

February 7, 2023
Reno County Annex
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 County Clerk Donna Patton, present.

The meeting began late with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a short sectarian prayer led by Commissioner Daniel Friesen.

There were no public comments, and one addition added to the agenda. Mr. Whitesel asked to talk about recording the work sessions.

Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Parks to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of items 7A through 7B which includes the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on February 3, 2023, totaling \$1,153,830.28; includes the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on February 10, 2023, totaling \$1,118,267.04. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Tabled from 1/24/2023, Clint Nelson with Interfaith House met with the Board to continue the discussion about the allocation of the ARPA funds. He went over some changes they planned to make including separating the allocation funds from their regular budget funds and answered questions from the Board. **Mr. Whitesel moved, seconded by Mr. Bogner** to approve the amended agreement with Interfaith Housing for the allocation of \$4,000,000. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Tabled from 1/24/2023, Denise Gilliland with United Way met with the Board to continue the discussion about the allocation of the ARPA funds. Mr. Partington said a revision to their budget was created. Ms. Gilliland went over some changes and hoped to get the Director for the COOP for less money than they originally thought they would. She said the Leadership team consisting of around 12 members will make the decision for the Director position. Ms. Gilliland answered several questions from the Board. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen** to approve the amended agreement with United Way for the allocation of \$4,500,000. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Mr. Friesen asked that Item 7C, The Commission Goals and Priorities Discussion be moved to the Work Session later this morning. By consensus the Board agreed to move the Item.

Mr. Whitesel asked about recording the Work/Study Sessions. Mr. Partington said that in the past they haven't recorded them, but the meeting is open to the public, and the public can record the meeting if they choose to. Mr. Hoffman said that there isn't a law one way or the other and it is up to the Board. Everyone agreed that it would be good for transparency but as Mr. Partington said, some people are hesitant to speak their mind if the session is being recorded. After a lengthy discussion, **Mr. Whitesel moved, seconded by Mr. Parks** to start recording the Work/Study Sessions. **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Parks** to amend the motion to record today's session only then see how it goes. The motion passed 3-2 with Mr. Hirst and Mr. Whitesel voting no. **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Parks** to amend the motion to record today's session and then ask staff to draft a policy with input from staff, to record study sessions. This will give Mr. Partington and IT time to look at the situation and create a plan. The motion passed 4-1 with Mr. Hirst voting No.

At 9:50 a.m. Mr. Friesen adjourned the meeting until 10:05 a.m. at which time they will start the Work Session. The next agenda meeting will be Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Approved:

Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

Reno County Clerk
dp

Date