

COMMISSION MINUTES, JANUARY 27, 2014

The Board of County Commission for Washington County met in regular session on Monday, January 27, 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. Denaë Dimler, County Clerk, was present to record meeting minutes.

Next regular meeting will be Monday, February 3, 2014 at 8:30 A.M.

Chairman Mueller called the meeting to order.

Denaë Dimler, County Clerk, discussed progress on Courthouse Security. Denaë asked permission to attend a Legislative Reception in Topeka on Wednesday, January 29th, which the Board approved. Denaë gave an update on reestablishing polling sites within the County.

The Board approved and signed official minutes from January 6, 13, and 21.

Duane Bruna, Environmental Science Director, reported he has received four applications for an open position and is waiting to receive a few other applications before proceeding with interviews.

Justin Cordry, Sheriff, reported there are currently 5 Washington County inmates in the jail. Roofers were at the law enforcement center last week to investigate problems with the roof. The contractors will submit a report to the manufacturer who will make recommendations. The proposed deal with Gage County Nebraska to house their inmates has been rejected. The new pickup for the Sheriff's department has been ordered.

Several department heads attended the meeting asking for clarification on the meal reimbursement during official business travel. The Board had originally approved a \$30 per day per diem for meals during travel which require overnight stays. Some department heads indicated that paying for meals out of pocket was a hardship on some employees and they wanted to be able to continue to put meals on the County's credit card. Chairman Mueller reiterated that meal reimbursements are only for travel that require overnight stays and are not allowed for one day travel situations. She also reminded them that all receipts must be itemized and meals purchased on the County credit card that exceed \$30 in a 24 hours period must be reimbursed to the County by the employee who exceeded the limit.

David Willbrant, Public Works Director, presented weekly work report. In last weeks meeting, David notified the Board an Improvement Program Award to rout and crack seal the Airport runway had been awarded to Washington County. To further clarify, the project was submitted in 2 parts consisting of crack sealing and cement work. The County was only approved for the crack sealing portion of the project. The Board agreed to tentatively proceed with the project; however, there is still the option of not accepting the award at a later date. The Board told David to proceed with accepting bids for fuel. Bid opening will be February 10th at 11:00 a.m.

Larry Bruna, Hutton Construction, reported on the hospital project and said that some financial decisions will need to be made in the next meeting to be held on February 4th at 1:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Hiltgen, County Attorney, presented a law enforcement contract with the City of Barnes and a Resolution to establish Procurement Procedures for Washington County. Elizabeth asked the Board to consider paying for one half her office rent. Elizabeth asked to increase the salary of legal secretary, Laura Burt, to compensate her for acting as diversion officer and unsupervised probation officer. Chairman Mueller asked Elizabeth about adding another part-time employee to handle the overload. Options are being reviewed and will be discussed again next week.

Leonard Wolfe, President of United Bank and Trust, and Chairman of the Kansas Bankers Association, visited with the Board regarding the reasons for the KBA sponsored legislation to abolish the mortgage registration fee. Leonard said that it's not the banks against counties and the bottom lines but about it being an unfair tax to those who borrow money to purchase real estate. Chairman Mueller indicated that the State continues to take more money away from the County and makes the County pay for services that the State used to pay for which in turn causes the County to raise mills on the taxpayers. For these reasons, the Board signed Resolution 01-14 last week in opposition to abolishing the mortgage registration fee.

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The Commissioners unanimously approved the following actions:

- To rescind the \$30 per day per diem and replace it with meal reimbursement with receipts up to \$30 per day.
- To enter into executive session for non-elected personnel with Justin Cordry. No action was taken.
- To accept a haying contract with Marvin Heck.
- To put 10% down on a 1998 chip spreader from Van Keppel.
- To sign law enforcement contract between Washington County and City for Barnes.
- To adopt Resolution 02-14 establishing Procurement Procedures for Washington County.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 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