

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE GEARY COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
June 21, 2022

Commissioners Present: Keith Ascher, Trish Giordano and Alex Tyson

Others present: Therese Hoff, Deputy County Clerk

Chairman Tyson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The public comment session was held: No one was in attendance to comment.

The commission review and update was held:

- Commissioner Ascher would like to recognize former mayor Mick Wunder, who passed away over the weekend. He will be greatly missed. Prayers and condolences to the family.
- Commissioner Ascher attended a Zoom meeting with the MPO. They are still looking for a director.
- Commissioner Ascher attended a PBC meeting last Thursday. At some point, the PBC will need to be involved with the hospital situation. Commissioner Giordano said it is time to make major decisions regarding the hospital.

Jacque Reisinger, Register of Deeds discussed the employee meetings with the county commissioners. She would like whichever commissioner they meet with, to go back to the other commissioners, and share what was discussed. The feeling is the employees will not speak as freely if the HR Director is present. She doesn't feel the employees will be disrespectful, they know how to be professional. She doesn't want the HR Director to host a meeting, the group just wants to meet with the commissioners. After the meeting with Commissioner Giordano, the commission will discuss what has been brought up in the meetings. The group wants to bring up concerns the employees have to be brought to the commission. Ms. Reisinger left the meeting.

- Commissioner Giordano stated the Chamber is sending out surveys to employers about the need for childcare.
- Commissioner Giordano attended the Juneteenth celebration.
- Commissioner Giordano stated the Food Pantry is in dire need of food donations. They served over 700 people last month.
- Chairman Tyson met with the Emergency food and shelter program dispensed through the United Way. They received another \$34,814.00 grant for the community. The funds were dispensed as the following: **Served meals**-\$15,000.00-Breaking Bread \$5,000.00, Church of the Covenant-\$5,000.00, Live Well GC-\$2,500.00, First Methodist-\$2,500.00. **Food Pantries**-Food Pantry-\$5,000.00, First Methodist-\$2,500.00, **Utilities**-\$9,618.00-Salvation Army-\$6,000.00, JC Naz-\$3,618.00, **Rent**-\$2,000.00-JC Naz-\$2,000.00, **Administrative**- \$696.00-United Way JCGC-\$696.00.

Tami Robison, Finance Officer, presented the weekly report:

- Next Monday, she will come back with the summary of impact of the things that have been presented on the budget, so the commission can determine what their goals will be with the 2023 budget, discuss appropriations, and schedule any additional budget presentations if needed.
- Reported the auditors are here this week.
- Reported she has been working on cash balances for the new budget.

- Reported the Auto Special account is off, she is getting more information on that.
- Reported she has created a journal entry form for all departments to use. The intention of using the form is to ensure there is a tracker for any changes made to the county financials, a record there is approval for it to correct the entry, and it will protect the clerk's office. She also said the auditors test all the journal entries, which this form will make it easier to track.
- Reported the No Fund Warrants were taken out in 2020, but they were not reflected in the audit, she doesn't know why, but it will be corrected for 2021.
- Reported she had conversations with Sheriff Jackson. They will be sitting down with the City of Junction City to discuss the dispatch and what the county is paying. She is also still working on the ambulance budget with the City of Junction City.

The commission approved the vouchers.

Crystal Malchose, Human Resources Director, presented the weekly report:

- Reported the sheriff's office has rehired a retired employee. After he meets, the \$25,000.00 annual pay, the county's share of KPERS for him will be 30%.
- Presented department head time off notifications for signature.
- Asked about a soda machine being put back in the break room. She will look into it.
- Reported the employee task force met for the first-time last week. She thought it went well, and she will be bringing policies to them for review.
- Discussed the employee training to be held on Columbus Day. It was going to be held at the Opera House, but the parking and space was not enough. She has quotes from the Courtyard Convention Center- \$4,500.00, and Acorns Resort-\$5,100.00 which includes all the rooms, lunch, and drinks. Her recommendation is to use the Courtyard Convention Center, it is a lower price, and it is located here in town. The cost is in her training budget.
- Reported open enrollment meetings were held last week. They were well attended. Ms. Malchose left the meeting.

The meeting recessed for lunch from 10:52 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Corey Trumpp, Public Works Administrator and presented the bi-weekly report:

- Discussed the KA-2367-05 Turnback agreement/ Supplemental agreement to approve the correct footage on Hillside Drive. **Commissioner Ascher moved to approve; Commissioner Giordano seconded and all voted aye.**
- Presented the Nextech wireless bridge proposal. Tammy with Twin Valley has the contract with the phone and internet system, the fiber is in place, Mr. Trumpp doesn't know about spending money on the wireless bridge with Nex-Tech, since there is phone and internet with Twin Valley. He needs to sit down with Trent/Nex-Tech and Twin Valley to see how this should be done. Twin Valley would not have a cost, but there will be a cost with Nex-Tech.
- Discussed the sealed bids opened for the Pennell Building Project-Phase 1. The architect and Mr. Trumpp feel the bid is too high, and they want to do more research on it.
- Reported, after consultation with Kaw Valley, they recommended to remove the south sign on Milford Lake Road, so truck traffic can get to I-70. Mr. Trumpp recommended the commission remove the regulatory sign that is for north bound Milford Lake Rd. **Commissioner Giordano moved to remove the regulatory weight limit sign for northbound traffic, just south of I-70, so truck traffic can get on I-70; Commissioner Ascher seconded and all voted aye.**
- Discussed the Road & Bridge/Noxious Weed petty cash fund. Mr. Trumpp would like approval from the commission to dissolve the fund and deposit the cash back into Noxious Weed. The current dollar amount on hand is \$21.66. Road & Bridge balance is .00.

