

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

February 28, 2022

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 28th day of February 2022 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse. Commissioner Dlabal joined the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Members Present:

Dennis Rolfs, 1st District Commissioner

Gregory C. Bender, 2nd District Commissioner

Stephen S. Dlabal, Jr, 3rd District Commissioner

OPENING BUSINESS:

Chairman Bender called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bender moved to approve the agenda with an addition. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the Minutes of February 21, 2022. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Bob Fredrickson asked if the County had the Treasurer's report for Economic Development. Mr. Fredrickson was at the annual meeting and the Treasurer's report was not given at the meeting. The County Clerk thought that the economic development financial treasurer report was given at the time of the budget request.

APPOINTMENTS:

Shelly Vopat, County Clerk, explained to the Commissioners that the distribution to Central Kansas Mental Health (CKMHC) was overpaid by \$45 in 2021. Commissioner Bender made a motion to give CKMHC the \$45.00 as a donation. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to go into executive session with Shelly Vopat to discuss non-elected personal wages from the Austin Peters Group report from 9:20 a.m. to 9:27 a.m. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. At 9:27 a.m. the Commissioners returned to open session with no action taken.

Kerianne Ehrlich, Health Department Director, presented write-offs in the amount of \$1,588.21. Commissioner Bender made a motion to except the write-offs for the Health Department in the amount of \$1,588.21. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. Commissioner Bender made a motion to go into executive session with Kerianne Ehrlich to discuss non-elected personnel, specifically employees with contracts, from 9:30 a.m. to 9:40 a.m. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. At 9:40 a.m. the Commissioners returned to open session with no action taken.

Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to go into executive session with Shelly Vopat to discuss possible litigation due to terminated employee from 9:45 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. Commissioner Dlabal

seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. At 9:50 a.m. the Commissioners returned to open session with no action taken.

Jim Kirkbride, Ellsworth County Medical Center CEO, informed the Commissioners the hospital is now doing a triple test for COVID, Flu and Strep. COVID numbers are down to single digits now. Remodeling on the clinic area will be beginning soon and it will all be paid for with grant money.

A teleconference with **Patrick Hoffman, an attorney at Sherman, Hoffman, & Hoffman**, began at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Hoffman said under the Fence Viewing law, the Commissioners have to decide if a fence is needed between his client, Jackie Rathbun's, pasture and the adjoining pasture. Mr. Rathbun said the adjoining neighbor, Deanna Rathbun, does not want to pay for half of the fence. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to appoint Commissioner Rolfs and Commissioner Bender as the official fence viewers. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bender made a motion to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for possible disciplinary action with **Nathan Florian, EMS director**, Julie Neuman and Shelly Vopat from 11:08 a.m. to 11:23 a.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. At 11:23 a.m. the Commissioners returned to open session with no action taken. Following up from last week's discussion, Mr. Florian asked if the Commissioners had decided about funeral leave for his employee. The Commissioners said they would look at the policies from other Counties that Mr. Florian had provided and let him know their decision.

Murray Marston, Ellsworth County Sheriff, dropped off packets of information on two companies that do studies on the Sheriff building. The Commissioners will look over the information and let him know their decision.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve Abatements 2021-48 through 50 and 53 through 56 in the amount of \$969.30. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve Adds 2021-51 and 52 in the amount of \$210.34. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the February Payroll in the amount of \$258,844.69. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bender moved to approve the February Accounts Payable for \$198,998.65 plus prewritten warrants for \$325.52 for a total of \$199,324.17. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Bender moved to adjourn at 12:19 p.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk

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