

July 7, 2020
Reno County Courthouse
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners held the agenda session with, Chairman Ron Sellers, Commissioner Ron Hirst, County Administrator Randy Partington, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present. Commissioner Bob Bush was not available.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Andrew Davison, Senior Assistant District Attorney met with the Board giving a brief history of his schooling and job description.

Health Department Director Nick Baldetti briefly went over statistics for the Country, surrounding states, Kansas, and Reno County. Reno County had 89 positive cases with 27 active cases and 62 recovered with a 3 percent positive testing rate. He spoke about if a person tests positive they should quarantine for fourteen days from post exposure and if the test is negative do not test again unless symptoms form. He said cases were up actively and it could be because testing was once again taking five to seven days for results. Mr. Baldetti gave dates with the corresponding number of positive cases. The Board was concerned about trending going up and testing. As a community we need to keep using procedures such as wearing masks, social distancing, and personal hygiene to make every person be accountable to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. He spoke about the state fair and children beginning school with people following procedures going into the fall. He said some Physicians wrote to WHO explaining the difference between droplets and an airborne virus. If airborne it would shift the response procedures.

Emergency Management Director Adam Weishaar met with the Board giving an update for the declared March Public Health Emergency (PHE) we are still under that had been extended in May expiring on July 17th, 2020. He would be back next week to extend the Public Health Emergency another 60 days. He said one of the benefits of the declaration was requesting resources from the state like masks, gowns, face shields, gloves, and COVID test kits that come to the Emergency Management Office to get distributed through the Health Department with 1,000 boxes on

order. Civil Air Patrol helped to deliver to hospital for medicine as needed.

There were no public comments or 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 July 10th, 2020 of \$619,415.42 as submitted. Next on the consent agenda was resolutions 2020-18 and 2020-19. **Resolution 2020-18; A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE RENO COUNTY CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND. Resolution 2020-19; A RESOLUTION GIVING AUTHORIZATION TO BRENDA KOWITZ, ELIZABETH BELLIVEAU, AND RANDY PARTINGTON TO EXECUTE BANK TRANSACTIONS IN THE STATE OF KANSAS MUNICIPAL INVESTMENT POOL (MIP).** Last item on the agenda was Fire District No. #9's purchase of a 1995 Freightliner Fire Pumper Truck from Reno/Kingman Joint Fire District No. #1 for \$32,000. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

Treasurer Brenda Kowitz met with the Board to recommend approval for outsourcing the production and mailing of approximately 45,000 tax statements for \$18,755 by Master's Touch not to exceed \$19,000. These statements have the information provided previously and the back has all the state requirements printed. This company will double check addresses through the post office and this should reduce the return mailings. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the outsourcing of tax statements with Master's Touch for a not to exceed \$19,000. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

Maintenance/Purchasing Director Harlen Depew met with the Board to recommend approval for architectural services separate contracts by GLMV Architecture for the courthouse; 1) exterior weatherization \$77,500 plus \$2,500 reimbursable expenses, 2) courthouse interior/exterior earthquake damage repairs \$94,500 plus \$3,500 (reimbursed from insurance claim), and 3) repairing the internal plaster \$45,000 plus \$2,500 (reimbursed from insurance claim). He stated this was discussed extensively three weeks ago. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve architectural services by GLMV Architecture for three separate contracts as presented by Mr. Depew. The motion was approved by roll call vote of 2-0. The County Administrator reviewed and supported the contracts. Mr. Depew explained about insurance adjuster reimbursements. The temporary repairs were completed in November and December of 2019 on the dome. The dome would be repaired with steel reinforced for any future earthquakes.

Human Resources Director Renee Harris met with the Board to recommend approval for revisions to the following seven policies; 1) performance review policy; 2) job position status change; 3) civil and voting leave; 4) personal leave time; 5) job posting, recruitment and hiring policy; 6) overtime and compensatory time policy; and 7) KPERS/KPF membership and retirement procedures. She went over the personal leave time policy explaining accruals. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the policies as presented by staff approved and reviewed by Mr. Partington. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

County Administrator Mr. Randy Partington spoke about the Coronavirus Relief Fund discussion that would be on the agenda each week. He explained that the CARES Act funds of \$12.6 million dollars, had as one of the intentions that all decisions related to the funds and how Reno County would be spending, or dispersing funds needed to be in public sessions. Consultants were Mr. Gary Meagher and Mr. John Deardorf working together with Mr. Partington to create a task force to discuss reimbursements for COVID-19 and a direct aide plan for public entities to better prepare for the future with COVID. Task Force members would include: a Commissioner, a City of Hutchinson employee, Pretty Prairie Mayor/City Clerk, a person from the Buhler and Haven School Districts, Hutchinson Community College person, Health Department staff member along with Mr. Partington, Mr. Meagher, and Mr. Deardorf, not excluding other entities or internal departments impacted with this money. This is a good representation of the county. Timing for reimbursement expenditures run from March to December 30, 2020 with the information being sent to the Kansas Spark Task Force for approval by August 15th on all COVID-19 reimbursements not previously paid for by Federal money. He stated that the plan is the same way. There are three phases to the \$1.25 billion of which Kansas has received. The first phase of the \$400,000,000 with \$12.6 million comes to Reno County for public entities, the other phases are to stimulate the economy. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the Reno County COVID-19 Task Force with one member from the following: Reno County Commission, City of Hutchinson, County Administrator, Consultant Mr. Gary Meagher, Consultant Mr. John Deardorff, Pretty Prairie Mayor, USD 313 Buhler School, USD 312 Haven School, Hutchinson Community College, Health Department with and an alternate of Arlington Mayor. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

Mr. Partington explained the fourteen applications submitted for the \$132,000 CDBG-CV grant and noted that nine of those are within the city limits. He said they were waiting on SCKEDD for the final list of qualified applicants. They were looking for clarification from the State of Kansas as to whether the businesses inside the City of Hutchinson could receive any of the grant money since they received their own funds from the state. The Board was in favor, if the state ruled for businesses in the city, to share Reno County's grant money.

Mr. Partington spoke about giving an overview of the 2021 Budget scheduled for next week's agenda. He said the Board could lower the budget but could not increase it.

Mr. Partington clarified the year end expenses report given through June 30th for all departments at a level or below for expenses. Salaries are at 50 percent and all departments were watching expenses.

County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan was working with SCS Engineers to draft easement agreements with the utility companies at the landfill. He stated that Evergy and Ideatec had utilities in the ground on Mohawk Road. He said if the Board vacates the road, we would like these easement agreements in place, explaining the statutes for moving utilities going out and around the roadways and at the expense of the utility company.

At 10:20 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2020.

Approved:

Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

Reno County Clerk
cm

Date