.

#### **Road & Bridge**

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush presented a project agreement for the Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program project, Bridge 45 on Boothill Road. Commissioners signed the agreement. Commissioner Hier reported that the right-of-way has been secured for the bridge project east of Maple Hill on Willard Road.

Commissioner Hier moved to approve the Utility Request and Petition from OKTEX Utility to move a fiber optic line along Willard Road, Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion Carried 3-0.

Bush announced that the County had just been awarded another grant from KDOT for High Risk Rural Roads (HRRR). The \$288,000 grant will assist with work on Mission Valley Road. Bush requested to start the bid process for chip seal on Carlson Road, Keene Eskridge Road and Miller Road for 2022. Commissioners asked about the performance of the new section of Old K-10 Road. Bush will continue to evaluate the base of the road and plans to do an overlay in the future to smooth out the road surface.

#### **K-State Research & Extension**

FACS Agent Bernadette Trieb and Agriculture Agent Shannon Spencer joined in person. Trieb introduced Spencer as the new Ag Agent for Wabaunsee County. Spencer started on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Trieb presented the commissioners with an estimate for signage on the exterior of the E-Building.

#### **Conditional Use Permit Hearing**

At 10:00 AM Commissioner Fager opened the Conditional Use Permit Hearing. Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester presented CUP #25 a renewal for establishing rental house, the permit passed the Planning Commission unanimously.

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Commissioner Fager moved to adopt Resolution 2022-13 a renewal of Resolution 2019-32 establishing a short-term rental business filed by Patty Reece agent for The Volland Foundation for houses at 24192 Volland Rd and 24134B Volland Rd; Commissioner Hier seconded. Motion Carried 3-0.

Sylvester presented CUP #26 and #27 for establishing daycares, the permits each passed the Planning Commission unanimously.

Commissioner Hier moved to adopt Resolution 2022-14 a resolution establishing a daycare at 208 Main St, McFarland, KS filed by Kathleen Feyh Hall; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion Carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hier moved to adopt Resolution 2022-15 a resolution establishing a daycare at 322 Main St, Paxico, KS filed by Kathleen Feyh Hall; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion Carried 3-0.

Commissioner Fager closed the Hearing at 10:08 AM.

**Economic Development**

Economic Development Director Jim MacGregor announced that Wabaunsee County has been awarded a Tourism Marketing Grant from the Department of Tourism to support a tourism focused website. The grant funds will be used to develop photo and video content in addition to the website.

MacGregor reported that the Broadband grant application has received some letters of support as well as one challenge from Centurylink claiming to already provide service in the area identified in the grant request.

Commissioners discussed the Rural Housing Incentive District being pursued by the City of Alma.



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**Other Business**

Commissioners received a letter from the Kansas State Treasurer listing people with unclaimed property who have local addresses. County Treasurer Karen Callaway reported that her office has flagged each individual in the motor vehicle system so that if they come into any Treasurer's Office in the State they will be notified of their unclaimed property being held by the State Treasurer. Residents can perform a search on the State Treasurer's website: [kansascash.ks.gov](http://kansascash.ks.gov).

Commissioner Hier moved to approve the minutes of the March 7<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners reviewed and approved expenses for March 3 - 9, 2022. Chairman Fager reviewed and signed Daily Statements from March 4, 7, 8 and 9, 2022.

At 10:33 AM Commissioner Allen moved to adjourn until Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 AM. Commissioner Hier seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2022.



Joel S. Fager, Chairman



Nancy L. Hier, Vice Chair



Rodney L. Allen, Member

Attest:



Abby L. Amick  
Wabaunsee County Clerk

