

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE GEARY COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
May 1, 2023

Commissioners Present: Keith Ascher (arrived at the meeting at 12:06 p.m.), Trish Giordano, and Alex Tyson

Others present: Therese Hoff, Deputy County Clerk and Betsy Edwards, County Counselor

Vice-Chairman Tyson called the County Commission meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Giordano moved to amend the agenda to add an executive session at the end of the day for 15 minutes. to discuss non-elected personnel; Commissioner Tyson seconded and both voted aye.

The commission held their review and update:

- Commissioner Giordano stated the commission needed to speak to the Zoning Director about the 1000 feet for property owners to be notified if something is being done in the area and about emailing the commission about different things going on with the MPC, so they know, in case the public contacts them.
- Commissioner Giordano stated she had been contacted by Pawnee Mental Health to proclaim May, 2023 as Mental Health month. She read a proclamation. **Commissioner Giordano moved to approve the proclamation, making May Mental Health month; Commissioner Tyson seconded, and both voted aye.**
- Commissioner Tyson said there was a downtown cleanup on Saturday afternoon.
- Commissioner Tyson talked about the Black History Trail activities held on Saturday. There will be 7 different sites, maybe more on the trail. Commissioner Tyson said the county and the city could work on developing this trail and maintaining it.

Tami Robison, Financial Director arrived at the meeting.

Crystal Malchose, Human Resources Director arrived at the meeting to give the weekly report:

- Discussed changes to Policy #50.33, which was effective June 1, 2022, but there are a few changes that need to be made. All regular full-time County personnel who work in environments that require safety apparel and equipment that are required by state or federal law will have such items provided by the department. This equipment includes but is not limited to safety vests, gloves, and glasses that will be used in accordance with all applicable regulations. The County will provide additional allowance for long sleeve shirts for application of chemical and bulking of paint for HHW. Employees required to wear logoed items will have the items provided to them. The items remain county property and may be required to be surrendered upon termination. The annual allowance for each category is: Logoed safety items (shirts, vests, inc.), jeans, shirts & boots up to \$300.00 a year, prescription safety glasses-\$150.00 a year These annual allowances do not carry from year to year. Any amounts not used, are forfeit at the end of the year. Requests for reimbursement of authorized expenses are dispersed as part of the bi-weekly payroll. All reimbursement requests must be submitted to his/her direct supervisor for approval and submitted to A/P no later than November 15 of each year. While the county will cover the costs of approved items up to the maximum amount, it is important to note these are considered "taxable fringe". This means the value of the item is added to the employees' checks, taxes are figured, then the

value is deducted. Therefore, the employee will see an increase in withholding. Policy No 50.34- when the employee is required to wear a uniform in the performance of their duties, such as in law enforcement, Geary County provides the uniform to eligible individuals, and shall pay the employee an allowance to cover reasonable cleaning expenses incurred by the employee in the maintenance of the uniform. Deputy Sheriffs and Corrections Officers will receive a uniform allowance of \$15 on each paycheck. An employee must physically work forty or more hours in a pay period to be eligible to receive the uniform allowance. Employees are responsible for ensuring the uniform allowance is properly applied to their pay. The county will not repay any uniform allowance missed that is older than 3 months. Deputy Sheriffs may receive an annual footwear reimbursement of up to \$260, corrections officers of the sheriff department may receive an annual footwear reimbursement of \$65, VIN Inspectors and administrative and/or clerical employees, as designated by the Sheriff, may receive an annual footwear reimbursement of \$100. Footwear may be purchased at any time during the year. The employee may purchase the footwear from a vendor of their choosing and then submit the original receipt and present the items to the Department Head for inspection and approval. The receipt must then be forwarded to Human Resources for reimbursement processing. Requests for reimbursement of authorized expenses are dispersed as part of the bi-weekly payroll. All reimbursement requests must be submitted to the Department Head for approval and submitted to HR for review and approval no later than November 15 of each year. **Commissioner Giordano moved to approve the changes to Policy #50.33 and #50.34; Commissioner Tyson seconded, and both voted aye.**

- Stated KP&F did a temporary change- an employee covered by KP&F may choose to work 5 years after being eligible for retirement. The money would be put in a separate fund for the employee.

