The Board of Reno County Commissioners met in agenda session with, Chairman Bob Bush, Commissioner Ron Sellers, Interim County Administrator Bill Hermes, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present. Commissioner Ron Hirst was not available.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a short sectarian prayer led by Pastor Kim Biery, Trinity United Methodist Church.

There were no public comments and no additions to the agenda.

Commissioner Bush explained how the public could contact by email, text, the County Administrator or speak directly with the Commissioners about items not on the agenda.

There were no Commissioner comments.

County Counselor Joe O’Sullivan requested removing consent agenda item 6e, the resolution for vacating a portion of Victory Road, moving it for action to item 7b. Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Bush, to approve moving item 6e to an action item 7b. The motion was approved by a roll call vote 2-0.

Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Bush, to approve the consent agenda a through d, also consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on January 10, 2020 of $466,829.34, and consisting of pending Added, Abated and Escaped Taxation Change Order numbered 2019-1170 as submitted. Next item directs the chairman to sign minutes for November 5th, 12th, 12th Canvass 19th and 26th, 2019 as submitted. Last item on the consent agenda was to reappoint Emergency Management Director Adam Weishaar to serve as Reno County’s representative on the South-Central Regional Homeland Security Council beginning January 7, 2020 through December 31, 2021. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

County Planner Mark Vonachen met with the Board with a slide presentation with pictures of the plans and property for Planning & Zoning Case #2019-12 a conditional use permit request by Frank and Pamela Seck to establish a lavender business which would include a gift shop, crafting classes for 4 to 5 customers
and smaller events, and an annual summer lavender festival. He said they had been working on permits for the last three years with the applicant and decided charging the applicant with a $300 Conditional Use Permit which would be indefinite instead of the $150 each year for a Special Event Permit. She will have vendors at the lavender event and parking would be allowed in the adjacent field with written agreement to park on that property from the owner. The staff approved and so did the Planning & Zoning Board with a 5-0 vote with 10 factors and attached 6 conditions. Also included was a letter from the Fire Chief supporting the permit. Mr. Vonachen went over the ten factors and the six conditions. After some discussion on the conditions Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Bush, to approve the staff’s recommendation for a conditional use permit requested by Frank and Pamela Seck to establish a lavender business. Adding to the motion of approval condition #7 stating that the festivals would be limited to four weekends per year in the conditional use permit asking Mr. Vonachen to email the condition to the Planning & Zoning Board. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

Mr. Bush asked if the CUP goes with the land and if the property is sold in the future, how would that work. Mr. Vonachen replied that the CUP would limit them to a lavender type of festival. He said if someone purchased the property they would have to apply for another CUP. He also stated that she inferred that it would stay as a one-day event with craft classes not becoming larger. She stated that she enjoys lavender as a hobby not a full-blown business. He said the husband is on the Township Board and addressed the larger flow of traffic caused by the festival saying maintaining the roads would not pose a problem.

Commissioner Bush commended Mr. Vonachen with his work on savings for the Seck’s with the permit process and cost, he said Mr. Vonachen was doing a great job.

County Counselor Joe O’Sullivan met with the Board stating that on December 23, 2019 he took up the petition by Brandon Harder. At that time the Board of Commissioners was appointed to view the portion of Victory Road and that decision needs to be formally adopted by resolution. He stated that Mr. Bush informed them of his absence next Tuesday and so Mr. O’Sullivan recommended appointing Interim County Administrator Bill Hermes to substitute for Mr. Bush as a viewer. He noted this was a change in the vote taken on December 23rd. Mr. O’Sullivan advised the motion be made to substitute Bill Hermes for Bob
Bush as a viewer and approve the resolution as presented today. 

Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Bush, to substitute Bill Hermes for Bob Bush and approve the resolution #2020-01; A RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSED VACATION OF A PORTION OF VICTORY ROAD MILE 14, RENO COUNTY, KANSAS. Mr. Bush explained he had a medical appointment taking him out of town. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

Community Corrections Director Randy Regehr met with the Board to his regularly scheduled meeting. He discussed various issues not requiring action by the Board. He highlighted the members of his staff and spoke about grants explaining about two new programs.

At 9:55 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk

Date cm