

COMMISSION MINUTES, December 9, 2013

The Board of County Commission for Washington County met in regular session on Monday, December 9, 2013 in the commission room at the Washington County Courthouse. Members present: Roger Otott, Vice Chairman, 2nd District Commissioner; Gary Ouellette, 3rd District Commissioner; and Denae Dimler, County Clerk. Alison Mueller, 1st District Commissioner, Chairman, was absent.

Next regular meeting will be Monday, December 16, 2013 at 8:30 A.M.

Vice-Chairman Otott called the meeting to order.

The Board spoke to Kevin Suelter, KDOR Public Utility Supervisor, regarding values of cell phone towers. Kevin stated that cell phone towers are not a public utility. Cell phone towers are assessed by the County Appraiser and the values are certified to the County Clerk to be put on the tax roll. After 2006, new cell phone towers are tax-exempt. Denae Dimler, County Clerk, stated that the County Appraiser had not certified any values to her office. The Board then asked Francine Crome, County Appraiser, to join the meeting. Francine said that all cell phone towers in Washington County were installed after 2006 and therefore the County does not collect taxes on any of the towers in the County.

Denae was joined by Sheila Ouellette, Communications Director, and Janice Kearn, County Health Administrator, to discuss medical insurance for County employees. Denae informed the Board that starting in 2015, employees who work an average of 30 or more hours per week are considered full-time under the new Healthcare Reform Act. At that time, the health insurance premium would need to be paid in full for all employees who work an average of 30 hours a week or more since the County currently pays the full premium for all employees who work 40 hours a week. Denae also indicated that it was recommended by the insurance consultants to not offer insurance to an employee who does not work an average of 30 or more hours per week starting in 2015. Sheila and Janice asked the Board if they would consider implementing that regulation in 2014 rather than waiting until 2015. Commissioner Ouellette made a motion to start paying the full premium in January 2014 for those employees who average 30 or more hours per week. Beginning January 2015, employees who do not average 30 or more hours per week will no longer be eligible for County health insurance. Commissioner Otott seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Sheila said there are currently 5 Washington County and 1 Marshall County inmates in the jail.

Denae presented bills and payroll totaling \$140,097.21. Commissioner Ouellette made a motion to accept the amended 2013 Highland Township Budget. Commissioner Otott seconded the motion. Motion passed. Denae informed the Board they are invited to a meeting in Concordia, Monday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the American Legion to discuss transmission lines in the North Central Kansas region. Denae presented change orders 2013-20, 2013-21, 2013-22, and 2013-25 which the Board signed.

David Willbrant, Public Works Administrator, presented weekly work report. Commissioner Otott made a motion to sign a Utility Occupancy Agreement Form with Bluestem Electric Co-Op for improvements of a portion of 2D Road between Jade and King Roads. Commissioner Ouellette seconded the motion. Motion passed. David submitted verbal quotes for fuel. Commissioner Ouellette made a motion to accept quote from Kramer Oil. Commissioner Otott seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Duane Bruna, Environmental Science Director, presented weekly work report.

Shelley Carver, Flint Hills Regional Council, gave a presentation on Flint Hills Frontiers which is a program that offers communities, in the Flint Hills Region, solutions to face challenges of the future. Washington County is one of nineteen counties in the Flint Hills Region. Shelley presented copies of a memo of understanding between Washington County and the Frontiers Regional Planning Project for the Board to consider in becoming members of the project.

Ed Henry, Twin Valley Developmental Services Inc., presented a bill for the month of November for medical trips for Washington County residents. The County entered into an agreement beginning October 31st with Twin Valley to provide transportation for medical purposes for County residents for 6 months to be evaluated every month. For the month of November, there were 14 trips at a cost of \$1,821.25 to the County. Commissioner Ouellette made a motion to pay the bill but asked Ed to re-evaluate what he charges the passengers and suggested charging a rate per mile and to bring that along with his bill next month. Commissioner Otott seconded the motion. Motion passed.

COMMISSION MINUTES, December 9, 2013

Larry Bruna, Hutton Construction, told the Board that there is still some dirt work to finish at the hospital project and they hope to start on concrete work next Monday. Vice-Chairman Otott signed a form of certificate for payment of project costs requesting Security Bank pay Hutton Construction \$13,049.08.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

BOARD OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

(SEAL)

Alison Mueller, Chairman, 1st District Commissioner

Roger Otott, Vice Chairman, 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

Dena Dimler, County Clerk

Gary Ouellette, 3rd District Commissioner