

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE GEARY COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
May 26, 2020

Commissioners Present: Keith Ascher, Brad Scholz and Charles Stimatze

Others present: Rebecca Nordyke, County Clerk; and Steve Opat, County Counselor

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

The commission held their review and update:

- Chairman Ascher reviewed an email he received from Allen Dinkel, Junction City Manager, regarding the Animal Shelter.
- There was a general discussion regarding a citizen's concerns about the timeliness of receiving bills from the hospital and the hospital offering discounts for prompt payment.

Marissa Jones-Flaget, Planner/GIS/Planning & Zoning, discussed the following:

- Stated that she has recently been appointed to the Food Council which falls under Live Well Geary County.
- Provided information about a survey done by the Food Council.
- Stated she requested to be on the council because they often reference land use as a hindrance, yet no one has ever contacted her office. For example, if regulations regarding placement of grocery stores is a hindrance, they might be able to work with them; however, to date no one has contacted her office.
- Stated that if any of the commissioners wanted to sit in on the meetings, they can serve as ex-officio members. She stated she can also provide the commission with periodic updates.
- Commissioner Scholz inquired about having a Farmer's Market across from Godfrey's Shooting Range. She stated it had been discussed by the Downtown Revitalization group. She stated she thinks that the effort got stopped due to COVID-19.
- There was a general discussion about farmer's markets and whether they will be held due to COVID-19.
- Inquired if the commission would be comfortable with a name change to "Geary County Food Council". Commissioner Scholz suggested that Junction City be left as part of the name.
- Commissioner Stimatze inquired about the Downtown Revitalization group. Ms. Jones-Flaget stated there is a zoom meeting scheduled in June and she is hoping the state will visit in July to explain the tax credits.

Dan Jackson, Sheriff, arrived at the meeting.

There was a general discussion about the fact that former Commissioner Ben Bennett attended the Live Well Geary County meetings.

Ms. Jones-Flaget left the meeting.

The recess was taken from 10:56 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Sheriff Jackson presented the monthly report:

- Stated that the checking accounts balance and there were no unusual expenses.

- Reviewed building improvements:
 - Stated BTR has been hired to treat/cut the grass. An irrigation system will also be installed at an estimated cost of \$20,000.00 and will be paid for from the asset forfeiture fund.
 - Reviewed the document from Deam and Deam for the Sheriff's substation that is planned at the Rural Water District #4 (RWD4) location. He stated he and Mr. Opat have reviewed the lease agreement with RWD4. He stated the only cost to the county will be to pave the existing parking lot. He also reviewed the portion of the project that Public Works is responsible for. Chairman Ascher inquired who will put the bids out. Sheriff Jackson stated he will check with Mr. Deam but anticipates a general contractor will be needed.
- Reviewed the plans for the placement of the flag poles. He stated that BTR will landscape that area for free once the flag poles have been installed.
- Stated that training events have been reinstated.
- Discussed operations:
 - Incidents have increased.
 - Everything is open in his office, except for visitation in the jail. He stated he expects that visitation will begin soon.
 - PPE supplies are sufficient.
- Reported they are maintaining staffing levels.
- Stated that due to the Attorney General's opinion regarding enforcement actions on violations of Governor Kelly's executive orders; they will continue to ask for voluntary compliance.
- Announced they have been awarded a coronavirus grant from DOJ in the amount of \$58,000.00. It will be used to purchase COVID-19 related PPE and equipment.
- **At 11:24 a.m.; Commissioner Stimatze moved for a 10-minute executive session, to end at 11:34 a.m., to discuss legal matters regarding non-elected personnel with Sheriff Jackson and Mr. Opat. Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.** The meeting resumed at 11:34 a.m. with no action taken. Sheriff Jackson left the meeting.

Jon Thummel, Human Resources Director, presented the weekly report:

- Presented and reviewed Memo 2020-22. **Commissioner Scholz moved to approve MEMO NO: 2020-22:**

The Sheriff is requesting the reallocation of the following classifications:

| Job Code | Job Title | Old Range | New Range | Incumbents |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 34010 | Civil Process Server | 11 | 12 | 2 |
| 57020 | VIN Inspector | 10 | 11 | 3 |

The incumbents in these classifications will be reallocated in accordance with Human Resources Policy 30.08. The anticipated total cost of this action is \$3,200 plus benefits on an annual basis for all five (5) incumbents.

