

August 27, 2019
Reno County Courthouse
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners met in agenda session with, Commissioner Ron Hirst and Commissioner Ron Sellers, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present. Chairman Bob Bush and County Administrator Gary Meagher were not available.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a short sectarian prayer led by Gary Getting, Elliott Mortuary Inc.

There were no public comments or added items to the agenda.

Commissioner comments:

Commissioner Sellers thanked House of Representative Jason Probst for his help in getting information for the public from the state on the recent earthquakes. He wanted to acknowledge the unveiling of a sculpture at the 70th Anniversary celebration event held at the Hutchinson Art Center, stating it was a positive for the community. He asked fellow commissioners to compile dates on their calendars to be available since the search for a new County Administrator was getting closer. Mr. Sellers interviewed seven residents of Reno County gathering information to help in the selection for a new Administrator. He said he had four more interviews to conduct.

Commissioner Hirst asked the public to let the commission know their opinions and give input toward hiring the County Administrator. He also stated they started evening meetings in the rural areas a couple of years ago and would like to return to those meetings. He said maybe with Nickerson in October or November since they had several issues in their area.

Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on August 30th, 2019 of \$571,011.40 as submitted. Next item on the consent agenda was to appoint Michelle Wilson to the Reno County Council on Aging for a 3-year term from 9/1/2019 to 12/31/2021. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

Human Resources Director Renee Harris met with the Board to recommend approval for the proposal from The Austin Peters

Group, Inc. or Baker Tilly for executive search/recruitment services for the position of County Administrator. Both proposals met the requirements, and both provided excellent references. Both had no problem with meeting the January 1, 2020 deadline.

The Austin Peters Group gave a cost of \$15,750 with optional added expenses for advertising, conducting two meetings with the citizen screening committee at \$800 to \$1,000 plus travel expenses, skill evaluation and assessment at \$80 per candidate, and background checks at \$300 per candidate, for a total close to \$17,500. The fee payment schedule would be divided into four payments with a deposit and three additional payments billed.

Baker Tilly's proposal was \$24,500 all inclusive. The professional fee included cost of professional services by the recruitment project team leader and staff, advertising, preparation of the recruitment brochure, printing, candidate background check, reference and academic verification checks and travel expenses for on-site visits. The fee would be billed in four installments: 30 percent at the beginning of the recruitment; 30 percent at the implementation of Phase 1; 30 percent at Phase II; and 10 percent upon acceptance of an offer by the candidate.

Commissioner Sellers asked Mrs. Harris to find out if the timeline for 1 - 6 could be condensed to expedite the process. Commissioner Hirst noted he would like to see steps 4 - 7 expedited. The Board discussed a few more issues then **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst**, to approve the proposal from The Austin Peters Group, Inc. for executive search/recruitment services for the position of County Administrator as recommended by county staff choosing the options as desired to move forward. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan added that he worked with Mrs. Harris and Marla from The Austin Peters Group on negotiations 10-years ago when Mr. Meagher was hired. He thought Marla with Austin Peters was very helpful providing excellent references and assistance.

Aging/Transportation Director Barbara Lilyhorn met with the Board to recommend approval on the updated Title VI policy and plan for Reno County Area Transportation. This is a grant requirement reviewed every three years, the only update was the

outreach information. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the updated Title VI Policy and Plan as outlined by Mrs. Lilyhorn. The motion was approved by a 2-0 vote.

County Appraiser Brad Wright and Aging/Transportation Director Barbara Lilyhorn met with the Board for their regularly scheduled meeting. Both discussed various current issues not requiring action by the Board.

Commissioner Sellers inquired about an RCAT route complaint from a resident in Careyville. Mrs. Lilyhorn replied the Careyville route would not be discontinued nor were there plans to stop it in the future stating, "it must have been a rumor."

At 9:55 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 3rd, 2019.

Approved:

Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

Reno County Clerk
cm

Date