

County of Lane Commissioner Regular Meeting Minutes
144 S. Lane, Dighton, Kansas 67839
October 10, 2023

Godfried (Bud) Newberry called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Lane County Courthouse Commissioner's Room. Those attending were: Logan Campbell-Commissioner, Cody Vincent-Commissioner, Stephanie Terhune-County Clerk, Mike Martindale, Arlene Doll, Debra Panzner, Cynthia Landgraf, Billie Barnett Jr., Cathy Salmans, and Kasey Jacobs.

Cathy Salmans, Treasurer, presented investment reports and hospital sales tax (\$20,808.05).

Mike Martindale, Public Works Director, is currently fully staffed and may have an employee who will be running for the Sheriff's position. Employees are out mowing one pass and going back for another to widen the ditches. Mac Barnett Jr. is getting ready for prairie dog season next week and has ordered all the chemicals that is needed.

Cynthia Landgraf, EMS Director, has sold the Ferno cot out of the Healy Ambulance to Meical Necessities Corp. for \$9,500, including freight.

Billie Barnett Jr., Emergency Manager/Fire Chief, presented a quote from Advantage Glass Plus to outfit the Emergency Manager vehicle. Last night there was a milo field on fire and truck 32 will be repaired this week but is on the schedule to be replaced. Barnett is still waiting on the radio equipment for the repeater. He also received a ride from the Southwest Regional Coordinator to Topeka and brought back the second Dodge Durango for the Sheriff's office. Barnett will be attending both schools for fire prevention week.

Logan Campbell moved to approve the bid of \$6,885 from Advantage Glass Plus to be taken out of Fire Equipment Reserve fund; Cody Vincent seconded. Motion carried.

Debra Panzner, Register of Deeds, has nothing to report at this time.

Arlene Doll, Health Department Administrator, has been busy giving out flu shots and will be having the Health Fair this week from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. There have been several inquiries about the COVID vaccine; it is a ten shot vile that costs \$5,000 per vile and all ten shots will need to be use within six hours. Doll decided that this would not be feasible for the County and will not be providing COVID vaccinations. The new RSV shot (50 years+) is in stock and costs \$260 per dose.

At 9:15 a.m. Logan Campbell moved to recess into executive session to discuss employee performance pursuant to the nonelected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) for ten minutes, Cody Vincent seconded. Motion carried. At 9:25 a.m. session resumed with no action taken. Those attending the session were: Logan Campbell, Bud Newberry, Cody Vincent, and Cynthia Landgraf.

Cynthia Langraf expressed her concerns for Ford County to take over Lane County dispatch services. Discussion was held for Landgraf to hire an additional full-time employee; the Commission will allow.

At 9:30 Elliot Linke, Erin Bower, Billie Barnett Jr., Kasey Jacobs, Cynthia Landgraf, Marlene Rupp, and Antonio Rodriguez joined the meeting.

Antonio Rodriguez, Sheriff, stated that dispatch is struggling to hire employees and has current employees working 14-hour shifts. Call volume is low on night shift and is affecting the financial aspect of the budget and employees are interested in other positions available within the department.

Elliot Linke, Ford County Emergency Communications Director, stated Lane County is facing the same issue other small counties are facing with Dispatch finances and Legislature. Linke believes dispatch should stay in Southwest Kansas and be in local control versus at the state level. Dispatch services are evolving and they would be able to provide a good level of services to Lane County including Sheriff, Fire, EMS etc. Ford County has a national team that reviews protocols and makes sure the standards are met. Ford County Dispatch handles over 1,700 calls for the Sheriff's office, which shows how much experience they have and a level of care they can give. A remote IP service would need to be installed in Lane County to take incoming calls, that can be paid for by 911 funds given by the State. Fire, EMS, and District Court protocols were discussed. Sheriff Rodriguez will continue to employ current employees to handle day-to-day activities. It currently costs taxpayers \$90 per call and if contacted with Ford County it would cost \$22 per call; \$34,000 per year utilizing the state 911 funds. Ford County employs a GIS department to handle mapping and is able to have accurate records of Lane County. An invite was given to have Lane County tour the 911 facility prior to any decisions made. Commission would like to schedule Elliot Linke at the next Commissioner meeting. Discussion was held on available grants, regionalization, and dispatch services.

At 10:24 a.m. Sheriff Rodriguez stated that he is resigning from the Sheriff's position effective October 20, 2023. His mother-in-law is in hospice and treatments for his child increased from two days a week to four days. He will continue to be on staff to help support the department and community. Rodriguez is working on having policy and procedures done by the end of November. An Equipment and property evaluation will be completed November 1st. Rodriguez explained in detail the critical status of the department in prior administration's hands since 2010 including the lack of policy and procedures, negligent hiring practices, and employees engaged in inappropriate acts on duty. See attached reports.

At 10:43 a.m. Cody Vincent moved to recess into executive session to discuss employee performance pursuant to the nonelected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) for twenty minutes, Logan Campbell seconded. Motion carried. At 11:03 a.m. session resumed with no action taken. Those attending the session were: Logan Campbell, Bud Newberry, Cody Vincent, Antonio Rodriguez and Stephanie Terhune.

At 11:04 a.m. Mark Callender stated that the Airport grant application was not approved last spring and presented other application alternatives for improvement to the Airport that is due at the end of October. Discussion was held on which application to apply for. Callender will not know until January or February if Lane County was awarded the grant.

Cody Vincent moved to allow Mark Callender to apply for an airport grant for 1.7-million-dollar improvements to the current Airport; Logan Campbell seconded. Motion carried.

Commission reviewed adds and abatements and KWORCC claims.

Cody Vincent moved to approve September 18, 2023 minutes; Logan Campbell seconded. Motion carried.

Cody Vincent moved to approve claims as listed; Logan Campbell seconded. Motion carried.

At 11:22 a.m. Billie Barnett Jr. rejoined the meeting and stated several people will be touring Ford County's Communication department on Wednesday October 18th at 10:30 a.m.

Cody Vincent moved to approve the adds and abatements; Logan Campbell seconded. Motion carried.

Stephanie Terhune, Clerk, stated there are two different cell phone policies being paid out by the County and will need to condense it into one. Discussion was held on the County's cell phone policy.

Cody Vincent moved to approve the cell phone policy to reimburse \$50.00 per month for service only, through Payroll, effective November 1st; Logan Campbell seconded. Motion carried.

Commission discussed Lloyd Horn's property proposal for them to purchase land by the Recycling Center. Commission is not interested in purchasing land.

There being no further business Logan Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:51 a.m.; Bud Newberry seconded. Motion carried. The next Commissioner's meeting will be held October 23, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Claims October 10, 2023

GENERAL FUND		\$13,325.92
NOXIOUS WEED		\$61,662.50
HEALTH		\$1806.00
WPRG		\$3,040.01
PUBLIC WORKS		\$35,437.70
AMBULANCE		\$1,935.79
ATTORNEY		\$412.61
EMERGENCY MGT		\$1,305.22
SHERIFF		\$4,718.63
LANE COUNTY 911		\$792.82
RURAL FIRE		\$1,659.56
SCHRIOCK LEGACY		\$1,714.94
FIRE EQUIP RESERVE		\$9,935.00
EQUIPMENT RESERVE		\$55,319.99
SPECIAL ROAD & BRIDGE		\$1,165.71
AMB DONATIONS		\$208.22
SEPTEMBER PAYROLL		\$255,553.67
TOTAL		\$449,994.29

ATTEST:

Godfried (Bud) Newberry, Chairperson

Stephanie M. Terhune, County Clerk