

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

May 2, 2022

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 2nd day of May 2022 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse. Commissioner Bender was not in attendance.

Members Present:

Dennis Rolfs, 1st District Commissioner

Stephen S. Dlabal, Jr, 3rd District Commissioner

OPENING BUSINESS:

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

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

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the Minutes of April 25, 2022. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mike Peschka, City of Wilson Mayor, asked if the City of Wilson could have an exception to the burn ban. They have a huge limb pile that needs to be burnt. The Commissioners think they will rescind the burn ban since it is currently raining.

APPOINTMENTS:

Joyce Kraus & David Trowbridge, representing the Wilson Museum, presented the 2023 budget for \$4,000 an increase of \$2,000 or 100%.

Matthew Fulkerson, owner of the missile base, received an estimate to fix the ½ mile road for around \$100,000 and an estimate of \$250,000 for the mile between Old 40 Highway and the missile base. Mr. Fulkerson asked if the County had the grinding equipment for the road. It is a nice solid road but after 60 years of no maintenance, it has ripples that make for a rough ride. The Commissioners said they would talk to Dale Houston, Road & Bridge Superintendent, to see if he has a grinder or if he could find out how much it would cost to rent one. The Commissioners said they would let Stacie Schmidt know what Mr. Houston says about the road and she can contact Mr. Fulkerson. Also in attendance was Stacie Schmidt, Ellsworth County Economic Development Director, requesting the Commissioners to sign the Travel & Tourism Proclamation. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to proclaim May 1-7 as National Travel and Tourism Week in Ellsworth County. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to go into executive session with **Sue Arensman, Register of Deeds**, and Shelly Vopat, County Clerk, for non-elected personnel pay from 9:58 a.m. to 10:08 a.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. At 10:08 a.m. the Commissioners returned to open session. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to adjust the maximum pay range for the Deputy Register of Deeds to \$22.18. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Jim Kirkbride, Ellsworth County Medical Center CEO, informed the Commissioners that Ellsworth County continues to have no positive cases of COVID. Mr. Kirkbride said ECMC had a disappointing month with financials. ECMC had negative deductions, wrote off bad debts and higher expenses than budgeted, but the year-to-date is still positive.

Nathan Florian, EMS Director, requested permission to purchase a small building so he could have the barbeque grill, lawn mower and weed eaters moved out of the EMS building per the risk assessment recommendations. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to allow Nathan Florian at EMS to use capital outlay funds for an outdoor shed in the amount of \$1,032.39 and to purchase 18 LED lights for the EMS Bay area in the amount of \$899.82. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Murray Marston, Ellsworth County Sheriff and Katie Nelson, Communications Supervisor, wanted to know if there had been a decision made on the ARPA funding request he made for the console upgrade. Commissioner Rolfs said once we received the second tranche of ARPA funding, the County would put an ad in the paper to see if anyone else would like to apply. Then they would make their decisions on who and how much funding for each request received. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to approve Bill Garnos, jail consultant, to do the needs assessment for Ellsworth County in the amount of \$6,840. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rolfs moved to lift the burn ban. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve April's accounts payable for \$498,538.58 and April's payroll for \$287,151.37. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Rolfs moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 a.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk

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