

## ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

### MINUTES

**July 25, 2022**

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse.

***Members Present:***

*Dennis L. Rolfs, 1<sup>st</sup> District Commissioner*

*Gregory C. Bender, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Commissioner*

*Stephen S. Dlabal, Jr, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Commissioner*

### **OPENING BUSINESS:**

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

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the agenda with an addition of Dale Houston and Josh Beckman. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the Minutes of July 18, 2022, with corrections. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

**Stacie Schmidt, Ellsworth County Economic Development Director**, informed the Commissioners that H&B Communications is getting ready to do the work for the ARPA grant. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to sign the MOU for H&B Communication in the amount of \$225,000. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### **APPOINTMENTS:**

**Jim Kirkbride, Ellsworth County Medical Center, CEO**, explained that the hospital and clinic has had low appointments this last quarter creating a loss in the financials. Construction is almost completed at the clinic. The clinic is scheduled to re-open August 8, 2022.

Kermit Rush joined the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

**Dale Houston, Road & Bridge Superintendent & Josh Beckman, representing Kirkham Michael**, displayed geology study proposals for the Wilson River Bridge from Telecom Co. and GSI Engineering. Mr. Beckman said both companies are qualified to do the study. Commissioner Bender made a motion to go with GSI Engineering to do the geology study for the new bridge south of Wilson in the amount of \$14,490. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Keith Haberer, Emergency Management Director**, joined the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

**Sheriff Murray Marston** joined the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m. a telephone conference with Lincoln County Commissioners was held to discuss the Post Rock Windfarm PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) agreement. Also in attendance was Paul Kasper, County Counselor. Dennis Ray, Lincoln County Chairman, said Lincoln County has not been able to contact or get any response from Post Rock. The County Commissioners for Ellsworth and Lincoln think they should write a joint letter asking for a new PILOT agreement. Lincoln County is having a commissioner meeting this Friday. Commissioner Bender and Carl Miller, Ellsworth County Appraiser, will attend the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 29, 2022, to discuss this matter.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Paul Kasper, County Counselor**, presented a bill from Parsons Funeral Home in the amount of \$1,700 for an unclaimed body. Commissioner Bender moved to reimburse Parsons Funeral Home for the unclaimed body from March 31, 2022. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve abatement 2022-66 in the amount of \$22.32. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Bender adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

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Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk