

August 30, 2023  
Reno County Courthouse  
Hutchinson, Kansas

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

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a short sectarian prayer led by Pastor Daren Lugafet from Crossroads Christian Church.

There were no announcements or additions to the agenda.

There were two revisions to the agenda: 7B) a study session for Fire Districts Strategic Planning, and 7C) Executive session on non-elected personnel for job performance.

6A. At 9:10 a.m. Mr. Friesen opened the public hearing regarding the issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds (APAC-Kansas Project) in a principal amount not to exceed \$5,500,000 and in regard to an exemption from ad valorem taxation of property constructed or purchased with the proceeds of such Bonds.

Sarah Steele Attorney for Gilmore and Bell, P.C. spoke about the long history of APAC, formerly Shears since 1874, this being Step 1 for the APAC new offices project by holding the hearing today. IRB offers a property tax exemption and sales tax exemption for financing the acquisition, construction, and equipping of a commercial facility; and authorizing execution of related documents and when they are up and running it terminates. She said APAC would pay the county and the county would not have any responsibility in a bond default-no liability-but two economic benefits. She stated there was a resolution to be adopted of an IRB for APAC for \$5,500,000.

Shawn Riley President of APAC out of Reno County stated they had been in business 150 years starting out as Shears Company. He gave a brief history of the business and stated in his 36 years with the company this was the first time they have

considered building new offices that could be added onto in the future. Construction was scheduled to begin in January 2024. The building would be on the corner of Avenue G and Airport Road, currently owned by APAC. He stated Wichita State University did the cost benefit analysis study.

Debra Teufel from Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce commented on this being the best option and a great attribute for Reno County. Wichita State University made a fiscal impact model to measure how the project would impact the community with APAC choosing their division headquarters here in Reno County. She gave financial statistics for the 10-and 20-year tax exempt options. She was pleased and thanked the Board for their support with the bonds and tax exemptions.

The Board discussed the APAC project weighing the financial and other benefits for keeping a long-time company in Reno County.

At 9:25 a.m. Mr. Friesen closed the hearing.

**Mr. Parks moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to approve the issuance of a Resolution 2023-23; A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS, DETERMINING THE ADVISABILITY OF ISSUING INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPPING OF A COMMERCIAL FACILITY TO BE LOCATED IN THE COUNTY; AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF RELATED DOCUMENTS.** Industrial Revenue Bonds for APAC-Kansas project as discussed not to exceed \$5,500,000. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 5-0.

7B. Mr. Whitesel brought up a suggestion to record the study session today because of so much public interest in the Fire Districts Strategic Planning. After listening to the county counselor, administrator, and other commissioners' comments the Board agreed by consensus to direct staff to record the upcoming study session.

7C. At 9:35 a.m. County Counselor Patrick Hoffman read the executive session motion stating, "To move the Board into recess for executive session until 9:50 a.m. with the county administrator and county counselor joining the governing body in the executive session, the justification for the executive session is private discussion of job performance of non-elected

personnel and the subject matter is the job performance of several nonelected personnel." **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Bogner**, to approve going into executive session for 15 minutes as stated above. The motion was approved by a majority vote of 5-0.

**Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Bogner**, to extend the executive session for another 10 minutes until 10:00 a.m. The motion was approved by a majority vote of 5-0.

At 10:00 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 10:05 a.m. the regular agenda session recessed for the study session.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk  
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Date

