

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

November 22, 2021

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 22nd day of November 2021 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 Dlabal called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bender moved to approve the agenda with the addition of Nathan Florian at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the Minutes for November 15, 2021. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Stacie Schmidt, Ellsworth County Economic Development Director, was in attendance but did not wish to address the Commissioners.

APPOINTMENTS:

Nan Wooten (Gwinner) asked if her family could have the chair that her great great grandfather, C.J. Fishburne made for the County in 1896. It is in the Courtroom, and no one uses it. Commissioner Dlabal made a motion to give the judges chair that was made by C. J. Fishburne in 1896 to the Gwinner family. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Robert Fredrickson attended Ellsworth County's Comprehensive Plan meeting last Tuesday and was very disappointed at how poorly it was attended. He feels there is a lack of community involvement. Mr. Fredrickson said that all three Commissioners, Cities and major employers should be attending these meeting to produce a product that is worth while to the County. Stacie Schmidt was disappointed in the plan because old data (the 2010 census) was used, and several mistakes were in the report. It would be a wonderful resource if the information was correct. Ms. Schmidt called North Central Regional Planning Committee (NCRPC) and told them that someone from NCRPC should have attended the meeting. NCRPC hired the company for Ellsworth County with grant money to produce the Comprehensive Plan.

Nathan Florian, EMS Director, requested permission to purchase tile flooring and a vanity for the rest rooms at EMS in the amount of \$700. The Commissioners said the bathrooms needed updated and they would allow him to make these purchases.

Jim Kirkbride, Ellsworth County Medical Center, CEO, said the hospital had a difficult month on the expense side but they are \$300,000 ahead in gross revenue.

Lori Miller & Glen Smithers, representing Heartland Retirement & Benefits Consultants, LLC, presented the new updated numbers for their health insurance proposal and the comparisons for the supplemental coverage. The two options Ms. Miller presented were a \$1,500 Deductible plan and a \$3,000 high deductible health plan. Also in attendance was Brian Rose with Gallagher, Ellsworth County's current consultants. The Commissioners decided to stay with Gallagher this year.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to allow employees to take the 27th of December as part of the Christmas Holiday. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. Commissioner Bender did not participate in vote.

The Commissioners are **not** going to observe the new Federal Holiday, Juneteenth.

Commissioner Dlabal and Commissioner Bender said they do not want to join the KNRC at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Dlabal adjourned the meeting at 12:00 Noon.

Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk

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