Tami Robison, Financial Officer presented the weekly report:

- Reported CIC is here, and training will be going on for two weeks.
- Reported she worked on budgets this weekend; a few departments still need to turn their paperwork in to her.
- Discussed since the County Clerk has retired, and was a signer at the bank, there needs to be paperwork submitted to have her name taken off the account.
- Presented a CIP funding authorization form for the new vehicle for Emergency Mgmt.- ½ out of CIP, ½ out of the Rural Fire budget.

Commissioner Giordano stated the Junction City Daily Union might cease operation. She asked what happens if there is no paper with all the legal publications the County is required to do. Counselor Edwards said the county would have to designate a newspaper as the official county newspaper for legal publications. Ms. Robison and Ms. Malchose left the meeting.

Deputy County Clerk Hoff stated the Community Corrections Director got her quarterly reports sent on Friday.

Garry Berges, Emergency Management Director/Rural Fire Chief and Curt Janke, Assistant EM/Rural Fire arrived at the meeting and gave his monthly report:

- Presented a video, made by a citizen of the big fire south of Lyons Creek on Highway 77.
- Reported fires year to date: 60, there was 65 last year, 34 calls in the month of April, and 3 mutual aid responses. Mr. Berges said he has received lots of help, at one time there were 18 trucks. Mr. Berges said out of the 70 volunteer firefighters, 43 worked on calls this month, 834 hours in April. Usually in a year there is 600 responses. Mr. Berges stated they brought in a water tanker to drop

water on the large fires. Mr. Berges said he lost two pump motors, but he had an extra one, but had to go pick up a new one for \$5100.00. Other damage to the trucks- a blown tire, lost a section of booster hose, and a radiator. He said the fuel bill will be large this month. Mr. Berges said he appreciates the county shop, they used their low boy and took a truck to Salina for repairs, saving him the cost of a wrecker.

- Mr. Berges said the open house for the Rural Fire Station was well attended.
- Reported the risk management meeting will be next Wednesday.
- Presented a spreadsheet with the extra hours he and Mr. Janke worked for the month of April.
- Bids last week for the insulation- H&H \$22,905.00, Wet Paint Productions-\$23,383.57, a \$478.07 difference. Mr. Berges recommends the local business-Wet Paint Productions. **Commissioner Giordano moved to accept the local bid from Wet Paint; Commissioner Tyson seconded and both voted aye.** Commissioner Giordano will talk to the Finance Director to get something put into the county's purchasing policy about using a local bidder, even if it is a little higher. The insulation project will be taken out of the CIP fund.
- Mr. Janke said most of repairs to the Fire Trucks were done by local volunteers. There was a lot of money saved by using local help. Mr. Berges and Mr. Janke left the meeting.

Corey Trumpp, Public Works Director and Jeremie Meyers, Assistant Public Works Director arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Trumpp gave the bi-weekly report:

