

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE GEARY COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
March 16, 2020

Commissioners Present: Keith Ascher, Brad Scholz, and Charles Stimatze

Others present: Therese Hoff, Deputy County Clerk and Steve Opat, County Counselor

Chairman Ascher called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The commissioners and Mr. Opat reviewed and approved the vouchers.

Chuck Otte, Extension Office arrived at the meeting and discussed the use of the Senior Citizens building. He said they are cancelling any groups that want to use the building, because of COVID-19, until April 4, 2020.

The commission held a general discussion about the COVID-19 virus.

Troy Livingston, GIS/Zoning/Planning Director arrived at the meeting.

- Discussed the text amendment to amend the Junction City and Geary County Zoning Regulations updating the fee schedule for permits. **Commissioner Scholz moved to approve Resolution No. 03-16-2020; granting a text amendment to the Geary County zoning regulations for the addition of a fee schedule. Commissioner Stimatze seconded and all voted aye.**
- Discussed a road off of Schmedemann Road, which has been maintained by Geary County as a “minimum maintenance” road, but in fact, has not been utilized as a “public utility” and the expenditure of public funds to maintain such cannot be justified. Since JSix bought Moyer Ranch, they own all the land around the road, he would recommend to vacate that piece of road. Mr. Livingston has spoke with Corey Trumpp, Public Works Director about this, and he agrees the section of road needs to be vacated. Mr. Livingston will return when Mr. Trumpp comes to the meeting later.

Dan Jackson, Sheriff arrived at the meeting and discussed:

- Reported the VIN inspections have been suspended until the corona virus situation has improved.
- Reported he is instructing the deputies to slow down the different types of arrests to keep people out of the jail to lessen the corona virus spread. There was a possible COVID-19 exposure over the weekend, a deputy may have been exposed.
- Reported the process serving is being done by deputies to keep the part time guys from exposure of any kind.
- Reported transports are still being done, but having someone else do it, to keep the regular person healthy.
- Reported he is working with the County Attorney regarding felonies, to keep them out of the jail.
- Reported they are screening jail employees, if they have a fever, they go home. Sheriff Jackson doesn't think the employees should be using their sick leave if they are sent home for 14 days. He said the money is budgeted already and the county would be paying it anyway. He feels the employees should be paid their regular pay, and not have to use sick or annual leave.
- Reported he has cancelled all programs in the jail, masks are worn by everybody, and they are screening employees and prisoners that are brought in.

Jon Thummel, Human Resources Director arrived at the meeting. Sheriff Jackson asked about the employees that have been exposed to corona virus, they will automatically be sent home for 14 days. Mr.

Thummel said it is an occupational exposure and should be covered by Worker’s Comp. Sheriff Jackson said Workers Comp said they would not cover this. Mr. Thummel wants to talk to KWORCC about this. Sheriff Jackson does not think it is fair for the employees that have been sent home to not get paid and use their sick leave. Mr. Thummel stated he thinks the county’s sick leave policies work the way they are supposed to and does not want to change things, unless federal guidance comes. Sheriff Jackson left the meeting.

Jon Thummel, Human Resources, continued with the weekly report:

- Discussed HR Memo 2020-10 which creates a range assignment for Job Code 51425-Office Manager, County Attorney Office. **Commissioner Stimatze moved to approve Memo 2020-10, which creates a range assignment for Job Code 51425 regarding the Office Manager for the County Attorney’s Office. Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.**
- Discussed HR Memo 2020-11 which shows the last BC-BS plan year that Geary County was fully insured, which ended 07/31/2018. **Commissioner Scholz moved to acknowledge receipt of the BC-BS report; Commissioner Stimatze seconded and all voted aye.** Mr. Thummel left the meeting.

The meeting recessed for lunch from 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Corey Trumpp, Public Works Director and Dale Evans, Road & Bridge Supervisor arrived at the meeting.

Garry Berges, Emergency Management Director/ Rural Fire Chief arrived at the meeting to recommend the following Health Emergency Declaration:

- **Commissioner Stimatze moved to adopt Resolution 03-16-2020A, COVID-19 Public Health Emergency; to declare a state of local public health emergency in Geary County, Kansas resulting in potential or occurring pandemic known as COVID-19 in Geary County Kansas; Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.** Mr. Berges left the meeting.

