

## ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

### MINUTES

**March 14, 2022**

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse.

#### ***Members Present:***

*Dennis 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 Murray Marston at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the Minutes of March 7, 2022, as presented. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

**Stacie Schmidt, Economic Development Director, Scott & Carol Clemenson** were in attendance but did not wish to address the Commissioners.

**Rusty Varnado, Ellsworth City Administrator**, asked the Commissioners if they were interested in taking a Blue-Collar Leadership course from Mack Story and going in on the fee of \$5,400 plus books with the City of Ellsworth and the Ellsworth County Hospital and possible Cashco, Inc. Mr. Varnado will provide the information for the class to Chairman Bender.

**Kermit Rush** joined the meeting at 9:30 a.m. but did not wish to address the Commissioners.

#### **APPOINTMENTS:**

**Nathan Florian, EMS Director**, asked if the Commissioners had considered changing the handbook policy on leave to days instead of hours. Mr. Florian presented the leave policies from Finney County, Garden City, Great Bend and Sedgwick County. He is proposing that the EMS department receive ½ day (12 hours) per month of vacation and sick and a ½ day (12 hours) for a personal day per year replacing the current policy that all full-time employees receive 8 hours of sick and vacation and one (8) hour personal day per year. The Bereavement

proposal is two days (48 hours) for tier 1, one day (24 hours) for tier 2 and two hours for tier 3. Although the Commissioners seemed in favor of the proposal, the County Clerk wanted to do more research on the liability of this request and ask their software provider if this is manageable.

**Kerianne Ehrlich, Health Department Director, and Jim Kirkbride, ECMC CEO,** requested permission from the Commissioners to pursue the Health Department filling the position for Infection Prevention. Ms. Ehrlich said the Health Department can handle the workload and the staff is excited to start on this new project. Mr. Kirkbride will take this to the Hospital Board for an approval.

The Commissioners asked **Sheriff Murray Marston** to obtain background information on the two companies he has chosen for a needs assessment of the jail.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The Commissioners tabled the approval of the job position descriptions until they could have the information presented to them by the Austin Peters Group.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Bender moved to approve the 2022 KCCA dues for \$358. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bender moved to approve Abatements 2021-57 through 59 and 61 for a total of \$214.96. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners tabled the approval of the Kansas WorkforceOne Agreement until they can review copies of past agreements.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Bender adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

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Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk

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