

May 9th, 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 Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, was present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a short sectarian prayer led by Pastor Kim Biery, Trinity United Methodist Church.

Casey Swartz, 207 Buckskin Road, had concerns regarding the two Health Officer candidates. He voiced his support for Dr. Pauly.

Chairman Friesen suggested a revision to the agenda by switching 7B and 7C around to hear the Solid Waste Annual Report before the discussion on Solid Waste FY2024 fees.

**Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, consisting of items 6A through 6H which includes: (6A) the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on May 5th, 2023, totaling \$281,420.95; Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on May 12th, 2023, totaling \$584,341.27; (6B) approve BOCC minutes for March 28<sup>th</sup>, April 11<sup>th</sup>, April 11<sup>th</sup> Canvass for USD 313, and April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023; (6C) approve the cost of \$1,580,749.94 to repair the Woodie Seat Bridge over the Arkansas River. The Kansas Department of Transportation will reimburse the County up to \$600,000. The cost of construction to the County will be \$980,749.94 from the Special Bridge Fund 006; (6D) approve appointment of Jake Burgess to Assistant Fire Chief of Fire District #3; (6E) approval to declare Aging's 2010 Dodge Caravan conversion van VIN 2D4RN4DE4AR127401 as surplus property to be sold on Purple Wave and authorize county administrator Randy Partington to sign necessary documents; (6F) approval for purchase of a used three row SUV or van for the Health Department for a cost not to exceed \$28,000 including the trade of a 2008 Dodge Charger VIN 2B3KA43R78H265191 and authorize county administrator Randy Partington to sign necessary documents; (6G) approve renewal application for a Cereal Malt Beverage License for Oasis Convenience Store for OFF PREMISES sales;

(6H) approve proposal from Paycor for an Applicant Tracking System in the amount of \$6,687.00 and authorize county administrator Randy Partington to sign the agreement; consent agenda as presented by staff. Mr. Parks asked for clarification of item 6C.

Public Works Director Don Brittain stated item 6C, the City of Hutchinson and Reno County applied jointly for the 2022 Fall Cost Share project for improvements to the County Woody Seat Bridge and City Woody Seat Freeway. The maximum cost share awarded was \$1,500,000.00. The split for each agency would be 58 percent of their total project amount, with the county repairing the bridge deck patching and overlay. The City of Hutchinson would improve the roadway from the Arkansas River bridge north to the end of Avenue C bridge. KDOT would reimburse the City \$900,000.00 for the construction of their project and the County would be reimbursed \$600,000.00 for the construction of their project. The full cost of the County project to repair the Woody Seat Bridge is \$1,580,749 making the balance \$980,749.94 to be paid out of the Special Bridge Fund.

The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 5-0.

7A. Sheriff Annual Update by Sheriff Darrian Campbell. He reviewed all aspects of the Sheriff's Department and gave explanations of agency responsibilities and accomplishments. They were working on two projects, software updates and the firing range located near the landfill. He indicated that during budget discussions he would be recommending an increase for 2024. He invited the Board and public to a ceremony in front of the Law Enforcement Center this Friday at 11:00 a.m.

7C. Ms. Davidson also gave the Solid Waste Annual Update. She gave an overview of 2022 projects. She stated Cell 8 was now open and briefly went over current projects that are underway. She said landfill employees saved Reno County approximately \$2 million dollars on cell dirt work. She spoke about spring cleanups and household hazardous waste, municipal solid waste, and construction/demolition stats. Ms. Davidson gave information on Sheriff's reported illegal dumping within Reno County since it was mentioned by a couple of commissioners.

7B. Solid Waste Director Megan Davidson recommended scenario one for approval regarding the Solid Waste Fees starting on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

She had three scenarios; **(1)** Status Quo-Reno County user fees stay the same as year 2023 at \$96 residential, \$106 Commercial, Out of County tonnage increases from \$34 to \$36 per ton, Special Waste permits increase by \$1 to \$41 per ton or \$61 per ton for asbestos, C&D rates would remain the same as in 2023 at \$10 per ton or a \$10 minimum if a mixed load \$20 per ton or \$20 minimum for residential and Commercial. **(2)** Status Quo without charging residential C&D tipping fees ONLY commercial C&D tipping fees. **(3)** conduct a Cost-of-Service Study first then approve tipping fees. The rates would be reviewed annually to determine if fees need to be adjusted accordingly. The Board had a large discussion on rates and tonnage.

SCS Engineers Project Manager Kellyn J Modlin, MBA explained the fee charts representing the projected Revenue Sufficiency Analysis until 2036.

**Mr. Whitesel moved, seconded by Mr. Parks,** to approve scenario (2) leaving Reno County residential \$96, commercial \$106, out of county \$36 per ton, increase permits \$1 to \$41 per ton, starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, as presented by staff. The motion was approved by a 4-1 roll call vote with Mr. Hirst opposed.

County Attorney Patrick Hoffman suggested amending the previous resolution for C&D amounts and tonnage. **Mr. Hirst moved** to instruct Mr. Hoffman to amend the present resolution regarding C&D to include under a ton regardless of classification would have no fees. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Friesen suggested Mr. Partington and Mr. Hoffman develop a recommendation for a resolution by the next agenda meeting, the Board agreed by consensus. He also asked them to work on a plan for fees that could be discussed in a June study session.

8A. Mr. Partington had monthly department reports from several departments. He mentioned that the City of Hutchinson and Reno County joint meeting was scheduled for May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30 a.m. at the Jail Conference room. They will be leaving the Medical Officer applicants timeline open until the end of May. Mr. Partington informed the Commission that the administration did not name the two current applicants. He said the approval for the Pishny checklist and last payments for windows \$30,000 and \$40,980 for weatherization with the \$12,850 credit would be on the next commission agenda.

He said the new office furniture costs would come to the commission, but estimates were dependent on whether we use the Hon State of Kansas Contract or go out to bid with a different furniture line. He would keep the commission informed.

Mr. Whitesel commented on the meeting he attended with Legislative members and Reno County citizens. He wanted to thank Reno County employees for their service.

Mr. Hirst reminded the public that the Farmers Market was now open starting last Saturday and was well attended.

Mr. Parks attended the new commissioners' meeting in Hays, Kansas and received good information.

Mr. Bogner spoke about economic situations with farmers being hit hard by natural disasters that could affect businesses and individuals. Money will be tight because of lower prices for crops so we may want to look closely at budgets.

Mr. Friesen thanked the Solid Waste team for their hard work.

At 11:05 a.m. Mr. Friesen adjourned the meeting until Tuesday, May 23rd, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk  
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Date