

COMMISSION MINUTES, May 9, 2016

The Board of County Commission (BOCC) for Washington County met in regular session on Monday, May 9th, 2016 in the Commission room at the Washington County Courthouse. Members present: Tim Mueller, Vice-Chairman, 1st District Commissioner; Roger Otott, 2nd District Commissioner; and Gary Ouellette, Chairman, 3rd District Commissioner. Denae Jueneman, County Clerk, was present to record meeting minutes.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, May 16th, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Ouellette called the meeting to order.

Mary Tate and Anita Bott, Pawnee Mental Health, presented a proclamation stating May is mental health month. Commissioner Mueller made a motion to sign the proclamation. Commissioner Otott seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Sheila Ouellette, Communications Director, gave a monthly update on departmental activity.

Commissioner Mueller made a motion to approve items on the consent agenda including Resolution 02-16 transferring excess funds from 2015 budgets to equipment reserve and capital improvements funds, bills and payroll totaling \$152,443.69, official minutes, and personnel status reporting forms. Commissioner Otott seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jueneman presented a check for \$9,252.10 from FEMA for Highland Township damages during the period of May 4 to June 21, 2015.

The BOCC received a thank you note from St. John's Catholic School, 6th grade class, for the DARE program and allowing them to go to a Royals game. A thank you from Linn High School for donating to the Junior/Senior Prom.

Tiffany Hayman, County Health Administrator, presented travel requests and a request for transfer of earned time. The BOCC approved the travel requests but denied the transfer of earned time.

Francine Crome, Appraiser, presented scenarios of tax rebates. Crome is working on an application for those wanting to participate in a tax rebate program.

Discussion was held with County Attorney, Elizabeth Hiltgen, and Crome regarding a tax rebate program. Commissioner Otott stated he was not in favor of the program. After further discussion, Commissioner Mueller made a motion and Chairman Ouellette seconded the motion to adopt a policy pending formal adoption of a neighborhood revitalization plan/tax rebate program as presented by the County Attorney. Motion passed by a vote of 2 to 1 with Commissioner Otott voting no. The BOCC directed a copy of the policy and applications for the pending program may be obtained by contacting the Washington County Appraisers Office.

Justin Novak, Road & Bridge Supervisor, was present for the opening of corrugated metal pipe bids. Three bids were submitted. Commissioner Otott made a motion to award the bid to Welborn Sales, Inc. as low bidder providing all bids were in order. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Novak stated lease purchase bids will be opened May 23rd at 11:30 a.m. The BOCC approved the purchase of parts and the repair of a semi and batwing mower. Novak asked permission to hold an auction for equipment no longer being used by the department. The BOCC approved a future auction but stated the auction needed to wait until some other County property is ready for the auction.

No bids were received on the four lots located in Washington City originally purchased to build a new County Health facility.

Brittni Oehmke, Hanover Hospital Assistant Administrator, along with Board Members Toby Bruna and Steve Pierson, proposed dissolving the Hanover Hospital taxing district and conveying the property to the County where the Hanover Hospital would then become a County hospital. Hanover would maintain its own critical care license and wish to work with the Washington County Hospital to provide services to all County citizens. Bruna expressed concerns over the inability to attract new doctors and if Hanover were to become a County hospital, there would be certain guarantees to attract new doctors. Pierson said the purpose is to keep the hospital open and it would be best for all County residents to come together for the benefit and long-term sustainability of health care services in the County. The first step is having an election for the electors who reside in the Hanover Hospital

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District. If those electors vote in favor of dissolving the district, then the question to accept the property would be on the ballot in the General Election to be held in November where all County residents would have an opportunity to vote on the question. The hospital board would like to hold town hall meetings to discuss the proposal.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

BOARD OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

(SEAL)

Tim Mueller, Vice-Chairman, 1st District Commissioner

Roger Otott, 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

Denae Jueneman, County Clerk

Gary Ouellette, Chairman, 3rd District Commissioner