Wabaunsee County Commission Wabaunsee County Courthouse, Alma, KS Regular Meeting Minutes November 01, 2021

The Board of County Commissioners meeting in session Monday, November 01, 2021. In compliance with the CDC guidelines to maintain social distancing Commissioners conduct and record the meeting over ZOOM. Members attending were Joel S. Fager and Rodney L. Allen. Nancy L. Hier was absent. Commissioner Fager called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin, Extension Agent Bernadette Trieb, Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush, County Clerk Abby Amick and Economic Development Director Jim MacGregor were in attendance in person and others joined via zoom.

Road & Bridge Update

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thayne Bush reported that road striping is complete for this year. The Skyline Road project is working on soil erosion control, there will be traffic control in the area while they are working. Old K-10 isn't as smooth as expected. The Contractor is coming to investigate what caused the inconsistency.

E-Building Update

Extension Agent Bernadette Trieb, Emergency Management Coordinator Amy Terrapin and Economic Development Director Jim MacGregor asked for the Commissioners approval on naming the office building the "The Wabaunsee County E-Building"; Commissioners agreed. Discussion was had regarding signage, lighting on the outside of the building, security alarms and cameras, and light fixtures inside the building. Commissioners indicated that they would like to revisit the memorandum of understanding on the building and discuss at a later date.

Trieb reported that the Ag Agent position is open through November 10th, the Extension Council is scheduled to conduct interviews on December 7th with a start date in January 2022.

Commissioner Fager asked if the Emergency Management Generator has been hooked up, Terrapin reported that it has not. The City of Alma and Whitaker Plumbing are working together to get the gas line run to the generator, and then it should be functional.

Economic Development

Economic Development Director Jim MacGregor provided an update on the American Rescue Plan funding guidelines. Congress is considering legislation that would relax the restrictions on the funding, the local committee would like to pause their work until the guidelines are well defined. The Committee is recommending the purchase of a tire machine and a mobile welder for Road & Bridge as a work efficiency and work safety improvement from the lost revenue category.

Commissioner Allen moved to approve the recommendation from the American Rescue Plan committee to purchase a tire machine and mobile welder in the amount of \$23,754.00; Commissioner Fager seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

MacGregor outlined the importance of planning for the future, projecting the future cost of operations for the county, and having a deliberate plan for development to achieve the revenue streams necessary to sustain and improve our current services. The Comprehensive Plan is only a starting point, the real work is in carrying out the plan.

Other Business

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Commissioner Fager moved to approve the minutes of the October 25th Commission Meeting, Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioners reviewed and approved expenses for October 21– October 27, 2021.

Daily Statements were reviewed and signed by Chairman Fager for the dates of October 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25 and 26, 2021.

At 9:50 AM Commissioner Allen moved to adjourn until Monday, November 8th at 9:00 AM. Commissioner Fager seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

Minutes approved this 8th day of November 2021.

Joel S. Fager, Chairman

Nancy L. Hier, Vice-Chairman

Rodney L. Allen, Member

Attest:

Abby L. Amick

Wabaunsee County Clerk