

May 10th, 2022  
Reno County Annex  
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners held an agenda session at the Annex Conference Room 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 Tim Kraft, First Church of God.

There were no public comments or revisions to the agenda.

**Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to** approve the Consent Agenda consisting of items 6A through 6J, including the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on May 6th, 2022, totaling \$285,816.92, claims payable on May 13th, 2022, totaling \$993,711.12; approval for a renewal application for a Cereal Malt Beverage License for Oasis Convenience Store for OFF PREMISES sells in the amount of \$75.00; approve the purchase of one 2022 Ford Maverick Truck from Midway Motors for the Maintenance Department including the trade of a 2005 GMC Sierra for the cost of \$20,380.00; approval of the purchase of one 2022 Ford Maverick from Midwest Superstore for the Health Department including the trade of a 2009 Lincoln MKX for \$20,279.34; to declare a 1998 Chevrolet Venture van from the Maintenance Department as surplus property and dispose of on Purple Wave Auction; approval for Planning Case #2022-04 a request by David, Jr. and Constance Ellis and Linda Case to vacate the 20-foot-wide sidewalk easement between Lots 5 and 6, Block 1 of Random Acres Subdivision. The properties are located at 509 and 601 Barnes Lake Road; approve an agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation, Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to Agreement No. 150-21 Project No. 78 C5116-01 Off System Bridge Project (69<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge 26.70). The estimated cost of the project is \$896,774.00 with the Off System Bridge Program paying 80 percent of the cost not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 and the County paying the remaining portion; approve an agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation Project No. 78 C5179-01 as part of the Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program. Bridge Reconstruction/Rehabilitation for Fairview Road Bridge 1.60; estimated cost is \$528,327.00.

The program will pay 90 percent of the cost not to exceed \$200,000 with the County paying the remaining portion; approve the Employee Assistance Program Policy Updated for Accounts CN2538DOT, CN2634 General, CN2638DEU and TG3093FTA; approve Drug and Alcohol Policy Update for TG3093FTA, CN2538DOT, CN2634 General, and CN2638DEU. The consent agenda motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0. Mr. Sellers questioned the difference between the two bridges mentioned in 6G and 6H; one was 80 percent of total and the other was 90 percent which was much less than the cost of the bridge leaving us a higher percentage on the second bridge. Mr. Partington replied it depends on the grant money and terms, he would request Public Works Director Don Brittain to send the answers to Mr. Sellers.

Human Resources Director Helen Foster introduced USI Rick Beins who gave an overview presentation of the Plan Performance and Strategies to improve performance. He stated that the performance with USI/BML partnership had positive amounts compared to Blue Cross Blue Shield rates which would show a savings to the county. He explained implementing the Payer Matrix Infusion Patient Assistance Program now and Tria Health Disease Management Program at enrollment in October 2022. The Payer and Tria were intended to reduce the claims costs paid by the Reno County Health Plan and to help with out-of-pocket expenses by the member of the Reno County Health Plan. There was a large discussion by the Board on performance and cost savings of at least \$21,000, also having Mr. Beins explain Tria to help employees to be healthier. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to approve the proposal for implementing Payer Matrix Infusion Patient Assistance Program as an option for the county and the proposal for implementing Tria Health Disease Management Program as an option for the county, both effective at the October 2022 renewal. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Ms. Foster explained the new insurance issues, concerns, and problems and how they are straightening out those issues. The Board suggested Mr. Partington send out a survey to all employees enrolled in the insurance program and report back.

Ms. Foster was also available to explain the Compensation Policy which is the formal version. She said the pay for performance increase was built into the budget at 2-percent to each department to be divided by an employee's performance which was decided by the annual evaluation scoring of standard or above. Each department head would receive special evaluation training on the 2 percent pay for performance.

There is a 1% recommended COLA that will be applied to all employees at the beginning of each calendar year. The current wage increases have been a step increase or a 3-percent across the board. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the Compensation Policy as presented by Ms. Foster. The motion was approved by a roll call vote 3-0.

Maintenance Director Harlen Depew explained the Reno County Courthouse space renovation architect proposal designed by GLMV. He stated GLMV would double check with all departments impacted for any changes before going out for bids. The new or revised spaces would be for Information Services, County Commission, County Administration Offices, Human Resources, Kansas Legal Services, District Attorney, and District Courts. GLMV Brad Doeden stated the maximum timeline could be eight months for the remodel to be completed or shorter. The architects estimated a construction cost of \$1,616,832. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the proposal by GLMV per design documents. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Mr. Friesen requested updates on the progress with options on remodel that was separated in bid. He would like to prioritize for bids with the District Attorney's fifth floor remodel as the top priority. He questioned about tax credits. Mr. Depew replied that the county usually sold these credits.

Solid Waste Director Megan Davidson gave an overview of her annual report on Landfill projects. She spoke about the new scale building open house, spring cleanup, and re-use building being full for citizens. The Board briefly discussed user fees for citizens. Mr. Hirst questioned using cells 8 and 9 for trash control and how much it cost the county for blowing plastic bags. Mr. Sellers stated her department was very well run and praised her and her staff and appreciated their hard work for the citizens of Reno County. Mr. Friesen questioned fire mitigation at the Landfill. She replied that she was in contact with Emergency Management on that topic.

The Board had a large discussion on user/tipping fees for the Landfill and where it should be charged, commercial versus residential. Ms. Davidson suggested having a work study session to discuss rates for residential and commercial in September. County Attorney Patrick Hoffman said Barton County does tipping fees. Mr. Friesen asked staff to come up with documentation for commercial cost to residential users and businesses and coming back in September with the reports.

At 11:08 a.m. the Board recessed for a 7-minute break.

Administrator Randy Partington noted some highlights of the financial report and asked if there were any questions on the monthly department reports.

Mr. Sellers commented the DA's report stated the conditions were improved on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. County Clerk's Office stated through the Election Commissioner that the State of Kansas was considering the counties spend an additional \$20,000 more for watermarks on ballots to stop election fraud, not a wise use of the funds.

Mr. Partington mentioned the City of Hutchinson Attorney Paul Brown was working on contracts and may have them later this week. After the May 24<sup>th</sup> agenda Environmental Health Supervisor Darcy Basye will give an overview on septic permits and answer questions.

Mr. Hirst commented that he attended the KCCA meeting and that he had excellent reports. He said KAC was also there and both agencies had information on the housing programs. He was on a zoom meeting on their childcare program and facility at the Hutchinson Regional Hospital.

Mr. Friesen gave a reminder to the public from the Sheriff's Office that they would be hosting the annual Peace Officers Ceremony in front of the Law Enforcement Center at 11:00 a.m. on May 13<sup>th</sup>. He noted the live feed was poor quality. Mr. Partington will speak with McClellan Sound to check the problem. He commented that the County Administrator should be able to sign some documents like contracts, titles, etc. Mr. Hoffman stated the Board needed to make a formal authorization in the minutes for him to sign. The Board gave consensus for Mr. Partington to be able to sign documents.

Mr. Partington clarified on business item 7A the Payer Matrix Infusion Patient Assistance Program option would be effective now and the proposal for implementing Tria Health Disease Management Program would be in effect October 1,2022.

At 11:30 a.m. the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m.  
Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 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