

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

August 22, 2022

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 22nd day of August 2022 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse.

Members Present:

Dennis L. 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. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the Minutes of August 15, 2022. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Ernie Jezek, Palacky Township Trustee, asked if the townships have the right to cut tree branches in the right of way and how to find where the right of way is on township roads. Commissioner Rolfs and Commissioner Bender told Mr. Jezek to trim the trees and check with the Register of Deeds or the Appraiser's office for the right of way on the township roads. Flint Warta said the Johnson Grass is terrible on the roads in south part of the County. The Commissioners said they would talk to Teresa Shute, Noxious Weed Superintendent. Mr. Warta said the notices that were sent out recently were to light to read.

APPOINTMENTS:

Jim Kirkbride, Ellsworth County Medical Center, CEO, informed the Commissioners that patients continue to be pleased with the care they are receiving from the hospital staff. Mr. Kirkbride reported the month of July had a good gross revenue. Unfortunately, the deductibles are a little high due to Medicare, resulting in a loss of \$286,000 for the month.

Geneva Schneider, County Treasurer, thanked the Commissioners for the \$8,000 in ARPA funding. Ms. Schneider wanted to verify which security package the Commissioners were approving and their intention on funding the remaining cost. Commissioner Rolfs made a

motion to go ahead with INA alert to install the security system for three new doors and fifty key fobs with \$6,000 to be paid out of the building fund. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Stacie Schmidt, Ellsworth County Economic Development Director, presented the MOUs for Central Kansas Community Corrections, the County Sheriff, and EMS to be signed by the chairman.

At 10:00 a.m. Chairman Bender called to order the Revenue Neutral Rate hearing. Ellsworth County's RNR rate is 51.395 and the Ellsworth County Commissioners are proposing the mill levy for Ellsworth County to be 57.528. Walter Schwerdtfeger had questions about the amount of taxes the township received from the wind towers and the value of an old farmstead where nobody lives. Also in attendance was Flint Warta. Commissioner Bender made a motion to approve to go above the RNR on the 2023 budget. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to accept the 2023 Ellsworth County budget as printed. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Bender moved to approve abatement 2021-67 in the amount of \$3,064.70. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Rolfs moved to adjourn at 11:03 a.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk

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