Fern Rogers, citizen arrived at the meeting.

There was a bid opening for the Hustler X-One Mower at 1:15 p.m.

Hale’s Sales & Service	Sedgwick, KS	No Bid Submitted
Blue Valley Trailers	Waterville, KS	\$7,999.00
Kansas Golf & Turf	Wichita, KS	No Bid Submitted
Brooks Yamaha	Manhattan, KS	\$7,561.02
Hometown Outdoor Power	Salina, KS	\$7,670.00

Mr. Trumpp recommends taking the low bid from Brooks Yamaha for \$7,561.02. **Commissioner Stimatze moved to accept the bid from Brooks Yamaha for the Hustler X-One Mower for \$7,561.02; Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.** Mr. Trumpp stated this will be paid for out of the Equipment Reserve Fund.

Mr. Trumpp continued with the regular report:

- Discussed a certain road in Geary County, Kansas, commonly referred to and known as Schmedemann Road. It has been maintained by Geary County as a minimum maintenance road. The road as currently maintained benefits only two parties, who have been notified, and they are amenable to assuming the obligations for such road if vacated. Mr. Trumpp agrees with the GIS/

Zoning/Planning Director to vacate this road. There will be a public hearing on April 13, 2020, and notice by publication shall be given, once in the official county newspaper, with a copy to be sent to J-Six Enterprises and Fred C. Germann and Helen L. Germann, Trustees. Any objection to the vacation shall be heard at the hearing.

There was a bid opening for the Cloud County Community College mowing.

Witt Mowing	Grandview Plaza, KS	\$197.00 per mowing
RGS Lawn Care	Junction City, KS	\$200.00 per mowing
Boland Mowing	Junction City, KS	No Bid Submitted
Hudson Lawn	Junction City, KS	\$260.00 per mowing
Bill Kausler Mowing	Junction City, KS	\$195.00 per mowing
Travis Berges	Junction City, KS	No Bid Submitted

Mr. Trumpp recommends taking the low bid from Bill Kausler Mowing. He did the mowing last year, and there were no problems. **Commissioner Scholz moved to accept the bid from Bill Kausler Mowing; Commissioner Stimatze seconded and all voted aye.**

Mr. Trumpp continued with the regular report:

- Reported the roof bids for the Public Works Building and Shop will be opened on April 6, 2020 at 1:15 p.m.
- Distributed a list of Public Works surplus equipment. He is going to list it with Purple Wave Auction Service. The proceeds from the auction will be put back in the equipment reserve fund for Public Works, and into the Noxious Weed Capital Outlay fund. The commission agreed to have the equipment sold on Purple Wave.
- Requested commission approval to seek qualified consulting firms for a construction inspection for the Bridge Program Project C-4953-01, which is a bridge construction project on Ascher Road over Clarks Creek (Conrow Bridge project) **Commissioner Stimatze moved to approve the request to seek qualified consulting firms for the Conrow Bridge project; Commissioner Scholz seconded and both voted aye; Chairman Ascher abstained from the vote.**
- Discussed the 2020 noxious weed chemical bids opened on March 2, 2020. Mr. Trumpp and Tom Goudy, Noxious Weed Director have reviewed the bids and the recommendation would be to approve the chemical bid from Van Diest Supply for \$34,225.97. **Commissioner Stimatze moved to accept the chemical bid from Van Diest Supply for \$34,225.97; Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.**
- Reported the shop supervisor and Mr. Trumpp has reviewed the bids received for the 2020 FX-1200 mower. Mr. Trumpp’s recommendation would be to purchase the mower from the lowest bidder-Skyview Equipment for \$16,250.00. **Commissioner Scholz moved to accept the bid from Skyview Equipment for the 2020 FX-1200 mower; Commissioner Stimatze seconded and all voted aye.** It will be taken out of Equipment Reserve funds.
- Presented a request and petition from Flint Hills REA to construct a road bore for primary power within the Geary County right of way. **Commissioner Stimatze moved to approve the Request and Petition from Flint Hills REA; Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.**
- Presented a request and petition from JSix Enterprises to construct a 2” waterline to serve pasture waterers within the Geary County right of way. **Commissioner Scholz moved to approve the Request and Petition from JSix Enterprises; Commissioner Stimatze seconded and all voted aye.**

