

**Wabaunsee County Commission**  
**Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes May 2, 2022**

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The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday, May 2, 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. Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush, Zoning Administrator Noel Sylvester, Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin, Sheriff Rob Hoskins, Economic Development Director Jim MacGregor, RWD #2 Engineer Greg Dekat, RWD #2 Board Member Bill Havenstein, AMR Regional Director Jon Antrim and AMR EMS Operations Manager Mickey Huber, County Clerk Abby Amick and County Attorney Tim Liesmann were in attendance in person and others joined via zoom.

**Road & Bridge**

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush presented quotes for a replacement Belly Dump Trailer. Bush recommends the lowest quote from Hawk Trailer for \$40,630; other quotes provided were Crossroads Trailer \$44,643 and Wichita Trailer \$51,865. Commissioners agreed. Bush reported that the Hessdale Road project is complete, and the road is open. Bush shared his appreciation for the work of the Bridge Crew, led by Bridge Foreman Darrell Haller. Bush provided before and after photos of the project.

**Emergency Management**

Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin shared her appreciation for Sheriff Hoskins and Major Hamilton during the recent tornado activity. The Sheriff Department was quick to establish incident command and provide a central point for all services and responders to report to. There was activity in multiple locations around the county, but all services were well managed.

Sheriff Hoskins shared his appreciation for the volunteer fire departments, emergency responders, AMR and Terrapin for a quick response and performing searches. There were no injuries reported as a result of the tornados but there was substantial property damage. At one point there were 4 different tornado warnings active in different parts of Wabaunsee County. Terrapin reported that the National Weather Service will be coming to look at the sites effected near Mission Valley.

**AMR Update**

AMR Regional Director Jon Antrim and AMR EMS Operations Manager Mickey Huber provided an update on the Eskridge location. The employees have all been hired and are working through training now. It is important that the AEMTs are clinically competent before being stationed in such a rural area where transport will likely take 40 minutes or more. In the State of Kansas, there have to be 2 certified personnel to operate an ambulance. As soon as the staff and volunteers pass their certifications, the Eskridge station will be manned. EMR (driver) training is scheduled to wrap up at the end of June with 11 in the class. July 1<sup>st</sup> is the anticipated date to begin service out of Eskridge.

**2023 Budget Requests**

District Court Clerk Emma Leuthold presented a budget request of \$89,563; no increase from 2022. Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin presented a budget request of \$66,450; no increase from 2022. County Clerk Abby Amick presented budget requests for Clerk of \$146,300;



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Elections of \$121,500; Allocable of \$35,500; and 911 Coordinating of \$110,000; all with no increase from 2022.

**Economic Development**

Economic Development Director Jim MacGregor presented a request for external lighting on the E-Building to assist with security and improve access to the meeting room entrance at night. The meeting space is regularly used for evening meetings. The cost of the project is \$1,300; Commissioners agreed.

MacGregor reported that the American Rescue Plan Committee had recently met. The Committee recommends funding for RWD #1 of \$75,000 and RWD #2 of \$180,000 – each of these appropriations are about 75% of the project cost. In total these improvements will allow for 30 additional homes to be added to the Rural Water District systems (existing or new construction). The Committee also recommends setting aside \$285,000 to be used for future Broadband Grant Match Dollars. All three projects will be revisited at the end of 2022 to determine if the money needs to be reallocated (if not yet spent). The Committee also heard requests for premium pay/bonuses and assistance for the Alma Sr Homes. The committee did not select these requests for funding. Sheriff Hoskins asked that the Commissioners reconsider the opportunity for premium pay/bonuses to Sheriff Department employees. Commissioners shared their appreciation for the Sheriff Department staff and understands the challenges of the current labor market, but did not support using the ARP funding for one time payments to employees. Commissioners agreed to recommendations as presented by the ARP Committee.

At 10:08 AM Commissioner Fager moved to enter Executive Session for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel and future employment; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

At 10:13 AM Commissioners returned from Executive Session, no action was taken.

**Sheriff Department Retirement Ceremony**

Sheriff Rob Hoskins presented retiring Major Sam Hamilton with his Deputy Badge secured to a plaque and performed a transfer of weapon for his firearm. Hamilton has been a dedicated employee since October 7, 2010. His years of service include the Riley County Police Department; Manhattan Fire Department; and the United States Navy where he was among those deployed to the Middle East during the war on terrorism after 9/11. Hamilton has been a trusted and valuable employee of the Wabaunsee County Sheriff's Office. He has been a leader and present in every major event and many investigations during his tenure. On his very last night of service, he came out to assist when storms that produced tornadoes were passing through the county. His dedication of service to the citizens of Wabaunsee County will be missed and his experience will be hard to replace.

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**Other Business**

Sheriff Hoskins introduced Nick Blake, an officer with the Junction City Police Department. Wabaunsee County has an agreement with Junction City for Blake to assist with interdiction. Blake's salary is paid by the Department of Homeland Security, he has been deputized with the Wabaunsee County Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Fager moved to adopt the Title VI Program Policy for Public Transportation; Commissioner Hier seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Fager moved to adopt Resolution 2022-17 a Resolution Formalizing Inmate Costs for Department of Corrections Inmates at \$45 per day; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Fager moved to approve the minutes of the April 25<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners reviewed and approved expenses for April 21-27, 2022. Chairman Fager reviewed and signed Daily Statements from April 22, 25, 26, 27 and 28, 2022.



At 11:02 AM Commissioner Hier moved to adjourn until Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM; Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022.

Attest:



  
Abby L. Amick  
Wabaunsee County Clerk

absent  
Joel S. Fager, Chairman  
  
Nancy L. Hier, Vice Chair  
  
Rodney L. Allen, Member