

Thursday, March 25, 2021

Pursuant to the law, the Atchison County Commission Board met in Special Session at 5:30 PM at the Atchison Event Center, 710 S 9th St. Atchison, KS. Chairman Jack Bower called the meeting to order with Commissioner Eric Noll, Commissioner Casey Quinn, and County Counselor Patrick Henderson; along with June Bower, Lisa Moody, Becky Berger, Jim Rowland, James Howey, Jaquetta Peak, Abby Bartlett, Jesse F. Greenly, Bob Campbell, Mike Wilson, Larry D. Myer, Ronnie C. Myer, Pat Weishaar, Clinton McNemee, Justin Pregont, Mike Stec, Harvey Fasse, Lorin Affield, Don Ball, John R. Eplee, J. David Farris, Julie Behler, Connie Ellerman, and Joe Warren present for the meeting. Deputy County Election Officer, Kalee Vanderweide recorded the minutes.

Abby Bartlett led the group with the pledge of allegiance to start the meeting.

***Welcome: Atchison County Commission Chairman Jack Bower**

Chairman Bower asked for a moment of silence for Jeanie Evans, an Effingham City Council Member who recently passed away.

Chairman Bower asked everyone to introduce themselves.

***Minutes from Last Joint Meeting**

The minutes from the last Joint meeting, March 26, 2018, were provided for all to look at.

***Letters of Support for 286th Road**

Commissioner Quinn spoke about getting support letters for its application to the Kansas Department of Transportation for granting funding under a Cost Share Program. This relates to improvements to 286th Road between the Cities of Atchison and Lancaster. The letters of support are due by Monday, March 29, 2021; to Casey Quinn by email at cquinn@atcoks.org or dropping in the Drop Box in front of the Courthouse.

***Neighborhood Revitalization Program – Don Ball**

Don Ball spoke about the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), which sunsets October 2021. This program originally started in 1995, with minimal involvement from taxing units. To date, not all taxing units are participating in the program, but taxing units not participating can be added to a new program.

***Chamber News – Jim Rowland**

Jim Rowland spoke about the things that are happening at the Atchison Chamber of Commerce. The Atchison Chamber of Commerce partnered with the City of Atchison on Kansas Main Street. The Atchison Chamber of Commerce is looking at launching an “eat local”

challenge. Mr. Rowland stated that the Atchison Chamber of Commerce would be helpful in marketing for different events in Atchison County.

***Legislative Options for Future of 1% Sales Tax – Dr. John R. Eplee**

Dr. John R. Eplee spoke about the different House bills currently in session. The current 1% sales tax in Atchison County has been on the roll since 1993. Dr. Eplee thinks that the House will discontinue the sales tax sometime within 1-3 years.

***Ideas to Grow Atchison County**

Everyone in attendance agreed that communication with each other is key to Grow Atchison.

***Grant Information**

There was talk of a grant workshop that was postponed. The City of Atchison is great at writing grants. The County is working on writing a couple of grants, and MOKAN has helped with these as well.

The meeting was adjourned.

Attest: Kalee Vanderweide, Deputy County Election Officer