- Reported he has received a phone call from Brad Anderson-KDOT Area 1 Superintendent. KDOT performed a traffic study for exit 303 interchange and it has been determined to install rumble strips on both sides of the stop signs for north and southbound traffic. The rumble strips will be placed in the ground on the County's portion of Clarks Creek Road.
- Reported he has met with Nikki Davenport on the courthouse camera installation. Most of the cameras inside the courthouse have been installed. Security Solutions will be needing to install cameras in the public elevator and inmate elevator on April 22, 2020. The installation of cameras will have to be coordinated with Thyssen Krupp to be onsite to run the cat-5 cable to the elevator cars. The cost of this will be around \$2,000.00. Mr. Trumpp said rather than install the cameras on the outside courthouse building, to place them on the grounds on poles and Security Solutions said this would decrease the number of cameras needed outside. Security Solutions will draft up a proposal to place the cameras on the grounds.
- Discussed a 10 x 10 wooden box culvert on Florence Road that needs replaced. Kaw Valley will be doing a hydrology study to determine the size of pipe that needs to be installed.
- Discussed the Fort Riley Recycling Center is closed due to COVID-19. Geary County will need to close its recycling center, since there will be no place to take it.

Mark Thompson, Hospital Board of Trustees Attorney, Don Smithburg, Interim CEO-Geary Community Hospital, Theresa Bramlage-Geary Community Hospital Board Chairperson, Beth Clark, Dr. John Kovac, MD, Cecil Aska, and Trish Giordano arrived at the meeting.

Commissioner Stimatze moved, upon the request of the Board of Trustees of Geary Community Hospital, which states that an emergency exists due to the insufficiency of funds to finance the operations and maintenance budget for the hospital, the Board of County Commissioners approve Resolution 3-16-2020A, a resolution declaring an intention to issue no-fund warrants, of Geary County, Kansas in an amount not to exceed \$2,100,000.00 for the purpose of raising money for financing an insufficiency in the operation and maintenance budget of Geary Community Hospital. Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye. Mr. Smithburg thanked the commissioners for taking this action. The No-Fund Warrants will be paid for using the 2 mills the hospital already receives. The group left the meeting.

Deputy Clerk Hoff presented Commission Change Orders for approval. **Commissioner Stimatze moved to approve 2019-292 through 2019-307; Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.**

Terry Johnson, Junction City Fire Chief, arrived at the meeting and gave the quarterly report:

- Discussed having ventilators in the ambulances, and how telemetry allows them to share information with the hospital the patient is going through. This is very beneficial for critically ill patients.
- Discussed how the Fire Department is working with the Health Department with COVID-19 issues. Commissioner Scholz asked about electrostatic contamination systems for the ambulances. Chief Johnson said they are very expensive and to use it takes an ambulance out of service for 3-4 hours, and manually cleaning the ambulances is much more thorough.


Kent Vossberg, EMS Division Chief arrived at the meeting.

Chief Johnson continued with the report:

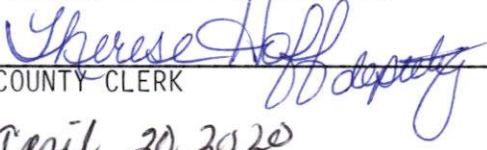
- Reviewed the protocol the EMS is following with COVID-19. They are doing everything they can to reduce any kind of contamination if a patient has the virus. He is trying to keep his staff safe and healthy.
- Chief Johnson stated that he has not been included in the meetings held regarding COVID-19 procedures. He also stated he does not have the manpower to do some of the things suggested. He stated he cannot provide patients names to the public. Commissioner Scholz asked what the Chief needed the most. Chief Johnson stated he needs Personal Protection Equipment for his people. The cost to purchase PPE's for all staff is around \$224,000.00, and all the equipment is on back order.
- Chairman Ascher asked about the CDC and what their powers are.
- Chief Johnson stated there are a lot of unknowns with this virus-standard practices of hygiene and having good health are the two defenses to combat this virus. Chief Johnson and Mr. Vossberg left the meeting.

The press conference was held.

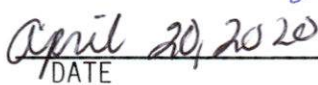
The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.



CHAIR, COUNTY COMMISSION



COUNTY CLERK



DATE