

## COMMISSION MINUTES, March 16, 2015

The Board of County Commission (BOCC) for Washington County met in regular session on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in the Commission room at the Washington County Courthouse. Members present: Tim Mueller, 1<sup>st</sup> District Commissioner; Roger Otott, Chairman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Commissioner; and Gary Ouellette, Vice-Chairman, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Commissioner. Denae Jueneman, County Clerk, was present to record meeting minutes.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 at 8:30 A.M.

Chairman Otott called the meeting to order.

Janice Kearn, County Health Administrator, advised the Board that the hospitals starting wage for RN's is \$19.50/hr and asked if the starting wage for a County RN could be raised. The Board all agreed to keep the starting wage at \$17.50/hr. Kearn presented changes she requested in the design of the new Health Department facility project. After reviewing the changes, Chairman Otott said that adding windows would be an expense that the County did not want to incur and that windows had been discussed in the beginning stages of the plan and that Kearn was going over the Board's head by asking that windows be added to the design. Chairman Otott commented the staff would just be looking at a brick wall because the windows face another building. Chairman Otott told Kearn that she is getting everything she wants, including a conference room that had originally been denied by the Board. Kearn argued that the Board is still making decisions without including her in the decision process. Kearn left the meeting to retrieve the designs.

Bob Chambers and Kevin Holland, Cook Flatt & Strobel Engineers (CFS), discussed their ability to construct a five year capital improvement plan for the County. Chambers indicated the County has over 300 bridges and a CIP would allow the Board to make sound decisions when budgeting for upcoming projects. The cost for CFS to put together a five year plan would be approximately \$15,000 which would include CFS implementing the plan by overseeing contractors or County employees on the job site.

Kearn returned with designs and noted resentment in Chairman Otott's comments regarding her getting everything she wants. Kearn said public health is about education so she feels a conference room is a need, not a want. Commissioner Ouellette reiterated that the project will be bid without windows being added to the facility. Kearn asked what would happen if she is unable to hire an RN for \$17.50/hr. Commissioner Ouellette said that the hospital starts at \$19.50/hr. but they only pay a single health insurance plan and do not pay for a family plan or dental. Commissioner Mueller questioned Kearn about her decision to not accommodate the Sheriff's request to conduct welfare checks on KDOC inmates held in the jail. Kearn stated that she had contacted other counties and they indicated that providing the service turns into an on-call situation that Kearn does not want to provide.

Duane Bruna, Environmental Science Director, asked permission to run an advertisement for summer help. The Board approved the advertisement. Bruna indicated the Construction and Demolition (C&D) pit is still having problems with trash being included with the C&D from the hospital project. Bruna said KDHE is very strict on this policy and that the County could end up being fined by KDHE if they are inspected and trash is found in the C&D. The Board told Bruna to contact Hutton Construction regarding the problem.

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Jueneman presented bills and payroll totaling \$279,688.58. Jueneman presented information on the select provider program through EMC for workplace injuries or illness. Chairman Otott asked Jueneman the status on the implementation of time clocks. Jueneman responded that she had not worked on the implementation as she was awaiting final approval of the employee handbook. The Board agreed to go ahead and start the process as they have reviewed the handbook and it is now with an attorney for final review and production.

The Board placed a call to Bruce Jones, Health Facilities Group (HFG), to discuss the Health Department project design. The Board asked if four exits were needed. Jones said that three of the exits on the design are existing exits and that one exit, in the break room, was at the request of Kearn. Commissioner Ouellette asked the cost of adding the exit to the design. Jones replied that it would cost approximately \$1,500 for masonry work and there would be additional costs for frame, door, hardware, etc. Other additions requested by Kearn included five windows, one in each office, and a door in the hallway to prohibit children from running up and down the halls. Jones indicated the door may present an exit issue and may not work for code purposes. Jones said he will be visiting with the City of Washington regarding the addition of a ramp to the public sidewalk because having the entrance moved to the side of the building interferes with water meters. Jones asked Jueneman to scan and email the designs once the Board signs off.

Commissioner Ouellette made a motion to accept the design plan dated March 10<sup>th</sup> with the following exceptions: removal of the exit from the break room; keep the exit in hall 114 instead of putting an exit in hall 108 due to fire code; the half door is optional depending on fire code; no allowance for five additional windows but to leave the existing windows; move the front door entrance back to the front of the building if needed. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Finlayson, Interim Road & Bridge Superintendent, presented the weekly work report for Road & Bridge. The Board informed Finlayson of the decision to hire CFS to develop a five year engineering plan.

Rhonda Fernandez, Professional Insurance Consultants, discussed documents needing approval by mid-year to comply with the Health Care Act. The Board and Fernandez discussed self-funding and wellness programs. Commissioner Ouellette asked about the State's health insurance pool. Fernandez expressed concern over the high deductibles that employees would have to cover. Commissioner Ouellette said that the County could afford to give all employees a \$2.00/hr raise and still come out ahead of what is currently spent on Blue Cross Blue Shield premiums because the County incurred a 24% increase in premiums this year. Fernandez will return at a later date with more analysis on plans available.

Jueneman requested executive session for non-elected personnel to include Elizabeth Hiltgen, County Attorney. Commissioner Ouellette made a motion to enter into executive session. Commissioner Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken upon returning to regular session.

Board approved and signed the following documents:

- Bid proposal for Sellers Equipment that was accepted last week
- HFG Schematic Design Approval for the Health Department project
- Payroll change notice for Kristy Beikmann who resigned

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- Payroll change notice for Steve Woermanbjork as a part-time Deputy Sheriff
- Payroll change notice for Ronald Prothe as a new hire in Road & Bridge
- Plan document for the County's cafeteria plan
- Change orders 2014-42 to 2014-51 and 2014-53 to 2014-54
- Federal funds exchange for 2015 to trade all or a portion of federal fund allocations in exchange for state transportation dollars

The Board approved the following motions:

- To hire CFS to develop a five year road and bridge engineering plan and to oversee the plan
- To participate in the Select Provider Program offered by EMC Insurance Companies in the event of a workplace injury or illness and to be seen by Dr. Hodgson or Washington County Hospital
- To implement a time clock system for County employees

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.