

June 29, 2021  
Reno County Courthouse  
Hutchinson, Kansas

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

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

Commissioner Hirst read his comments that advocated showcasing and promoting Reno County.

There were no public comments or additions to the agenda.

**Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of 6A through 6C which consisted of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on July 1st, 2021, totaling \$972,357.60; the appointment of Ashley Lawson to the Reno County Health Department Advisory Board; and Solid Waste's purchase of a 2021 CAT Motor Grader from Foley Equipment for \$265,542.59. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Reno/Kingman Joint Fire District #1 Chief Rick Graber requested approval of the purchase of a used 2008 4WD International Truck from Ark Valley Electric for the sum of \$20,000 and for authority to outfit the truck for use as a brush truck at a not-to-exceed additional cost of \$50,000. The proposed expense would not exceed \$70,000. Chief Graber stated he would use the District's Equipment Reserve Account which has a balance of \$175,000 for the purchase. His crew would build and outfit the truck with a 1,000-gallon tank and other required emergency equipment for a savings to the Fire District. **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the purchase of the 2008 4WD truck, to outfit the truck as requested and to authorize the sale of a 2WD 1997 Freightliner with a 1,500-water tank as surplus equipment through PurpleWave Auction as requested by Chief Graber. Emergency Management Director Adam Weishaar commented that this was the most cost-effective option, Mr. Partington approved. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Commissioner Friesen questioned why the Fire Chief had to come before the Board for his purchase while the Solid Waste proposal to purchase a motor grader for a larger sum was on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Partington explained the budgeting process when the purchase of equipment is pre-approved for County departments. He stated that Capital Improvement Plans are not utilized by Fire Districts at this time but would be forthcoming for all districts in the future when, the new Fire District Coordinator's position would be established. The Coordinator would set up policies in the future dealing with capital improvement plans, budgeting, bonds, and equipment purchases.

Public Works Director Don Brittain recommended approval on an agreement with Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) for the construction of Arlington Road Bridge 17.55 located within the city limits of Arlington for \$1,250,000 of which the county's share is 50 percent or \$625,000. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the agreement outlined by Mr. Brittain. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Administrator Randy Partington presented the 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Plan. He reviewed the CIP summary, levied accounts, and detailed Capital Requests for 2022 for several departments. After a lengthy discussion, among County Commission members, Mr. Partington stated he would have more detailed explanations during next week's budget meeting.

Mr. Partington referred to the 12 proposed county commission redistricting maps created by the IT Department. He asked board members to identify three of the twelve maps each member preferred. Mr. Sellers picked overview maps 5,6, and 7. Mr. Hirst picked 5,7, and 9 commented he had received no interest from the public to expand the Board. Mr. Friesen picked 4,6,12. The Board deferred to a later date which proposed commission districts would be addressed in a draft redistricting resolution or resolutions for Board consideration.

Mr. Partington commented on next week's budget meetings on July 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> stating they would not be televised but open to the public. He mentioned the KAC Conference in Overland Park on October 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> and asked who was attending and in need of a reserved room.

Commissioner comments:

Mr. Friesen asked for progress of the ARP Community Committee fund requests or a deadline to be set for a report.

Mr. Partington stated the ARP Committee have had two meetings, and another scheduled for July 16<sup>th</sup> that he would be attending. He said the committee intended to have general recommendations in the fall for community projects.

Mr. Sellers commented on the community committee ARP. He appreciated comments made by Mr. Hirst about retiree's activities. He suggested the media be present for the budget meetings next week.

Mr. Hirst asked for a discussion on the proposed wind energy regulations which had been tabled indefinitely. Mr. Friesen stated a discussion under the Commissioner's comment portion of the Agenda was out of order and proposed the matter be placed on a future Agenda by the Chairman.

Mr. Hirst wished all a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

At 10:35 a.m. the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 13th, 2021.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk  
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Date