

August 6, 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 Tim Kraft, First Church of God.

There were no public comments and no additions to the agenda.

Commissioner comments:

Commissioner Sellers reminded the public to go vote in the City/School Primary Election today.

**Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on August 9th, 2019 of \$274,579.30 as submitted, also consisting of pending Added, Abated and Escaped Taxation Change Orders numbered 2019-439, and 440. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Public Works Director David McComb met with the Board to recommend approval for a FY2021 high Risk Rural Road Sign Project Grant that was fully funded by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). He stated this was a continuation of a contract agreeing on 100 percent funding by KDOT. The bid letting would be May 2021 for the eastern 1/3 of the county to identify and replace signs. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the FY2021 Rural Road Sign Project as presented by staff. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Human Resources Director Renee Harris met at the request of the Board to recommend approval to submit a request for proposals to Executive Search/Recruitment Firms for the position of County Administrator. She stated there were three representative firms for executive search/recruitment services to send proposals to: Austin Peters, Baker and Tilly, and Waters & Company, for the position of County Administrator. She found

out this morning that two of the three representative firms had merged. The proposal was for the candidate to be on board January 1, 2020 and Commissioner Hirst requested they have knowledge of Kansas Statutes, if possible. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst**, to approve the request for proposals to two representative firms for executive search/recruitment services for the position of County Administrator as discussed by staff. Commissioner Sellers asked if the date could be changed to a week earlier, August 21<sup>st</sup>, which he thought was enough time to get back with Commissioners for candidates. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Mrs. Harris was also present to recommend approval for the 2019-2020 Group Health Insurance Premiums for employees. She stated the Benefits Committee met and discussed the overall increase amount of 4.1 percent for renewal. The committee reviewed options: Option one was to stay with the current plan, Option two was to increase stop loss to \$100,000 this year.

Mr. Meagher stated there was a decrease in premiums saving \$183,000. He said we could save \$75,000 to \$100,000 from year to year by taking on more risk.

Mrs. Harris gave some statistics on employees enrolled in insurance and cost for employee per month. She went over increases to employees depending on which tier and what level in the wellness program they are on and stated that it could be anywhere from \$10 to \$40 and the tobacco is higher from \$30 to \$68 more. The major change was the code assigned to the tobacco surcharge that would be charged to employees on top of their regular insurance rate on the charts showing bronze, silver and gold amounts. She stated it would affect 88 employees currently using tobacco. Commissioner Bush asked if Reno County offered programs to help employees stop smoking. Mrs. Harris said there were a couple of options for tobacco users. One is an eight-week program through Blue Cross Blue Shield, which if the employee quits smoking the surcharge would be dropped.

Mr. Meagher stated that all health care costs were rising from pharmacy, doctors, and hospitals. The Biometric looks at gearing toward health issues of employees.

Mr. Baldetti stressed that the wellness program had shown lower numbers for HDL, LDL, cholesterol, and stress. The physical impact movement was going in the right direction.

Mrs. Harris stated there were changes coming in the Wellness Program for this next year and one change was what the employee needed to do to receive the discounted insurance. The biometric would qualify employees for Silver and physical activity would qualify for Gold. Full time 40-hour employees received a certain insurance rate and now the employees working 30 hours would be eligible for the fulltime rate under the ACA. If an employee works 20 to 29 hours and is considered part-time, they would be charged a surcharge and the dental changed to \$1,500 out of pocket with the county contribution staying the same. Mrs. Harris stated that vision premiums are paid by the employee. Commissioner Bush stated he was in favor of the new plan and incentives. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the 2019-2020 Group Health Insurance Premiums for Employees as outlined by staff. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Health Department Director Nick Baldetti discussed the Environmental Health Engineer Evaluation Policy. He gave a brief update of issues that have been in the discussions with contractors, manufacturers and Health Department staff. He spoke about sanitation codes and engineering reviews. Communication is the goal and what they are working toward for all parties involved.

Rick Kirkpatrick, Water Technologies expressed his concern about the lines of communication and stated that proper language in place is the best. He said he was here to help but thought engineer reports already done would expedite the process.

Ron Vincent, Carl Vincent Plumbing stated he was not against an engineering review but wanted to solve issues another way using the review as a last resort. He wanted open communication with products.

Commissioner Bush asked Mr. Vincent his thoughts on quarterly meetings. Mr. Bush stated he hoped they would use the engineering review as a last resort and the industry group would use better communication with the Health Department staff.

Mr. Vincent replied that he had no problem with quarterly meetings. Commissioner Sellers commented that all parties needed to participate with the Health Department and not just one way on either side.

Mr. Baldetti noted they would set the quarterly meetings on a calendar for all parties a year in advance so contractors,

manufacturers and interested parties could come to give feedback on any issues.

At 10:25 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 13, 2019.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk  
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Date