

March 19, 2019  
Reno County Courthouse  
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners met in agenda session with, Chairman Bob Bush, Commissioner Ron Hirst and Commissioner Ron Sellers, County Administrator Gary Meagher, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a short sectarian prayer led by Pastor David Dubovich, Park Place Christian Church.

Public comments: no comments

Commissioner comments:

Commissioner Hirst was concerned about the structure of the "Notice of Public Hearing" letter sent out. He was given a copy by the County Planner Mark Vonachen for the upcoming April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 NextEra meeting and had some concerns. He stated it was not printed on Reno County letterhead and the properties should be highlighted to help owners identify where the wind turbine towers would be in accordance to their homes. He thought the letter could have been a lot more user friendly. Mr. Meagher replied that he would gather more information on the letters and bring it back.

Commissioner Sellers attended the NJCAA Tournament and wanted to thank all the volunteers and Joe O'Sullivan for making it a huge success for visitors through this Saturday. He appreciated and thanked Mr. Meagher, Mr. Baldetti and the septic providers for meeting so quickly on sharing information about the proposed inspections on the septic systems in Reno County. Mr. Meagher stated that he, Nick Baldetti, and Darcy Basye would be meeting to go over information and get a checklist finalized.

Commissioner Bush had no comments nor did Mr. Meagher.

There were no additions to the agenda.

**Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on March 22, 2019 of \$597,991.69 as submitted also consisting of pending Added, Abated and Escaped Taxation Change Orders numbered 2019-140. Next item on the consent

agenda was the reappointment of Shannon Hauschild, Ray Hemman, Erica Rivera, and Lacy Stauffacher to the Community Corrections Advisory Board for an additional 2-year term starting March 2019 as presented by staff. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Commissioner Bush read a Proclamation proclaiming March 20, 2019 as "Kick Butts Day" to promote tobacco-free lifestyles. MacKenzie Dunigan, Hutch Resist Chapter and Communities that Care thanked the Board and accepted the proclamation accompanied by Candace Davidson, Health Educator with the Reno County Health Department.

Bond Attorney Kevin Cowan of Gilmore and Bell met with the Board to recommend approval for a resolution **2019-04; A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF CERTAIN OUTSTANDING GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING AND SALES TAX IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2013, OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN CONJUNCTION THEREWITH**, including the sunset of the ½ cent sales tax. He said this was the last formal action by the Board to carry that forward. This resolution does three things; 1) calls for the early redemption of the bonds on September 1st, 2019, 2) authorizes the transfer of sales tax revenues to accomplish that redemption, 3) calls for redemption of the sales tax. The third item will occur first, this needs to be taken care of before April 1<sup>st</sup>. This resolution will be sent to the Department of Revenue instructing them to terminate the sales tax on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, first day of the calendar quarter. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst**, to approve resolution 2019-04; authorizing certain actions to be taken in conjunction including the sunset of the ½ cent sales tax. Commissioner Sellers said voters approved the sales tax. He then commented about naysayers saying government will continue the tax and it will never go off the tax role. He wanted to remind people the tax was for a single purpose, so those comments that the Commission doesn't look forward to decreasing taxes are wrong, it is fun to take the ½ cent sales tax off. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Administrator Gary Meagher met with the Board to move the scheduled Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting to either Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 or Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019. County offices will be closed on December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 which is the Commissioner Reprieve Holiday for 2019. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers**, to approve moving the scheduled Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting to instead take place on

Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Commissioner Hirst commented about the excellent program to honor firefighters at their awards program thanking Chief Beer for the invitation.

Reno County Fire District No. 2 Hutchinson Fire Chief Steve Beer gave a presentation discussing various current issues not requiring action by the Board. Chief Beer asked for direction on bringing budget numbers to the Commission. The Board agreed by consensus to work with the City of Hutchinson and have Chief Beer bring the best numbers he could. He stated ISO ratings in the rural area went from a 6 to a 4. He also noted that Fire District #2 is a class 4, the City of Hutchinson was a class 1 and stated that he was very happy with the ratings. Chief Beer spoke about improvements in medical services by his firefighters and his efforts in the northeast part of Reno County with a pilot program to help protect citizens homes by educating them on fire hazards.

At 9:40 the meeting recessed for twenty minutes.

The meeting reconvened with all Commissioners, County Administrator Gary Meagher, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

At 10:00 Mr. Meagher requested an executive session for discussion of non-elected personnel issues with no binding action to be taken as a result of this meeting. **Mr. Bush moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to go into executive session for thirty minutes. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

At 10:20 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk

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Date

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