

COMMISSION MINUTES, September 15, 2014

The Board of County Commission (BOCC) for Washington County met in regular session on Monday, September 15, 2014 in the Commission room at the Washington County Courthouse. Members present: Alison Mueller, 1st District Commissioner, Chairman; and Gary Ouellette, 3rd District Commissioner. Denae Jueneman, County Clerk, was present to record meeting minutes. Roger Otott, Vice Chairman, 2nd District Commissioner, was absent.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, September 22nd, 2014 at 8:30 A.M.

Chairman Mueller called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Ouellette discussed his visit with Sue Rhodes, Marshall County Health Administrator, and the tour of the Marshall County Health Department.

Jueneman submitted bills and payroll totaling \$262,982.85. Chairman Mueller asked Jueneman to analyze the County cell phone bill to see why the County exceeded the minutes allowed on the plan causing the bill to have overages.

Chairman Mueller signed District Court's annual budget.

The Board received a notice from KDHE indicating a swine facility located in section 2 of Clifton 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 October 11, 2014.

A meeting of the Solid Waste Committee was held at 9:30. Joining the meeting were Duane Bruna, Environmental Science Director, Kathy Ouellette, Ken Stettensch, and Jim Scheetz. Bruna presented information on recycling and recycling sales, hauling fees for the transfer station, and items received during the annual "Free Day" at the landfill. Bruna said the recycling trailers in communities around the County are successful and the feedback from citizens has been good. Kathy Ouellette asked what is being done to educate the public on recycling. Bruna said it is done by word of mouth, a bi-annual newsletter to County citizens, and education in County schools. Stettensch asked what happens to the iron received at the landfill. Bruna said it was sold in Belleville this year. Commissioner Ouellette asked if there should be two "Free Days", one in the Spring and one in the Fall, based on the response this year. Bruna said it is a possibility.

After the Solid Waste Committee meeting ended, Bruna said the Noxious Weed Department will start its Fall spraying this week. Expenses for the Chevy Blazer were discussed and the Environmental Science Department will start paying for all expenses related to the Blazer. Chairman Mueller asked who mows at the Airport because it needs mowing. Bruna said since the County got the new mower, Public Works keeps the mower. Bruna asked to enter into executive session for non-elected personnel. No action was taken after returning to regular session.

Charles Turk, Hanover American Legion, was in to organize the annual Government Day. After visiting with school principals in the area, he suggested November 24th for the annual event. The Board agreed to attend.

Debbie Swoboda, Emergency Preparedness Director, asked permission to purchase training aids for the upcoming Fire Prevention week to be held in Washington County schools the week of October 5th through 11th. The Board approved the purchase. The position of Public Information Officer was discussed. In the past, Chairman Mueller has been the PIO for the County. Swoboda said Chris Pannbacker has taken the PIO training and wanted to know if Pannbacker could be designated as the County PIO and Chairman Mueller would be listed as the backup since Chairman Mueller is not seeking re-election in November. The Board agreed to designate Pannbacker as the County PIO and asked Jueneman to take training when it is offered to serve as a backup if needed.

Kyle Applegarth, Undersheriff, introduced Grant Ottinger, Deputy Sheriff, to the Board. Applegarth presented a law enforcement contract with the City of Hanover. Commissioner Ouellette asked why the Sheriff's department spent \$1500 on tires in Lincoln, NE rather than purchasing them locally. Applegarth said those tires are for the Dodge Charger and the price is double or triple to purchase them locally because of their speed rating so it was significantly cheaper to buy them in Lincoln.

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Sonya Hiltgen, Register of Deeds, presented a breakdown on the new mortgage registration fee changes. Hiltgen indicated her office will need software updates to accommodate the new regulations and asked permission to demo a new product. The Board approved the trial period of a new software. Hiltgen asked the Board to contact State representatives regarding the fee changes and said many states have implemented a transfer fee which may be an option for Kansas Counties who are losing income from the loss of the mortgage registration fee.

David Willbrant, Public Works Administrator, was asked why his department purchased commodities from another Public Works employee and that it looks like a conflict of interest. Willbrant said he doesn't feel it's a problem to purchase items from an employee when the dollar value is insignificant. Chairman Mueller said Department purchasing policies should be aware of public perception and departments should stay away from purchasing items from employees or others which may look like a conflict of interest. Willbrant asked permission to sell a water tanker on Purple Wave. Willbrant presented a proposal from Hall Brothers to do crack sealing in Hanover from the Kloppenberg Center to the end of the pavement for \$20,000. Willbrant said the County will do chip seal on the same stretch of road next year. Willbrant presented proposals from Husker Steel and Norfolk Contracting to replace a bridge on Quivira Rd. 0.3 miles south of 28th Rd. for \$123,200 and on 9th Rd. 0.3 miles east of Madison Rd. for \$85,815. Willbrant said some materials were added to the County road going East out of Mahaska last week so the road should be in better condition. He also checked on a sink hole that was reported in last weeks meeting but was unable to find a sink hole on St. John's Rd.

Larry Bruna, Hutton Construction, gave an update on the hospital project.

Rhonda Fernandez, Professional Insurance Consultants (PIC), discussed employer required notices and updates to the Affordable Care Act. Fernandez said numerous IRS reports will be required of the County in 2015 and suggested software options to aid the Clerk's office in tracking payroll and time sheet information. Fernandez will meet with Jueneman later in the week to gather information for bids on software. Fernandez asked the Board if she should go out for bids on the County health insurance as she did last year. The Board agreed to allow PIC to handle bids for health insurance. Fernandez indicated that the Affordable Care Act may require a health risk assessment of all employees in the future. The Board asked Fernandez to contact Janice Kearn, County Health Administrator, to see if the Health Department could perform the assessments.

The Board unanimously approved the following motions:

1. To enter into executive session for non-elected personnel.
2. To sign a law enforcement contract with the City of Hanover.
3. To sell a water tanker on Purple Wave.
4. To sign an agreement to extend a lease contract with United Farmers Coop, Greenleaf, for a two-way radio transmitter upon its elevator in Linn.
5. To accept the proposal from Hall Brothers to do crack seal in Hanover.
6. To accept proposals from Husker Steel and Norfolk Contracting for bridge replacements.

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

BOARD OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

(SEAL)

Alison Mueller, Chairman, 1st District Commissioner

Roger Otott, Vice Chairman, 2nd District Commissioner

Attest:

Dena Jueneman, County Clerk

Gary Ouellette, 3rd District Commissioner