

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Pursuant to the law, the Atchison County Commission Board met in Regular Session at 10:00 AM at the Atchison County Emergency Operations Center, 10443 US Hwy 59, Atchison, KS. A link to the meeting was made available to the public prior to the meeting. In addition, public attendance was available for the Commission meeting at the Atchison County Emergency Operations Center at 10443 US Hwy 59, Atchison, KS. Chairwoman Casey Quinn called the meeting to order with Commissioner Allen Reavis, Commissioner Eric Noll, and County Counselor Patrick Henderson present for the meeting. Kalee M. Vanderweide, Deputy County Election Officer recorded the minutes.

Chairwoman Quinn recited an invocation from Sr. Connie Krstolic.

The Board recited the pledge of allegiance to start the meeting.

***Public Comment:**

There were none.

***Reading and Approval of Minutes:**

There were none.

***Commissioner Comments:**

Commissioner Noll congratulated the Fair Board for the work done for the County Fair. There was an excellent crowd for the parade.

Chairwoman Quinn also thanked the Fair Board for the work done for the County Fair.

***New Business:**

Bria Lorenz, District Court Clerk and Steve Crossland, District Court Administrator, appeared before the Board for an update on the court budget. A document scanning project was discussed to eliminate all the paper copies of documents.

***Invocation:**

Fr. Jon Hullinger, Trinity Episcopal Church, recited the invocation.

***New Business:**

Commissioner Noll stated that County Counselor Patrick Henderson is updating a letter of support for Northeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging (NEKAAA).

Atchison Senior Village (ASV) has requested a letter to KDADS concerning the need to keep Lindsey Wood, ASV Administrator, as the temporary administrator of record. The draft of the letter provided needs to be updated.

Mark Zeltner, Finance Director, stated there might be grants to assist the courts with a scanning project.

Director Zeltner stated that Local Assistance and Tribal Fiscal Recovery Funds (LATFR) were available to every county in Kansas based on a formula that the federal government had. The funds were made available as part of the American Rescue Plan. Atchison County received \$100,000.00 in grant funding to be used for anything authorized under ARPA, which is somewhat broad. The funds cannot, for example, be used for lobbying.

Joe Snyder, Road & Bridge Superintendent, appeared before the Board to discuss fall patching for asphalt patching. For the different roads and the total quantity unit price, Pfefferkorn Engineering has an estimate of \$185,111.57, with the engineering cost of \$22,400.00. There might be an increase in costs, due to a few spot patches that need to be done on other roads.

Superintendent Snyder talked about bridges needing work on Phillips and Hamilton Roads. Husker Steel will come look at the bridges and give quotes. Superintendent Snyder will also speak with Welborn Sales in Salina.

Superintendent Snyder said the dust control letters have been mailed.

***County Counselor Updates:**

Patrick Henderson, County Counselor, stated that Bridge 15.4-M.8 was damaged in May. An engineer from Schwab Eaton did a mini bridge inspection to determine damage. The contractor gave an estimate of the cost to fix the bridge. The insurer for the driver who damaged the bridge agreed to pay the entire cost of the bridge repair. Commissioner Noll made a motion to approve the settlement and authorize Superintendent Snyder to sign the release, in exchange for the amount of \$33,450.00. Commissioner Reavis seconded the motion. Chairwoman Quinn called for a vote, all voted aye. The motion passed 3-0.

***New Business:**

Anonymous feedback came in on the recent CodeRed alerts for road closures in Atchison County. Discussion was had on how the area to receive the alerts is determined. We want the area to be broad enough to alert those who are likely to encounter the affected road, but narrow enough so as not to bother too many people.

***Executive Session:**

Commissioner Noll moved that the Board of County Commissioners recess into executive session at 11:25 am to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, as allowed by K.S.A. 75-4319(b) (1), and that the purpose of the closed session is to protect the privacy rights of the employee, and that the Board come out of the executive session at 11:40 am, in the Emergency Operations Center, 10443 US Hwy 59. Those present will be: the three commissioners, Finance Director Mark Zeltner, Human Resources Director Jodi Moore, and Superintendent Snyder. Commissioner Reavis seconded the motion. Chairwoman Quinn called for a vote, all voted aye. The motion passed 3-0. There was no action taken during the executive session.

Commissioner Noll moved that the Board of County Commissioners recess into executive session at 11:41 am for consultation with an attorney for the public body which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, as allowed by K.S.A. 75-4319(b) (2), and that the purpose of the closed session is to protect confidentiality of the discussion, and that the Board come out of the executive session at 12:01 pm, in the Emergency Operations Center, 10443 US Hwy 59. Those present will be: the three commissioners, County Counselor Patrick Henderson, Financial Director Mark Zeltner, and Superintendent Snyder. Chairwoman Quinn seconded the motion. Chairwoman Quinn called for a vote, all voted aye. The motion passed 2-0. There was no action taken during the executive session.

***New Business:**

A letter of support to the Board of Brown County Commissioners, for the NEKAAA Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), was presented to the Board. Commissioner Noll made a motion to approve the letter of support. Commissioner Reavis seconded the motion. Chairwoman Quinn called for a vote, all voted aye. The motion passed 3-0.

A letter to Karen Torbert of KDADS concerning a request for continued temporary licensure for Lindsey Wood, ASV Administrator, was presented to the Board. Commissioner Noll made a motion to approve the letter. Commissioner Reavis seconded the motion. Chairwoman Quinn called for a vote, all voted aye. The motion passed 3-0.

Director Zeltner stated he has been revising the budgets for Joint Communications and Solid Waste operations. The allocation of sales tax revenue between Joint Communications and Solid Waste have been determined based upon input from each of the Department Heads. Because the funding will come completely from sales tax revenues, we do not need to meet with the City to jointly approve the budgets.

The Board discussed Sheriff Jack Laurie's budget.

Brian Oswalt, Facilities and Maintenance Director, appeared before the Board with a budget review and update on courthouse renovations.

Connie Ellerman, County Treasurer, appeared before the Board for a budget review.

***Executive Session:**

Commissioner Noll moved that the Board of County Commissioners recess into executive session at 12:53 pm for consultation with an attorney for the public body which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, as allowed by K.S.A. 75-4319(b) (2), and that the purpose of the closed session is to protect confidentiality of the discussion, and that the Board come out of the executive session at 1:23 pm, in the Emergency Operations Center, 10443 US Hwy 59. Those present will be: the three commissioners, County Counselor Patrick Henderson, Atchison Senior Village Administrator Lindsey Wood, Human Resources Director Jodi Moore, and Financial Director Mark Zeltner. Commissioner Reavis seconded the motion. Chairwoman Quinn called for a vote, all voted aye. The motion passed 3-0. There was no action taken during the executive session.

***Approval of Expenses:**

Commissioner Reavis made a motion to approve the expenses for August 8, 2023. Commissioner Noll seconded the motion. Chairwoman Quinn called for a vote. The motion passed 3-0.

***Public Comment:**

There were none.

Add, abate, escapes for real estate and personal property taxes were presented to be approved.

Bills were presented to be signed.

Commissioner Reavis made the motion to adjourn at 1:24 pm. Commissioner Noll seconded the motion. Chairwoman Quinn called for a vote, all voted aye. The motion passed 3-0.

*Note: Once approved these minutes will be the official minutes of the Board of County Commissioners. Regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners are video-recorded. The video of these meeting is generally available for supplementation of the minutes. The videos can be located under the Government tab at www.atchisoncountyks.org.

Attest: Kalee M. Vanderweide, Deputy County Election Officer