

December 27, 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 Steve Gill with Turon Community Church via phone.

There was one addition to the agenda for a five-minute executive session.

At 9:05 a.m. Mr. Friesen asked the County Counselor Patrick Hofman to read the motion; "I move the Board enter executive session until 9:15 a.m. with the county counselor, the subject matter to be county employee performance and the justification for the executive session is to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel". **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Parks,** to enter the executive session. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Bogner, to approve the consent agenda consisting of items 6A through 6Q which includes the: **(6A)** Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on December 22, 2023, totaling \$361,722.15; Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on December 29, 2023, totaling \$499,487.35; **(6B)** approve BOCC minutes for November 8th, November 15th and November 22nd, 2023; **(6C)** approve resolution #2023-43; **A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RENO COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT 1 (CEDARVIEW Lodge) reserve fund per K.S.A. 12-6130;** **(6D)** approve resolution #2023-44; **A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RENO COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT 3/10 (BLUE SPRUCE) RESERVE FUND per K.S.A. 12-6130;** **(6E)** approve resolution #2023-45; **A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RENO COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT 8 (HIGHLANDS) RESERVE FUND per K.S.A. 12-310;** **(6F)** approve resolution #2023-46; **A RESOLUTION RENAMING RENO COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT 201 (YODER) REPLACEMENT FUND TO A "RESERVE" FUND per K.S.A. 12-6310;** **(6G)** approve resolution #2023-47; **A RESOLUTION RENAMING RENO COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT 202 (H.A.B.I.T.) REPLACEMENT FUND TO A "RESERVE" FUND per K.S.A. 12-6310;** **(6H)** approve resolution #2023-48; **A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RENO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT 8 (HIGHLANDS) RESERVE FUND per K.S.A. 19-3516;** **(6I)**

approve resolution #2023-49; A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RENO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT 101 (YODER) RESERVE FUND per K.S.A. 19-3516; (6J) approve resolution #2023-50; A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF ALL WATER DISTRICT AND SEWER DISTRICT GENERAL FUNDS TO THE WATER DISTRICT AND SEWER DISTRICT RESERVE FUNDS; (6K) approve resolution #2023-51; A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RENO COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT 201-202 (YODER-H.A.B.I.T.) IMPROVEMENTS FUND per K.S.A. 19-27a01; (6L) approve resolution #2023-52; A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RENO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT 101 (YODER) IMPROVEMENT FUND K.S.A. 19-3516; (6M) approve resolution #2023-53; A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RENO COUNTY JDF BEHAVIORAL SERVICE GRANT FUND K.S.A. 12-16,111; and resolution #2023-56; A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A RENO COUNTY JUVENILE CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD JCAB GRANT FUND per K.S.A. 12-16,111; (6N) approve Reno County Community Corrections Diversion Policy; (6O) approve appointing Jamee L. Archer to the Reno County Council on Aging. The term would begin on January 1, 2024, and end on December 31, 2026; (6P) approve appointment of Gordon Roth to a 3-year term on the Reno County Public Transportation; (6Q) approve County Administrator's Contact for 2024 as presented by staff.

Mr. Whitesel proposed to change the consent agenda item 6Q on page 2 item B from 60 to 90 days for notice to termination clause. **Mr. Whitesel moved** to change item B page 2 from 60 days to 90 days and accept the consent agenda with the amendment. The motion failed for lack of a second.

The motion for the consent agenda was approved by a roll call vote of 5-0.

7A. Bob Fee with Fee Insurance explained the 2024 Insurance buy-down and umbrella options. He went over the two percent per occurrence with wind and hail and the deductible. After a brief discussion, the Board decided by consensus not to support the options. They thanked Mr. Fee for the information.

7B. Mr. Partington stated this resolution would get rid of tax levies in 2024 and start user fees instead of tax statements. **Mr. Parks moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst, to approve resolution #2023-54; A RESOLUTION PROVIDING A SCHEDULE OF FEES IN CONNECTION WITH SEWER DISTRICTS #3 AND 10 (BLUE SPRUCE)** wastewater billing procedure effective January 1, 2024. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 5-0.

7C. Public Works Director Don Brittain explained the reason for the re-appointments of these two citizens to serve another three-year term on the Planning Commission. He said 13 applications were received for consideration stating most serve three three-year terms and recommended approval of both members to serve again. Mr. Friesen stated the path of least resistance was to keep the leadership people in place. **Mr. Parks moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst**, for approval to re-appoint Russ Goertzen currently Chairman who would be serving his last term and Jack Martin currently Vice-Chairman who would be serving his second term to the Planning Commission as recommended by staff. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 4-1 with Mr. Whitesel opposing. He stated he would have liked to speak to the other candidates before making appointments to the Planning Commission.

7D. County Counselor Patrick Hoffman briefly explained resolution **#2023-55; A DECLARATORY RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S "30 X 30" LAND PRESERVATION GOAL**. The executive order by President Biden directed as a policy goal to conserve 30 percent of all U.S. Lands, freshwater, and U.S. oceans by year 2030. It was not currently funded, and no direct laws or policies had been created to implement it at this time. He stated many Kansas counties had passed resolutions to state their opposition to the policy. He said this drafted resolution removed some of the political language found in similar resolutions and attempts to stick directly to the issue itself, which is that the Commissioners oppose the policy proposal due to the potential for federal interference with private property rights. The county could not tell the federal government what to do but instead could bring attention to the issue and maybe of note to elected officials. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Bogner**, to approve the resolution as drafted by staff. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 5-0.

8A. County Administrator Mr. Randy Partington inquired if there were questions on any monthly department reports, there were none. He stated the financial report was through November and revenues were above budgeted amounts, so we were in good shape. Mr. Friesen had a concern about the growing conversations around allocation of cash, (state, or county for depositors of \$250,000) maybe at risk. Mr. Partington said we had access to more banks in Reno County and municipal pools. Mr. Hoffman briefly explained idle funds.

9A. Mr. Bogner attended a meeting or two and holiday festivities. Merry Christmas to all.

On January 4th, Mr. Parks was going to attend the Conservation breakfast.

Mr. Hirst will also be attending the Conservation breakfast on January 4th and the district meeting on January 12th stating it was important to go. He spoke about the K-96 Corridor meeting at Haven Community Center with a couple of mayors and the Kansas Leadership program. He talked about people protesting taxes for school board bond issues, saying it was not a valid reason to protest suggesting they get in touch with the school board.

Mr. Whitesel spoke about the Reno County Central Republican Committee voting the replacement, Deputy Treasurer Richele Calvert, for Treasurer Brenda Kowitz. He attended the Chamber meeting. He asked the public to be careful next week for New Year's Eve drinking and driving then wished all a Happy New Year.

Mr. Bogner will be attending the Conservation breakfast and asked for the message to go out about a possible quorum.

Mr. Friesen asked if Ms. Calvert could come and introduce herself to the Board to be officially congratulated at the next meeting. The appreciation party for the Treasurer Brenda Kowitz will be Friday, December 29th from 2-4 p.m. at the Annex Conference Room. He said she was not feeling well today to receive the plaque so they will present it to her on Friday. Presenting it on behalf of Reno County's gratitude for her years of service. He will not be available for the January 24th meeting, and neither will Mr. Hirst or Mr. Bogner, so they asked the Administrator to look at scheduling another date. Mr. Partington suggested moving it to the fifth Wednesday meeting on January 31st, 2024.

At 10:10 a.m. the agenda meeting adjourned until Wednesday, January 10th, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Approved:

Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

Reno County Clerk

Date

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