Commissioner Giordano moved to dissolve the Road & Bridge and Noxious Week petty cash funds; Commissioner Ascher seconded and all voted aye.

- Discussed the landfill spring cleanup, Saturday May 12, 2022. 53 loads of trees and brush were received.
- Reported Nelson-Fowles completed the transfer station building repairs from the 12-15-2021 windstorm.
- Discussed on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, right after Waste Management dumped a load of waste on the tipping floor. The HAMM operator noticed a fire that had started in the dumped waste. They immediately spread the load out and soaked it with water. They were able to get it extinguished. Waste Management was notified of this incident, and they found out the cause of the fuel source came from Eagle Railcar. Eagle Railcar discovered that a new employee had put paint thinner in the dumpster which caused this. Waste Management gave them a warning, if this happens again, KDHE will be notified.
- Reported the brick work on the west wall of the Emergency Management building has been finished. The paint removal on the wall is the best they could do. Chairman Tyson asked about putting a mural on the side of the building. There could also be picnic tables for the employees. Mr. Trumpp said the rest of the building needs painted. The commission might check into that.

Crystal Malchose, Human Resources Director arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Trumpp continued with his report:

- Discussed a culvert purchase for the Garranson Road low water crossing. Quotes were received from: Welborn \$4,626.00, JJ Drainage \$4,812.50 and Waters \$8,270.00. Mr. Trumpp recommended to purchase the culvert from the low and best bid from Welborn.
- **At 1:35 p.m.; Commissioner Giordano requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, including Mr. Trumpp and Ms. Malchose, Human Resources Director; to end at 1:45 p.m. Commissioner Ascher seconded and all voted aye.** The meeting reconvened at 1:45 p.m. with no action taken.

Chairman Tyson left the meeting at 1:47 p.m. Mr. Trumpp and Ms. Malchose left the meeting.

Terri Butler arrived at the meeting.

Representatives of the Black History Trail, did not keep their appointment at 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Butler left the meeting.

Allen Dinkel, Junction City Manager, presented a new neighborhood revitalization plan:

- Commissioner Giordano and Commissioner Ascher said the date on the plan is 2021, and they said the new plan could not be backdated. Mr. Dinkel said the changes made by the County Appraiser and the GIS Director were very good, and he agreed with them. Commissioner Giordano said the commission wants County Counselor Edwards to review the latest plan before final approval. Mr. Dinkel stated that was fine with him. Mr. Dinkel left the meeting.

Therese Hoff, Deputy County Clerk, presented Commission Change Orders. **Commissioner Giordano moved to approve Commission Change Orders 2021-408 through 2021-440. Commissioner Ascher seconded, and all voted aye.**

The press conference was held.

The meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

At 2:25 p.m.; Jim Sands, representative of the Black History Trail arrived at the meeting.

The commission went back in session at 2:29 p.m. to hear from Mr. Sands about the Black History trail of Geary County. The purpose of this project is to educate residents and tourists about Geary County's rich Black History. To create public awareness of important people and events in Geary County that shaped Black history. To research specific sites in Geary County that were important in Black history and designating those sites with appropriate signage. To highlight links between Geary County and regional and national Black history. To bring visitors to gather and experience the cultural historical sites and attractions of the Greater Junction City/Geary County areas of Kansas. The mission of the Black History Trail is to provide opportunities and facilities to further interpretation of our local Kansas Black history and culture of our region of Kansas; address the public's knowledge, education, and awareness of Kansas Black history. The objective is to provide learning opportunities for all local and traveling visitors to learn and develop a greater understanding of significance of Black Americans on our great history of Kansas. The project will facilitate sharing of knowledge, bring and retain visitors to our areas, and provide forums for identifying future projects and programs. They could help with signage, plaques, cement work at each site for signage, and markings, lumber, printing, administrative reproduction for signage and marketing the Black History Trail of Geary County. They would like to have opening celebrations at the site dedications. They need permission to place signage at designated locations/sites. They also need funding, which would be a major hand in their success. Mr. Sands said if the commission has any funds available, they take any amount of support. Mr. Sands left the meeting.

Commissioner Giordano moved to approve Resolution 06-21-22, where the Board of County Commissioners, after consultation with the Board of Trustees of Geary Community Hospital, that it is in the best interests of Geary County to continue to provide a hospital with full inpatient services. The Board of County Commissioners has previously disbursed to Geary Community Hospital \$3 Million dollars in ARPA grant funds. The Board of County Commissioners shall support Geary Community Hospital's future as a full-service hospital with Grant Funds from the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund with a payment of \$500,000.00. The total disbursement is \$3.5 million. This payment will come out of the general fund, because the ARPA funds are not here yet. Commissioner Ascher seconded and all voted aye.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.



ALEX TYSON



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8-22-2022

DATE