

April 9, 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, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a short sectarian prayer led by Pastor William Green, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church.

There were no public comments.

Commissioner comments:

County Administrator Gary Meagher reminded the public of the public hearing continuation for the NextEra Conditional Use Permit Application today, 4:30 p.m. at the Atrium Hotel and Convention Center.

Commissioner Bush clarified the time and place and stating that the people who spoke at last Thursday's Planning and Zoning hearing would not be speaking today. He stated that each person would be given the same five minutes as during the previous hearing. His understanding was following the public comment section, the applicant NextEra will provide a rebuttal and stand for questions from the Planning Board. County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan added that the County Planner Mark Vonachen could give a rebuttal, making that the final statement before closing the hearing. The Planning Board could choose to close the hearing or extend their discussions to another evening making a recommendation for action on the application. The media will be covering the hearing and Mr. Bush said it was a very open process. Anyone could speak for five minutes, in addition, documentation including videos, could be dropped off or emailed. The key is once the public comments portion is stopped by Chairman French, there can be no more information provided or submitted into public record.

Mr. O'Sullivan replied that was correct. He would check with Mr. Vonachen and Chairman Lisa French with The Planning Commission to see how they wanted to handle written requests coming in after this evenings meeting begins.

Commissioner Hirst complimented Mr. Bush on his explanation on the process the other day on the radio. He said he had a phone call from Father Dan Duling, St. Joseph Catholic Church in the Ost Community, asking him to make a public announcement that the Church would not take a position regarding the wind farm but would remain neutral.

Commissioner Bush commended The Planning Commission and County Planner Mark Vonachen for their patience and hard work on the NextEra application, he noted they have done a great job with a very important application. He also commended everyone who spoke at Thursday's Planning Commission public hearing for being respectful to one another whether they were for or against the wind farm.

There were no additions to the agenda.

Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on April 12, 2019 of \$293,731.95 as submitted. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Commissioner Bush read a Proclamation proclaiming the week of April 7 through April 13, 2019 as "Reno County Crime Victims' Rights Week". Deputy District Attorney Tom Stanton accepted the proclamation and thanked the Board for it's continued support. He invited the public to attend a service at the South Hutchinson Community Center in support of victims of crime.

Commissioner Bush read two more Proclamations proclaiming the week of April 14 through April 18, 2019 as "Week of the Young Child" and proclaiming the month of April 2019 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month". Kansas Children's Services League member, Michael Woods accepted both proclamations thanking the Board for their support in celebrating families and young children and recognizing our role in healthy development for our youth.

Community Corrections Director Randy Regehr met with the Board to recommend approval for the next three items giving a brief explanation of each.

Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to approve Community Corrections Kansas Department of Corrections Comprehensive Plan Grant Application for FY20 as described by Mr. Regehr. The motion was approved by a roll call vote 3-0.

Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to approve Corrections Kansas Department of Corrections Behavioral Health Grant Application for FY20 as outlined by Mr. Regehr. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to approve Community Corrections Policy on Fiscal Reporting and Records Update as described by Mr. Regehr. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Detective Captain Steve Lutz met with the Board to recommend approval to purchase (4) 2020 Ford SUV Utility vehicles for the Sheriff's Patrol Division from Midwest Ford/Rusty Eck, Hutchinson, KS, at a cost of \$133,036 after trade in values for three vehicles; Unit #440 at \$9,000, Unit #439 at \$10,000, Unit #425 at \$10,000 the total cost after trade-ins was \$104,036.

Captain Lutz stated they also negotiated to purchase (1) 2020 Ford SUV Utility vehicle for the Reno County Correctional Facility STAT Unit from Midwest Ford/Rusty Eck at a cost of \$30,509 with a fourth vehicle being traded to the Appraiser's Office for fair market value. He stated they would be using equipment from the trade in vehicles for the new purchased vehicles to save money. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the purchase of four vehicles at \$104,036 and one at \$30,509 from Midwest Ford/Rusty Eck with trade ins. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Mr. O'Sullivan clarified how long written information could come to The Planning Commission. The Planning Commission put together a process and after the public comment portion of the process that the applicant has an opportunity for a rebuttal afterward to address those issues. He would speak with Mr. Vonachen and Chairman Lisa French regarding incoming information that should be part of the public record during the hearing process this evening. He advised that the public should consider submitting information today before tonight's meeting starts, as there may be an early cutoff however, he was not aware of a cutoff time, giving the applicant ample time for a rebuttal to address issues.

Commissioner Bush said he recalled from hearing, reading, and seeing that The Planning Commission would except any information up until the end of the public comment period. If that changes it was fine, but his understanding was to accept

public comment until the end of the public hearing. Once the Chair cuts that off, then nothing else would be received. He noted this Commission has no authority to change The Planning Commission process.

Mr. O'Sullivan replied that was correct in respect to oral public comment.

Commissioner Hirst noted that the public comment information timeline to The Planning Commission, in his opinion, should not be changed in the middle of the stream and come up with new rules and regulations at the last minute. That is not fair to the public or The Planning Commission. If published, then it should not be changed today a few hours before the public hearing starts.

Mr. O'Sullivan stated he was not proposing to change anything but was trying to insure the "Do process of the law" to all parties. He said if there was a built-in problem with the do process of law it needs to be addressed while you can do so without denying anybody their rights.

At 9:50 Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers, to adjourn the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

Approved:

Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

Reno County Clerk
cm

Date