- **Commissioner Stimatze seconded and all voted aye.**

Sheriff Jackson left the meeting.

Mr. Thummel continued with his report:

- Presented and reviewed Memo 2020-21. He noted there are increases in health insurance; recommended a three-year rate agreement for dental insurance; and stated that all other ancillary

insurances remain the same. **Commissioner Stimatze moved to approve Memo 2020-21: Health Insurance**

My recommendation is to continue self-insurance and set the rates as indicated below:

\$1,500 Deductible

| | Employee | Employee/Child | Employee/Spouse | Family |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Total | \$666.21 | \$1,289.01 | \$1,363.92 | \$1,986.30 |
| Employer | \$641.21 | \$944.01 | \$978.92 | \$1,461.30 |
| Employee | \$25.00 | \$345.00 | \$385.00 | \$525.00 |
| Per Pay Period | \$12.50 | \$172.50 | \$192.50 | \$262.50 |

\$1,000 Deductible

| | Employee | Employee/Child | Employee/Spouse | Family |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Total | \$681.19 | \$1,318.56 | \$1,395.55 | \$2,033.34 |
| Employer | \$641.21 | \$944.01 | \$978.92 | \$1,461.30 |
| Employee | \$39.98 | \$374.55 | \$416.63 | \$572.04 |
| Per Pay Period | \$19.99 | \$187.28 | \$208.32 | \$286.02 |

\$500 Deductible

| | Employee | Employee/Child | Employee/Spouse | Family |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Total | \$698.56 | \$1,354.01 | \$1,433.19 | \$2,088.64 |
| Employer | \$641.21 | \$944.01 | \$978.92 | \$1,461.30 |
| Employee | \$57.35 | \$410.00 | \$454.27 | \$627.34 |
| Per Pay Period | \$28.68 | \$205.00 | \$227.14 | \$313.67 |

Dental Insurance

Geary County is in the 1st year of a 3-year rate agreement. This year we are not experiencing any increases. Year two (2) and (3) of the agreement are capped at three percent (3%) increase for each year. I recommend entering into the three (3) year agreement.

All Other Ancillary Insurances

No rate increases are proposed for the 2020-2021 benefit plan year.

Additionally, the Human Resources Director is authorized to sign necessary paperwork for the renewal process to effectuate a smooth open enrollment process.

- **Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.**
- Discussed service awards which will be held in September, noting the awards are funded from his budget. The commission agreed to move forward.
- Inquired about the longevity benefit, noting it was budgeted for. The commission agreed to move forward. Mr. Thummel stated he will prepare a definitive plan.
- Referenced the building security memo that was sent to them previously. He inquired if they could proceed with getting cost estimates. Commissioner Stimatze reviewed the alterations which would include adding a wall and door in the HR office and a wall and door in the Appraiser's Office. It is proposed that this new door will work with the with the employees' badges.

The commission agreed to move forward by getting estimates.

- **At 11:51 a.m.; Commissioner Scholz moved for a 5-minute executive session, to end at 11:56 a.m., to discuss non-elected personnel with Mr. Thummel and Mr. Opat. Commissioner Stimatze seconded and all voted aye.** The meeting resumed at 11:56 a.m. with no action taken. Mr. Thummel left the meeting.

The meeting recessed for lunch from 12:07 p.m. to 1:16 p.m.

Tammy Von Busch, Health Department Administrator, arrived at the meeting.

At 1:18 p.m.; Commissioner Stimatze moved to open the meeting as the Board of Health. Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.