- Discussed the yearly preventative maintenance contracts from Thermal Comfort Air for the various county buildings. Cloud County Community College-\$3,182.00, Geary County Detention Center-\$7,144.00, Geary County Courthouse-\$7,200.00, Health Department, Extension Office, Pennell Building, Office Building 4-H Senior Citizens Center, Annex Building, Public Works Offices and shops, Transfer Station and Emergency Management-\$7,323.00 All the buildings are at the same yearly costs, hourly discounted labor rate increased from \$70.00 to \$73.00. Mr. Trumpp recommends approval and to allow him to sign the contracts. **Commissioner Giordano moved to approve the pm contracts with Thermal Comfort Air; Commissioner Tyson seconded and both voted aye.**
- Presented KDOT KA 6062-01 project agreement for approval. This agreement is between the Secretary of Transportation of the State of Kansas, KDOT and Geary County. The secretary desires to close all or part of Highway I-70 to construct KDOT Project No. 70-31 KS-6062-01. To build the project, the Secretary will detour ramp traffic from the state route through an official state route detour or will carry traffic through the state route. In Lieu of the state detour, the state route traffic will use multiple routes on the LPA (Local Public Authority)-Cannon View Road from East Flint Hills Blvd to Henry Drive with .30 mile of county responsibility excluding that portion within the city limits of Grandview Plaza. KDOT will place an overlay on Canon View Drive to compensate for the use of Canon View Drive during the project. KDOT will place centerline and edge line pavement markings prior to use of the route. Mr. Trumpp recommends approval of this agreement. **Commission Giordano moved to approve KDOT KA 6062-01; Commissioner Tyson seconded and both voted aye.**
- Stated Geary County was not selected for the 2023 BASE Grant.
- Discussed the projects Public Works has completed and presented pictures.
- Stated the 2023 Kansas County Highway Officials annual spring conference and exhibition will be held on Tuesday, May 16 and Wednesday, May 17 at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Manhattan, KS. Mr. Trumpp, Mr. Meyers and Dale Evans will be attending.

- Stated the sub-contractor-T&M Concrete for the C 4953-01 Conroe Bridge Project has started bracing the abutments on Wednesday, April 26.
- Discussed the Senior Citizens Center parking lot striping. He got bids from two companies- Morgan Painting-\$3,435.00 and The Parking Lot Guys-\$2,873.35, no bid was received from B-line striping. Mr. Trumpp recommends the local bid from Morgan Painting for \$3,435.00,
- Discussed the MC-800 chipseal oil quotes for: Lyons Creek Rd. East & West/Clarks Creek Rd. between I-70 & K-57-total of 14.5 miles-estimated 72,000 gallons. Asphalt Fuel Supply \$3.00 a gallon, Vance Brothers \$3.27 per gallon, APAC \$3.34 a gallon and Ergot \$3.55 a gallon. Mr. Trumpp recommends the quote from Asphalt Fuel Supply for \$3.00 a gallon. **Commissioner Giordano moved to approve the bid from Asphalt Fuel Supply for chipseal oil; Commissioner Tyson seconded and both voted aye.**
- Discussed the old rural fire station at Laurel Canyon. Mr. Trumpp has asked Mr. Berges if the old building could be utilized for Water #2-3-Sewer#4 storage.
- Reported the asbestos remediation in the Pennell Building has been completed in the main hallway and all of the offices on the south side. Kaiser Flooring is in the early stages of leveling areas in the hallway, then waterproofing the concrete, and then will start laying new flooring.
- Reported the interior flooring has been installed in the courthouse security building project. Cheney Construction only has to complete buffing the floors, final paint and final clean. The concrete landings and steps are yet to be coated, install the handrails and seeding of the disturbed lawn.
- Reported the public works crews will address the south lawn of the courthouse landscaping. While working on the landscaping at the courthouse, the trench drain was damaged. There needs to be a new trench drain grate purchased. Mr. Trumpp is going to turn it in to KCAMP insurance.
- Discussed the old annex building sewer service line issues. Sunset Plumbing jetted the main, said the blockage was at the city's sewer main. They got the line open, but there is still a problem. They are going to run a camera in the line to see if they can find the problem.
- Reported the 4-H/girls softball/rodeo/saddle club connection to Rural Water District #1 work has almost been completed by C&K Construction.
- Discussed a designated smoking area by the County Office Building. Mr. Trumpp wanted to know how the commission wanted him to proceed on this project. He asked if they wanted a picnic table and a concrete slab over the green area west of Emergency Management. He will check more into it.
- Mr. Trumpp said the insurance company agreed to go with Interstate Glass for the replacement of the south doors in the County Office Building.
- Reported the Public Works department needed bridge planks. He received a quote from Midwest Service & Supply- 1 bundle is \$4,816.00 (32/bundle at \$150.50 each)
- Discussed the Wildcat Construction haul road request. This is located in the southeastern part of the county. They will work with the county on the use of public roads. KDOT should pay the county for any road damage. Mr. Trumpp and Mr. Meyers left the meeting.

