

July 21, 2020  
Reno County Courthouse  
Hutchinson, Kansas

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

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments or additions to the agenda.

Commissioner Hirst requested to remove from the agenda the executive session for preliminary discussions relating to the acquisition of real property, Mr. Sellers agreed by consensus.

**Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on July 24th, 2020 of \$452,151.21 also consisting of pending Added, Abated and Escaped Taxation Change Orders numbered 2020-297 as submitted. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

Health Department Director Nick Baldetti briefly went over statistics for the Country, surrounding states, Kansas, and Reno County stating that there are 42 positive cases with 2 active clusters, one in a long term care facility and the one at The Hutchinson Correctional Facility. He said the positive test rate is 4.04 percent instead of the 8.08 percent from last week. He went over yesterday's Governor Kelly's Executive Order #20-59, mandating face coverings for all individuals within schools and in facilities with food or drink consumption with exceptions for medical conditions. The order also mandates social distancing six feet apart except for teacher/student instruction. The Governor also indicated signing Executive Order #20-58 once the Kansas Board of Education vote approves the order, it seeks to delay schools starting from August until September 8, 2020. After reviewing the orders with the County Counselor and the District Attorney, Mr. Baldetti discussed the application regarding Reno County.

Commissioner Hirst asked about choosing information from the CDC to follow or not. Mr. Baldetti replied that people need to understand this is a brand-new virus and we are all trying to

understand the information coming out, like masks needed or not needed or just a material covering. Mr. Hirst had a link from the CDC explaining the cloth masks. Mr. Baldetti said if we respect others around us, we can overcome this virus.

Emergency Management Director Adam Weishaar updated the Board about the supplies requested by school districts. Before schools or long-term care facilities could request supplies through the county like masks or face coverings, they need to have proof they tried to purchase supplies through a private vendor but were unable to obtain the products. He said for example, USD 308 applied to the state only to receive 20 percent of their request, stating the state was heading in the direction of not fulfilling supplies to schools and long-term facilities. The Board discussed availability of masks to keep children safe.

Deputy Election Officer Jenna Fager met with the Board to recommend approval for the August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Primary Election Canvass on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in the Annex Conference Room beginning at 9:00 a.m. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the Primary Canvass on August 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Annex Conference Room. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

Mrs. Fager also recommended approval for the November 3rd General Election Canvass date be set for Thursday, November 12, 2020 in the Annex Conference Room beginning at 9:00 a.m. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the General Canvass on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Annex Conference Room. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

County Administrator Randy Partington emailed out the weekly update from the prior week's activity for the Coronavirus Relief Fund. Last week the task force members, Mr. Gary Meagher, Mr. John Deardorf, Mrs. Leslie Roederer and Mr. Partington attended two meetings speaking about the public education and municipalities. Mr. Partington needs direction from the Commission as to which way to go with the scope of money for the public-school districts or allow interest from long-term facilities, child-care facilities, non-profit organizations, and the state fair for the \$12.6 million. The Board gave permission to seek outside assistance for paperwork if needed.

Mr. Partington spoke about the CDBG-CV grant and receiving five qualified applications outside the city. The state came up with new guidelines, so they had to ask the five applicants for

twelve months gross revenue of the entities and the cost of goods sold. We are waiting on SCKEDD for the process to reopen the grant applications, but even with the five applications it will not use all the grant money available.

Mr. Partington said July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30 p.m. there will be limited seating for six at the Planning and Zoning work session during the meeting. It will be recorded or can be watched on You tube under "The Reno County" and we have a link on the county website.

Commissioner Hirst stated that he received an email from T-Works regarding construction of the letting on the Reno/Rice extension around Nickerson in February 2021.

County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan said that a petition will be presented to vacate a portion of Mohawk Road to the Board next Tuesday to start the process to appoint viewers and setting times for a public hearing. Easements that are necessary for the utilities that are now in the road right-of-way have been prepared and are available to be signed by the Board if the road is vacated.

At 9:35 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk  
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Date