Ms. Von Busch presented the monthly report:

- Stated they are working with USD 475 on the athletic program. They have done a walk-through of the school, weight room, and gym and have made recommendations that will follow the Governor's orders regarding COVID-19. Chairman Ascher inquired about the working relationship with the school district. Ms. Von Busch stated the school district had sent over a list of questions and they have had "face to face" meetings and seem to be working well together. Chairman Ascher inquired if she knows the school district's plans to hold classes in the fall. Ms. Von Busch stated she thinks they are following the State Board of Education's direction, they will probably reopen in the fall and monitor how things go. There may be special accommodations for high risk students, but details about everything are still being worked on. Chairman Ascher inquired if they have a mitigation plan for fall sports. Ms. Von Busch stated she thinks they are working on it, but her office has not seen it yet.
- Stated she is doing a walk-through of the Boys and Girls Club tomorrow to determine what accommodations need to be done to see if they can meet.
- Announced the hospital has Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) tests which they are using to test ER and in-patients who have symptoms as well as patients that need emergency surgeries.
- Presented the weekly COVID-19 update:
 - Presented the latest KDHE update. She stated that in the state there was an increase in deaths to 188.
 - Stated Geary County has positive cases. She reported that 10 tests are pending, and 14 people have recovered. She noted that Smithfield has been testing and so far, all have come back negative.
 - Stated our testing rate is 190.1 per 1,000 which is pretty good.
 - Commissioner Stimatze inquired when the next phase is scheduled. Ms. Von Busch stated she thinks it is June 8, 2020.
 - Stated she thinks things in Kansas are leveling off.
 - Commissioner Stimatze inquired when the parks in Junction City will reopen. Ms. Von Busch stated she thinks with the next phase. She stated she thinks the pool will open on June 5 and that Mr. Dinkel has told her their insurance company will provide coverage.
- Commissioner Stimatze inquired how Lance (Karmann, Sanitarian) is doing. Ms. Von Busch stated he is doing well and is very busy.
- Presented the WIC stats. Commissioner Stimatze inquired if she had WIC numbers from Konza. Ms. Von Busch stated they have 150 participating. Ms. Von Busch left the meeting.

Commissioner Stimatze moved to close the meeting as the Board of Health. Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.

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

Chairman Ascher reviewed the 360 evaluation plan process that is going into effect at Geary Community Hospital.

There was a general discussion regarding the Animal Shelter. Mr. Opat stated he was not making any kind of recommendation on this matter. He has provided facts and figures that have been requested of him. He stated that if the commission wishes to remove the county from the agreement, the action must be taken prior to June 1, 2020. Chairman Ascher indicated that the City of Junction City had been notified in writing by letter dated May 18, 2020, after his meeting with City Manager Dinkel on May 15, 2020. That letter was sent to Mr. Dinkel who indicated by email to Chairman Ascher that he had received the same.

The recess was taken from 2:43 p.m. to 2:46 p.m.

Rebecca Nordyke, County Clerk, presented the weekly report:

- Presented Commission Change Orders. **Commissioner Stimatze moved to approve Commission Change Orders 2019-337 through 2019-338. Commissioner Scholz seconded and all voted aye.**

Commissioner Scholz moved to withdraw from the joint service agreement of the Junction City Geary County Animal Shelter joint service agreement dated October 17, 2006 and addendum dated February 2, 2010, and the legal obligations under those documents to be effective midnight December 31, 2020. Commissioner Stimatze seconded and all voted aye.

Tammy Von Busch, Health Department Administrator, called and informed the commission that the Governor just had a press conference informing the public that the Ad Astra Plan has been revised, as of midnight tonight Kansas is open, and it will be up to local government to make decisions. The Ad Astra Plan has gone from required to guidance. She stated they are working on a plan for Geary County and the current proposal is that they will follow the original Ad Astra Plan. The commission expressed concern about Geary County having stricter rules than the Governor. The commission directed her to call Sheriff Jackson. Commissioner Stimatze inquired what Riley and Dickinson Counties are doing. Ms. Von Busch stated Riley and Pottawatomie Counties are developing plans. The call ended.

The press conference was not held since no members of the press were present.

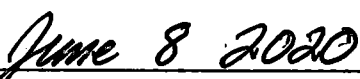
The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.



 Chairman - County Commission
 Keith Ascher



 County Clerk
 Rebecca Nordyke



 Date