

February 6, 2017

The Edwards County Board of Commissioners met with Mica Schnoebelen, Billy Brokar and LaVerne Wetzel present. Gina Schuette, County Clerk, was also in attendance.

Chairman Schnoebelen called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Mr. Wetzel moved to approve the January 9, 2017 minutes and January 23, 2017 minutes as presented. Mr. Brokar seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Mr. Brokar moved to enter into executive session at 8:35 AM for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel and to review payroll reports and to reconvene at 8:45 AM. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

The Board reconvened at 8:45 AM with no action being taken.

Vouchers were approved and warrants were signed for the following:

County General	\$42,164.93
Road & Bridge	\$17,012.22
Noxious Weed	\$1,487.64
Employee Benefits	\$10,369.99
County Health	\$7,928.70
Economic Development	\$1,791.18
Capital Improvement Reserve	\$26,415.50
Edwards Co 911	\$176.28
Total Voucher & Warrants:	\$107,346.44

The Board reviewed and confirmed the 2016 annual report of Trenton Township.

The Board received a current copy of the Jackson Township Treasurer's bond and confirmed their 2016 annual report.

Richard Neilson, County Works Director, joined the meeting.

Mr. Brokar made a motion to sign a form that releases PEK Pipeline from their bond requirements as their work in the county has been completed. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Brad Glazier, PAL's Glass Service Project Manager, joined the meeting.

Mr. Brokar advised that he did a walk through of the courthouse building and examined all of the newly installed windows. Mr. Brokar reported that there are a few unsatisfactory areas that need attention before final payment is submitted. Mr. Brokar added that the clerk's basement windows need to be caulked and sealed and the jail windows on the north and east side need caulked and sealed at the bottom.

A discussion followed and Mr. Glazier agreed to fix the problem areas as soon as possible.

Mr. Glazier left the meeting.

Mr. Brokar moved to enter into executive session at 9:05 AM for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel and to reconvene at 9:25 AM. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

The Board reconvened at 9:25 AM. Mr. Wetzel made a motion to hire Tamara Myers as the full time Road Department Secretary effective February 21, 2017. Mr. Brokar seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Mr. Wetzel made a motion to hire Austin Brake as a full time Equipment Operator 1 at the Road Department effective January 30, 2017. Mr. Brokar seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Mr. Brokar made a motion to hire Albert Gonzales as a full time Equipment Operator 1 at the Road Department effective January 31, 2017. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Taylor Durr, Knipp Services representative, joined the meeting.

A discussion followed regarding the unsatisfactory areas of the newly installed windows. Mr. Durr agreed that the clerk's basement windows should have been caulked and sealed in the first place. The Board decided that they do want the jail windows caulked and sealed at the bottom. A discussion followed and Mr. Durr agreed to have PAL'S Glass Service fix the unsatisfactory areas before the county makes their final payment.

Mr. Durr left the meeting.

Kenny Unruh, concerned landowner and taxpayer, Jim Carlson and Marlin Butler, Edwards County Planning Commission Members, joined the meeting.

Mr. Unruh advised that he purchased his farm in 1977 and in 1989 he started his business which employs 13 employees. Mr. Unruh added that his insurance company required that he move his business out of the basement which is one of the reasons that he built a new building. They have been in the new building since May 2016. Mr. Unruh has a concern with the zoning permit fee in the amount of \$2,300.00 that he is being charged for constructing a new building as he has not changed the use of his land since the start of his business.

The Board requested that Cindy Craft, Edwards County Appraiser, join the meeting.

A discussion followed regarding the property taxes on Mr. Unruh's new building. Ms. Craft advised that she uses the Marshall Swift guidelines to appraise buildings and she is not quite finished appraising the new building. Ms. Craft added that the assessment rate of 25% is the same for commercial buildings and agricultural buildings. Mr. Neilson added that there is no permit fee for agricultural buildings, but there is a fee for commercial buildings.

Ms. Craft left the meeting.

Mr. Carlson reported that the Planning Commission Board had a lengthy discussion about Mr. Unruh's situation. Perhaps there should be some adjustments to the current zoning policy to allow the Board some flexibility. Mr. Carlson added that for now they have to follow the current policy.

Mr. Unruh stated that he is not trying to get out of anything that he owes, he just wanted the Board to hear about his situation and for the County to charge the least amount possible for the permit fee.

Mr. Unruh left the meeting.

A discussion followed regarding the percentages of the permit fees. Mr. Carlson and Mr. Butler agreed to

have a discussion with the rest of the Planning Commission Members and then present their recommendation to the Commissioners at their next meeting.

Mr. Carlson and Mr. Butler left the meeting.

Tom Haynes, Noxious Weed Director, joined the meeting.

Mr. Haynes advised that he took care of the prairie dog town at the Froetschners and he is starting on Peter John Heinz's farm. Mr. Haynes added that utilizing the little truck for eradicating the prairie dogs has worked just fine.

A discussion followed regarding purchasing a used forklift for the weed department. The Board requested Mr. Haynes to obtain prices on used forklifts preferably \$8,000.00 or less and present them at their next meeting on February 13, 2017.

Mr. Haynes and Mr. Neilson left the meeting.

Linette Miller, Economic Development Director, joined the meeting.

Ms. Miller presented a work summary for January 2017. Ms. Miller gave an update on current businesses and proposed new businesses.

Ms. Miller presented financial reports for October through December 2016.

The Board reviewed the micro-loan semi-annual reports completed by Ms. Miller which will be submitted to the State. Mr. Brokar moved to approve the reports as presented. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Mr. Wetzel made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$455.10 from Edwards County Economic Development for the administration of the micro/revolving loan fund for 2016. Mr. Brokar seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Ms. Miller left the meeting.

In regards to the upcoming tax sale, Ms. Schuette reported that Mark Frame, County Attorney, stopped in with a note advising that on Monday, February 13, 2017, there will be 171 letters mailed out on 157 eligible tax sale properties.

Dwight Wetzel, Trenton Township Clerk, has moved and no longer resides in Trenton Township. A discussion followed and Mr. Brokar made a motion to appoint Joshua Wetzel as Trenton Township Clerk pending the formal resignation of Dwight Wetzel. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Mr. Brokar moved to enter into executive session at 11:15 AM for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel and to reconvene at 11:25 AM. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

The Board reconvened at 11:25 AM with no action being taken.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

APPROVED AS AMENDED BY ORDER OF
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 13, 2017

EDWARDS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mica Schnoebelen, Chairman

LaVerne Wetzel

ATTEST:

Gina L. Schuette, County Clerk

Billy L. Brokar