

June 2, 2020
Reno County Courthouse
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners held the agenda session with, Chairman Ron Sellers, Commissioner Bob Bush and Commissioner Ron Hirst, County Administrator Randy Partington, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Sellers thanked all who organized the Black Lives Matter protest event at the courthouse over the weekend. Commissioner Bush noted that Law Enforcement handled the event correctly. Mr. Sellers noted Hutchinson Police Chief Hooper gave a speech and was well received by the audience. Commissioner Hirst commented there would be a public forum at Memorial Hall this evening at 7:00 p.m.

Health Department Director Nick Baldetti briefly went over statistics for the Country, Kansas, and Reno County. He spoke about a local Health Order 20-03 that installed "The Moving Forward Guidance Document" on Friday, May 29th, 2020, addressing any group holding an event of more than 100 people to contact the Health Department with the name of a contact person for the event. The Board discussed various issues regarding COVID-19.

Emergency Management Director Adam Weishaar briefly spoke about several points; 1) Conversations with the state slowed down to one a week. 2) The state switched gears concentrating on flooding and protests. 3) next week planning to prepare for fall and fall flu season. The Board commented on the great job the National Guard had done with meals and spoke about having enough PPE supplies available for fall.

There were no public comments or additions to the agenda.

Mr. Bush moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on June 5th, 2020 of \$245,177.55 and also consisting of pending Added, Abated and Escaped Taxation Change Order numbered 2020-192 as submitted by staff. Last item on the consent agenda was to appoint Robin Kilgore as Treasurer on the Valley Township Board. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Administrator Randy Partington discussed the \$10,000 request by the Reno County Drug Court for their 2021 Budget.

Health Department Director Nick Baldetti discussed with the Board about a contract with Kansas Department of Health for an expanded Child Care Licensing grant award. He stated that after the State cut costs, they reached out to Reno County in January to take over the fifty childcare facilities in Harvey County. He spoke with Harvey County Director about hiring a Harvey County employee to work at Reno County and discussed providing that individual with a vehicle. Mr. Baldetti assured the Commission that he had a great working relationship with the Harvey County Director, and they understood what the state asked them to do in creating this partnership. The Board was in favor of the Child Care grant.

Libertee Thompson Reno County Drug Court Coordinator spoke about the budget request of \$10,000 in funds to assist with various needs of their clients.

County Administrator Randy Partington commented on the preliminary estimate of valuations and noted that State Assessed valuations are up about 2.5 percent. March sales tax were down slightly and when April numbers come in June, it will have a better picture of how COVID-19 impacted Reno County. The Governor's Spark Task Force will help discuss the distribution of \$1.25 million of the Cares Act Funding at 2:00 p.m. today on her You Tube channel. The Cares Act are funds from the federal government that gets sent to the state and noted that some went directly to two larger counties first that have 500,000 in population. The remainder goes to the state, then to other municipalities or businesses to spend as they see fit, there is no formula. He prepared a year to date expense budget report from various funds spent by departments and stated that through May 28th there was 22 percent spent. He will have Maintenance Director Harlen Depew come and give a status report on repairs to the courthouse.

The Board asked Mr. Partington to send an email, using his influence, to the legislative group for a proper amount of funding to be distributed to Reno County under the state's Cares Act. Mr. Bush suggested being more active with the current legislative body. They discussed having a Quad County meeting and inviting legislators to attend with a specific agenda in place.

Commissioner Hirst questioned where the Planning and Zoning meeting on June 18th, 2020 would be held.

Mr. Partington stated the 4:30 p.m. case would be held at the Public Works Department since it had been published to be there. Then after that one case has been heard, the wind energy regulations discussion would move to the Veteran's Room at the Courthouse at 5:30 p.m. keeping social distancing in place by having the televised hearing in the lobby of the courthouse. There would be public comments at the meeting limiting comments to certain minutes to hear as many people as they can. He suggested having written comments sent into the Planning and Zoning Board.

Commissioner Sellers asked about the Fire District survey moving ahead. Mr. Partington replied it was completed and then COVID came so the consultant could not come to Kansas. Mr. Sellers asked about the budget. Mr. Partington stated that he had all departments making an overview toward the end of June and adopt the budgets by August or as soon as possible. Commissioner Sellers had concerns about increasing the tax levy.

At 10:30 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 9, 2020.

Approved:

Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

Reno County Clerk
cm

Date