

Tuesday July 13th, 2021

Neosho County Commission Meeting

The Neosho County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session on Tuesday July 13th, 2021 in the Commission room of the Neosho County Courthouse in Erie, KS.

Call to Order: Commissioner Galemore called meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Those present were Commission Board Chair Nicholas Galemore, Commissioner Gail Klaassen, Commissioner Paul Westhoff, and County Clerk Heather Elsworth.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Matthew Inman – Mr. Inman shared his concerns about Neosho County efforts with COVID-19 vaccinations.

Ron Geifer/ RWD No.4 – Mr. Geifer asked for consideration from American Rescue plan funding to replace old water lines in their district. Board is seeking a grant for this project, and is reaching out to Labette County as well. 60 % of meters are in Neosho County and 40 % meters are in Labette County.

Shirley Estrada – Ms. Estrada shared concerns of roads within Windfarm footprint.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

BOB MCELROY/ County Appraiser – Values have been completed, assessed value for real-estate is up \$2,326,049, watercraft/boats are down \$18,000, oil is about \$10,000, gas is down \$50,000, personal property is down \$355,083. Total value is up \$1,912,426 not including public utilities, which is higher than the previous year. Urbana Solar Farm is completed. It was built by “Today’s power” and built for Heartland Electric and it’s one of their test farms. Damage to the Appraisers 2005 Blazer – it was a parked vehicle. Mr. McElroy will be submitting an insurance claim.

TERESA STARR/ Health Department Director – Ms. Starr shared information about their “Princess Ball” event targeting children as part of MCH (Maternal Child Health) program. Facebook and infomercials are being utilized to share information to the County. Health Department is over budget in commodities. She is anticipating grant money to help cover the balance. Covid numbers are at 38 positive, 64 quarantined, 1,180 recovered cases, 35 deaths and 1,953 total cases. Ms. Starr would like to re-visit a Security System for the Health Department. Ms. Starr received quotes from TNT Systems and Advantage.

1:32 pm Commissioner Klaassen moved to enter into executive session to discuss matters relating to security measures of a public body or agency, public building or facility or the information system of a public body or agency for 15 minutes with the Commission, Health Department Director Teresa Starr, and 911 Director Lori Nally. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

1:50 pm Back in session. No action taken.

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve the invoice from TNT Systems for a security system at the Health Department. Total cost of the project is \$14,885.00 and it's a quote from April 8th, 2021. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve the training education request for Health Department for Paula Roberts for the hearing and vision screening workshop in Kansas City for \$90 plus expenses on 09/10/2021. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

LORI NALLY/ 911 Director – Ms. Nally was contacted last month by our State Security Auditor notified that it was time to do our Technical Security Audit. Ms. Nally completed the audit and was notified we are in compliance.

1:55 pm. Commissioner Klaassen moved to enter into executive session to discuss job duties and performance of non-elected personnel and to protect the rights to privacy of the individual employee for 10 minutes with the Commission, 911 Director Lori Nally, and County Clerk Heather Elsworth. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

2:11 pm Back in session. No action taken.

MIKE BROWN/ Road & Bridge Director –A quote was submitted by Foley on a Grader rebuild on 12M2 Unit #95 totaling \$178,491.

The inspection on Elk Road Bridge will take place on Thursday July 15th, 2021 and Road & Bridge will be providing traffic control.

150th Road crossing at 169-Highway will be closed for approximately 2 weeks starting today.

Lengthy discussion was had regarding completion date/deadline for the roads to be fixed by Apex.

2:39 pm Commissioner Klaassen moved to enter into executive session to discuss job duties and performance of non-elected personnel and to protect the rights to privacy of the individual employee for 10 minutes with the Commission, Road & Bridge Director Mike Brown, and County Clerk Heather Elsworth. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

2:50 pm Back in session. No action taken.

3:10 pm Commissioner Galemore moved to enter into executive session to discuss job duties and performance of non-elected personnel and to protect the rights to privacy of the individual employee for 15 minutes with the Commission, Road & Bridge Director Mike Brown, and County Clerk Heather Elsworth. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved to hire Jessica Ramirez for office assistant at \$13.00 per hour for Road & Bridge Department. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved to hire Richard Graham for driver operator starting at \$15.00 per hour for Road & Bridge Department at \$15.00 per hr. Commissioner Galemore 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved to hire Travis Mooney for our noxious weed director \$16.00 an hour and driver/operator in the off season. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Neosho County Board of Commissioners agreed to reimburse Equipment fund for the first payment on the Motor Grader that was purchased in 2019. Money to be transferred from Pilot fund. In addition, the first HVAC loan payment will be paid from Capital Improvement fund.

3:56 pm Commissioner Klaassen moved to enter into executive session to discuss job duties and performance of non-elected personnel and to protect the rights to privacy of the individual employee for 10 minutes with the Commission and HR Heather Elsworth. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

4:13 pm Back in session. No action taken.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Galemor moved to approve the minutes 06/15/2021. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passed 3-0

Commissioner Galemor moved to approve 911 Director Lori Nally's vacation request. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve the 06/7/2021 minutes. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Galemor moved to approve Payroll Clearing in the amount of \$191, 578.91. Commissioner Westhoff 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved to approve Accounts Payable in the amount of \$234,748.02. Commissioner Galemor 2nd motion passed. 3-0

COMMISSION DISCUSSION – NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Galemor moved to decline all future mowing invoices including invoice number 923604 for mowing services at the location of 8350 Xavier, St. Paul KS 66771 addressed to the Neosho County Treasurer. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

Commissioner Klaassen moved that we pay Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center for their 3rd disbursement for the ambulance service from the sales tax collection in the amount of \$530,000 which is per the budget number that NMRMC gave for 2021. Commissioner Galemor 2nd. Motion passed. 3-0

BUDGET DISCUSSION

The Neosho County Board of Commissioners requested they receive a copy of the payroll register totals. HR/Payroll Heather Elsworth advised they are working with our accounting system to make sure they are providing the correct report and that the data doesn't violate HIPAA. As soon as HR/Payroll has the proper report, they will start providing it to the Commissioners.

The Neosho County Board of Commissioners requested the following for budget preparation:

1. A breakdown of the following from each department:
 - starting point for wages with no wage increase
 - the difference without any wages – what they want for other things
 - how much in wages are being asked for

2. The estimated cost of benefits from HR/Payroll
3. Clarification of which funds roll over and which funds go back into General at the end of the year

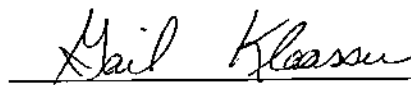
The Neosho County Board of Commissioners agreed to consider using some of the monies received from the American Rescue Plan towards employee bonuses.

Next Commission Meeting will be on July 20th, 2021 @ 8:30 am.

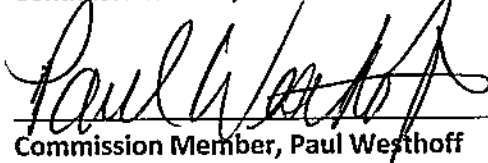
5:12 pm Commissioner Westhoff moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Klaassen 2nd.
Motion passed. 3-0



Commission Chair, Nicholas Galemore



Commission Member, Gail Klaassen



Commission Member, Paul Westhoff

ATTEST: County Clerk, Heather Elsworth