At 11:48 a.m.; Commissioner Giordano moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, to include the County Counselor, Troy Livingston, Zoning/GIS, and Lance Karmann/Sanitarian, to end at 12:03 p.m.: Commissioner Tyson seconded and all voted aye. The meeting reconvened at 12:03 p.m. with no action taken.

Chairman Ascher arrived at the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

The public comment session was held.

Randy and Desree Petra arrived at the meeting.

Desree Petra, citizen, asked if the commission knew anything new about the slaughterhouse. Ms. Petra asked about the meeting with the Fire Department about transfers, and Commissioner Giordano said at last weeks commission meeting, the Fire Department gave a lot of good information. She asked about the water needs for the slaughterhouse, and who would pay for that. Commissioner Giordano said it would be the city's cost, if they annexed the land. Randy and Desree Petra left the meeting.

Commissioner Tyson said the Sanitarian & GIS Zoning need to be in one office but need to be located close to the County Office Building. **Commissioner Tyson moved to re-locate the GIS/Zoning office, and the Office of the Sanitarian to the upper level of the Geary County Office Building at 139 E. 8th Street; Commissioner Giordano seconded, and both voted aye. Chairman Ascher abstained.** Chairman Ascher asked what the Sanitarian will do with his lab, and Mr. Karmann said he wasn't going to move it right away. He might wait until the fall when Public Works would not be so busy.

Therese Hoff, Deputy County Clerk, presented the weekly report:

- Presented Change Orders for approval. **Commissioner Tyson moved to approve Commission Change Orders 2022-323 through 2022-326; Commissioner Giordano seconded and all voted aye.**
- Presented commission for approval. **Commissioner Tyson moved to approve minutes from 04-24-2023; Commissioner Giordano seconded and all voted aye.**

At 1:12 p.m. Commissioner Giordano moved to go into executive session with Counselor Edwards, the Financial Director and the HR Director to discuss non-elected personnel for 10 minutes to end at 1:22 p.m.; Commissioner Tyson seconded and all voted aye. The meeting reconvened at 1:22 p.m. with no action taken.

At 1:27 p.m.; Commissioner Giordano moved to go into executive session with Counselor Edwards, the Financial Director, the HR Director and Deputy County Clerk Hoff to discuss non-elected personnel for 15 minutes to end at 1:42 p.m.; Commissioner Tyson seconded and all voted aye. The meeting reconvened at 1:42 p.m. with no action taken. Ms. Hoff left the meeting.

At 1:42 p.m.; Commissioner Giordano moved to go into executive session with Counselor Edwards, the Financial Director, the HR Director, Tiffany Havener and Jayme Coffey-Clerks Office to discuss non-elected personnel for 10 minutes to end at 1:52 p.m.; Commissioner Tyson seconded and all voted aye. The meeting reconvened at 1:52 p.m. with no action taken. Ms. Havener and Ms. Coffey left the meeting.

At 2:04 p.m.; Commissioner Giordano moved to go into executive session with Counselor Edwards, the Financial Director, and the HR Director to discuss non-elected personnel, for 10 minutes to end at 2:14 p.m.; Commissioner Tyson seconded and all voted aye. At 2:14 p.m.; **Commissioner Giordano moved to extend the executive session for 15 minutes, to end at 2:29 p.m.; Commissioner Tyson seconded and all voted aye.** The meeting reconvened at 2:29 p.m. with no action taken.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Keith Ascher

CHAIRMAN-COUNTY COMMISSION

KEITH ASCHER

Therese Hoff

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

THERESE HOFF

05-08-2023

DATE