

COMMISSION MINUTES, June 23, 2014

The Board of County Commission for Washington County met in regular session on Monday, June 23, 2014 in the commission room at the Washington County Courthouse. Members present: Alison Mueller, 1st District Commissioner, Chairman; Roger Otott, Vice Chairman, 2nd District Commissioner; and Gary Ouellette, 3rd District Commissioner. Denae Dimler, County Clerk, was present to record meeting minutes.

Next regular meeting will be Monday, June 30, 2014 at 8:30 A.M.

Chairman Mueller called the meeting to order.

Dimler introduced Kylie Fritschi as the new Elections Clerk. Dimler presented payroll and bills totaling \$339,124.77. Dimler reported that the State assessed values were received last week. Overall, the County will lose \$1,904,566 in utility values. Most of this decrease comes from Kansas Gas Service in the amount of \$876,951. This decrease will affect 23 tax units within the County. However, the real estate values increased \$4,517,884 leaving the County with an overall increase in values of \$2,613,328. Dimler presented information on the 2014 Legislative Session and new property tax related laws.

The Board received notice from KDHE indicating a swine facility located in section 2 of Logan Township has applied for a permit renewal. The notice will be on file in the Clerk's office for public viewing. Comments are due by July 19, 2014.

The Board received 2015 budget requests from Tourism and District Court.

Chairman Mueller signed payroll change notices for Kylie Fritschi as a new employee and Karen Scheele for longevity.

Chairman Mueller left the meeting at 9:15 A.M.

Duane Bruna, Environmental Science Director, reported they have finished the first round of spraying for thistles and will be starting on the second round soon.

Kyle Applegarth, Undersheriff, called in to report there are currently 5 Washington County inmates in the jail.

Janice Kearn, County Health Administrator, expressed concerns over the handling of the new health department project. Kearn said she felt the Board has disrespected her in many instances and she has been excluded from decisions regarding the project. Commissioner Ouellette expressed concerns about exceeding the funds that have been set aside for the project. Commissioner Otott felt the County should not take on additional debt to get the project done and that building a new building wasn't an option because there are existing buildings that meet the needs of the project. Kearn was concerned that the money set aside would be used for another project like the hospital project or the hospitals need for equipment and lighting. The Commissioners agreed that those funds would not be used for anything other than the health department project. Kearn submitted her resignation as a member of the Public Building Commission citing a conflict of interest.

Chairman Mueller returned to the meeting at 11:00 A.M.

David Willbrant, Public Works Administrator, received a call from Metal Culverts Inc. inquiring about last weeks bid opening. Willbrant questioned the bid as it was not opened last week. Dimler returned to her office and found the bid unopened. Dimler offered to write a letter of apology to the company for misplacing the bid. Commissioner Otott made a motion to sell two Jeep Cherokees and a Grasshopper mower on Puplewave Auction on July 8th. Commissioner Ouellette seconded the motion. Motion passed. Willbrant submitted the Bi-Annual Engineering Study and Report which was completed by Cook, Flatt, & Strobel Engineers. Commissioner Otott said he received a phone call regarding the closing of Brooks bridge.

Elizabeth Hiltgen, County Attorney, was asked to contact a local business owner to re-open negotiations to purchase a building for the health department project. The Board also asked Hiltgen about replacing Kearn on the Public Building Commission.

The Board asked Dimler to gather information on the implementation of employee time clocks.

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Commissioner Ouellette asked Dimler if anyone from the Treasurer's office had attended the Commercial Vehicle training class. Dimler said she did not know if anyone had attended and they would need to talk to the County Treasurer.

Arlene Dague and Arlene Hiesterman submitted the 2015 budget request for the Historical Museum.

The Board asked Dimler to get Lyle Peterson, Kansas Department of Commerce, and Ann Hawk, County Treasurer, on the agenda next week.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 P.M.

BOARD OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

(SEAL)

Alison Mueller, Chairman, 1st District Commissioner

Roger Otott, Vice Chairman, 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

Denaë Dimler, County Clerk

Gary Ouellette, 3rd District Commissioner