

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE GEARY COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES

August 12, 2019

Commissioners Present: Keith Ascher, Ben Bennett (arrived at the meeting at 10:46 a.m.) and Charles Stimatze

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

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

Chrysann Phipps, Community Corrections Director, presented an amended 2019 KDOC quarterly report due to encumbering a late utility bill. **Commissioner Ascher moved to approve the Chairman signing the amended report; Chairman Stimatze seconded, and both voted aye.** Mrs. Phipps left the meeting.

The commission and Mr. Opat reviewed and approved vouchers.

The commission held their review and update:

- A general discussion was held about the Health Department.
- A general discussion was held about the Geary Community Hospital.

Troy Livingston, Zoning Director arrived at the meeting. He discussed a conditional use permit for a cell phone tower to be placed at the end of Budden Road. The application request went in front of the MPC board last week, and all regulations were met with the application, but the board denied the request. Mr. Livingston stated the board said it was denied, not because of meeting regulations, but it was their personal decisions. Mr. Livingston stated he feels the application should be approved. Mr. Livingston stated the company wanting to construct the tower could take legal action against the county, if this application is not approved. Mr. Livingston will bring this issue back to the County Commission at a later date. Mr. Livingston left the meeting.

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

- Presented Memo No. 31 creating a Pay Range 9. The current pay plan's lowest pay range is range 10 that begins at \$11.83 per hour. There is a need for a pay range that begins at less than that amount. Mr. Thummel recommends that a Pay Range 9 be created with a minimum rate of \$10.00 per hour and a maximum rate of \$17.00 per hour. **Commissioner Ascher moved to approve the creation of Pay Range 9; Commissioner Bennett seconded, and all voted aye.**
- Presented Memo No. 32 creating an Evidence Custodian classification position in the Sheriff's Department. The sheriff has indicated there is sufficient funding in his budget to fund this position. It will be a .5 FTE and will be scheduled less than 30 hours per week. **Commissioner Bennett moved to approve the creation of an Evidence Custodian in the Sheriff's Department; Commissioner Ascher seconded and all voted aye.** Mr. Thummel left the meeting.

The meeting recessed for lunch from 12:01 p.m. to 1:19 p.m.

Dr. Joe Stratton, Geary Community Hospital CEO; Mark Stenstrom and Theresa Bramlage, Geary Community Hospital Board of Trustee members; Steve Doherty, Geary Community Hospital CFO; Steve Streubing, Geary Community Hospital Attorney and Robert Copple and Michelle Kennedy, representatives of Ascension Via Christi, arrived at the meeting.

**Commissioner Ascher moved to go into executive session to discuss confidential data relating to the financial affairs or trade secrets pertaining to Via Christi and Geary Community Hospital, to include Dr. Joe Stratton, Geary Community Hospital CEO; Mark Stenstrom and Theresa**



**Bramlage, Geary Community Hospital Board of Trustee members; Steve Doherty, Geary Community Hospital CFO; Steve Streubing, Geary Community Hospital Attorney; Robert Copple and Michelle Kennedy, representatives of Ascension Via Christi and Steve Opat, County Counselor for 45 minutes to start at 1:21 p.m. to end at 2:06 p.m.; Commissioner Bennett seconded and all voted aye. At 2:06 p.m.; Commissioner Ascher moved to extend the executive session until 2:30 p.m.; Commissioner Bennett seconded, and all voted aye. At 2:30 p.m. the meeting reconvened, with no action taken.** The group left the meeting.

Rebecca Nordyke, County Clerk, Travis Lilly, County Appraiser, Vanessa Haslouer, Deputy Appraiser arrived at the meeting.

Allen Dinkel, Junction City Manager, discussed updating the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan as follows:

- Stated the new NRP plan is the same as last one, except they pulled out all the Land Bank lots, except for Chisholm Trail and 14<sup>th</sup> Street Commons lots. The percentages and areas remain the same.

Kathy Tremont, County Treasurer arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Dinkel continued the discussion about the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan (NRP). He explained if the county approves the new NRP plan, it will then be sent to the Attorney General for approval, which could take 90 days. Chairman Stimatze asked Mr. Dinkel about any lots that are being developed now, can they be included in the new NRP Plan? Mr. Dinkel stated no, the new plan has to be approved first, it is not retro-active. Chairman Stimatze asked Mr. Dinkel for a copy of the NRP since it has expired along with a new map. Once Mr. Dinkel has sent the new or revised NRP to the County Commission, they will review it and determine what action to take.

Chairman Stimatze asked Mr. Dinkel when he thinks they will hear about the BUILD grant. Mr. Dinkel stated sometime in October. Mr. Dinkel, Mr. Lilly, Mrs. Haslouer and Mrs. Tremont left the meeting.

Rebecca Nordyke, County Clerk, presented the weekly report:

- Presented Commission Change Orders for approval. **Commissioner Ascher moved to approve Commission Change Orders 2018-687 and 2018-688. Commissioner Bennett seconded, and all voted aye.**
- Discussed the invitation from Riley County to attend the multi-county legislative summit. Commissioner Ascher and Commissioner Bennett stated they will attend also, with Chairman Stimatze and Counselor Opat. Clerk Nordyke will RSVP for them.
- Reviewed the July 31, 2019 Clerk and Treasurer financial cash reports. She reported all accounts have been balanced. Commissioner Ascher asked why there are so many funds with a zero balance on the report every month. Clerk Nordyke stated she has asked to get rid of those accounts also. Some of the accounts cannot be deleted because of previous financial activity, but she will talk with the County Treasurer's office and Deputy Clerk Hoff to see what can be done with these funds.
- Presented 2020 goals in the budget. Mostly everything was achieved; entities to stay at 2019 levels, keep the mill levy the same, if not lower, remain under the tax lid, so no cost of election, some compensation for employees, focus on core county functions and keep an eye on the future.

Commissioner Bennett discussed the meeting he had last week with Craig Bender, MAC Director.

Clerk Nordyke left the meeting.

Deputy Clerk Hoff presented minutes for approval:

- Presented July 22, 2019 commission minutes for approval. **Commissioner Bennett moved to approve the July 22, 2019 County Commission Minutes; Commissioner Ascher seconded and all voted aye.**
- Presented July 23, 2019 County Commission Work Session Minutes for approval. **Commissioner Bennett moved to approve the July 23, 2019 Work Session Minutes; Commissioner Ascher seconded and all voted aye.**
- Presented July 29, 2019 commission minutes for approval. **Commissioner Bennett moved to approve the July 29, 2019 county commission minutes; Commissioner Ascher seconded and all voted aye.**
- Presented July 31, 2019 County Commission Work Session Minutes for approval. **Commissioner Ascher moved to approve the July 31, 2019 Commission Work Session Minutes; Commissioner Bennett seconded and all voted aye.**
- Presented August 5, 2019 commission minutes for approval. **Commissioner Ascher moved to approve the August 5, 2019 county commission minutes; Commissioner Bennett seconded and all voted aye.**

The press conference was held.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.



CHAIRMAN - COUNTY COMMISSION  
CHARLES STIMATZE



DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK  
THERESE HOFF

8-26-19

DATE