

July 26th, 2022  
Reno County Annex  
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners held an agenda session with Chairman Daniel Friesen, Commissioner Ron Sellers, and Commissioner Ron Hirst, County Administrator Randy Partington, County Counselor Patrick Hoffman, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a short sectarian prayer led by Pastor Rishawn Austin, First Baptist Church.

There were no public comments or additions to the agenda.

**Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to** approve the Consent Agenda consisting of items 6A through 6G voting on 6H separately, including the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on July 22nd, 2022, totaling \$877,951.04, claims payable on July 29th, 2022, totaling \$1,583,092.94; approve Community Corrections year-end budget adjustments for the adult supervision Kansas Department of Corrections grant; approve FY2022 Year-End KDOC Juvenile Comprehensive Plan Grant Budget Revisions Community Corrections Kansas Department of Corrections adult and juvenile carryover client reimbursement budgets submission; approve addendum to the Purchasing Policy; approve agreement between the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and Reno County for the High-Risk Rural Roads (HRRR) project to improve safety on county roads. 100 percent of Participating Costs are covered by KDOT. Estimated Project Cost is \$561,000.00; Agreement No. #189-22; and Project No. #078C-5198.01; to approve the purchase of a used 2022 CAT 950M loader from Foley Equipment in Wichita, KS in the amount of \$241,915.43 as presented by staff. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0. Mr. Sellers started a brief discussion on purchasing new equipment versus purchasing used for the same price and warranty. Mr. Hirst suggested it could be the wait time for new being six months to a year for delivery and the used was available now. Mr. Partington would consult with Solid Waste Director Megan Davidson for the answers.

**Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to** approve the proposal from Hutton Corporation, agenda item 6H, that was a proposal to provide design builder services for the shooting range project. Mr. Sellers stated he had nothing against the Hutton Corporation however he would not vote for the proposal

believing it had the possibility of expenses growing out of control with the county's money.

Mr. Hirst shared those concerns on expenses but believed there was an opportunity to provide a facility and a need for the shooting range warranted a planning design. The Sheriff's Office would benefit along with other agencies as it could become the regional training center. They had four companies present practical presentations and Hutton was the only one that would help us seek grants.

Sheriff Darrin Campbell said Hutton Corporation stood out from all the others. He stated that it was practical and scalable to fit our needs and budgets also provide a training facility for the region.

The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-1 with Mr. Sellers opposed.

Hutchinson Community Foundation Director of Strategic Initiatives Kari Mailloux gave a presentation on behalf of the Reno County Entrepreneur Ecosystem Partnership (RCEEP) Action Plan. She showed the progress and updates for the 2022-2025 Reno County Entrepreneur Action Plan. Other members of that group were in the audience: Jackson Swearer and Dave Dukart, Start Up Hutch; Michele Inskeep, Peoples Bank and Trust.

Mr. Swearer explained the function of RCEEP stating they would still meet quarterly to continue to function with Hutchinson Foundation as a neutral partner in those meetings. He felt it was important to not duplicate services with what other agencies were doing.

County Counselor Patrick Hoffman gave explanation for the Joint Venture Agreement with Interfaith Housing for a development project at 500 W. 20<sup>th</sup>, the old St. Elizabeth Hospital building in Hutchinson, KS. He said the main focus was giving back the deed to Interfaith if the grant was not awarded. Reno County would carry additional insurance with the same coverage as other buildings when filing a claim with a deductible, and Interfaith would reimburse Reno County the insurance cost as written. Mr. Hoffman was satisfied with the agreement. Mr. Friesen stated good work with the creativity on moving forward with the St. Elizabeth project and suggested working with the City of Hutchinson for support and cooperation. **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the Joint

Venture Agreement with the indemnity clause as presented. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Appraiser Mike Plank presented his annual report to the Board. He reviewed several statistics and stated they were compliant since 2016 which was outstanding.

Mr. Partington stated the Board last week approved the maximum budget that would possibly exceed the RNR (Revenue Neutral Rate) with discussions before the August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, public hearing. He stated to keep the mill levy neutral the cut would have to be \$1.3 million. The Board had a large discussion on the revenue and expenses within each department's budgets. Mr. Partington was instructed to make a spreadsheet showing areas to cut before the August 30<sup>th</sup> public hearing.

Mr. Partington asked if the Board had any questions on the monthly reports, there were no questions. He said a townhall meeting was set in Yoder and asked if the Board would be attending, Mr. Friesen and Mr. Hirst would attend with possibly Mr. Sellers.

Commissioner Comments:

Mr. Hirst mentioned Reno County was lucky to have National Baseball Congress World Series here this week starting at noon July 28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you for quick work by Chamber to potentially host the AG expo here. He also thanked the 4-H Fair Committee, the livestock sale committee, and volunteers for creating a great youth program, and all open class exhibitors, 4-H is an outstanding organization.

Mr. Sellers thought Mr. Hirst's suggestion to Start Up Hutch to be more personable visible in the county was appropriate, most of the world use social media for visibility. He thought Mr. Friesen's suggestion to Interfaith Housing to work with the City of Hutchinson for support on the St. Elizabeth project was a good one.

Mr. Friesen commented to Mr. Hoffman on his work on the tax sale. We are on track for this year, thank you.

At 11:00 a.m. the meeting recessed for five minutes.

The meeting reconvened with all Commissioners, County Administrator Randy Partington, County Counselor Patrick Hoffman, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

At 11:05 a.m. **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to go into executive session until 11:10 a.m., with the County Administrator Randy Partington to remain, to discuss an attorney/client privileged legal matter. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

**At 11:10 a.m. Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to extend the executive session until 11:15 a.m. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

The meeting returned to regular open session with no binding action to be taken as a result of the executive session.

**Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to delegate Commissioner Friesen to meet with the Chamber of Commerce regarding an Economic Development opportunity, and to make a non-binding commitment on the county's behalf as he saw fit, with final approval of any Economic Development Program to be approved by the Commission at a regular meeting. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

At 11:20 a.m. the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 9th, 2022.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk  
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Date