

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

June 12, 2023

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 12th day of June 2023 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 Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the minutes for June 5, 2023, with a correction. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

No one was present for the public forum.

APPOINTMENTS:

Cynthia Edgerle & Trisha Janssen, representing the Ellsworth County Historical Society, presented the 2024 budget request for \$43,000 an increase of \$2,000 or 4.9%.

Nathan Florian, EMS Director, presented the 2024 budget request for \$693,326 an increase of \$39,326 or 6%. Osage is estimating the new ambulance in 2026 will cost \$332,000. The Commissioners gave Mr. Florian approval to put Ellsworth County on the waiting list for a new ambulance in 2026.

Geneva Schneider, Ellsworth County Treasurer, asked for permission to put her double-sided rotating file on Facebook Buy Sell Trade. Ms. Schneider said that the cabinet is too nice to scrap. The Commissioners asked Ms. Schneider to call Filesafe, where the cabinet was purchased from, and ask them if they could sell it for us.

Teresa Shute, Noxious Weed, Landfill & Recycling, presented her 2024 budgets as follows: Noxious Weed \$331,000 an increase of \$14,000 or 4.4%; Landfill & Recycling, \$100,650 an increase of \$3,650 or 3.8%.

Jessica Kootz, Craig Dinkel, Clint Laflin & Karrie Van Winkle, representing Midway Extension District, provided their quarterly update. Ms. Van Winkle started January 9, 2023, as the 4-H youth development agent and is focused on the county fair coming up in July. Mr. Laflin has been busy working on livestock questions due to the drought. Ms. Kootz has been working with OCK so they can provide Alzheimer and Dementia screening for Ellsworth County. Mr. Dinkel has been working with farmers on crop issues because of the drought.

Michelle Vanek & Gretchen Griffith-Hughes wanted to discuss the issues they have with the Carneiro Township Board. Ms. Vanek said the Trustee awarded the bid to have sand put on roads without following the bidding process required by FEMA. Pictures were presented of the Carneiro Trustee and Clerk talking at the Cemetery which violates KOMA. Commissioner Rolfs asked why they were bringing these complaints to the Commissioners since they have no jurisdiction over the township board. Ms. Vanek said, "Where do they go from here?" The Commissioners said they will talk to the County Attorney about this matter.

Larry Fahrenbruch, an employee benefits broker, discussed the supplemental MASA insurance he sells. MASA will pay for the bills for a chopper or ambulance ride that is not covered through the employee's medical insurance. The cost is \$14 a month through payroll deduction. The Commissioners said they would think it over.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Bender moved to place an ad in the progress edition of the Independent Reporter for \$173.25. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Rolfs moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 a.m. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Shelly D. Vopat, Ellsworth County Clerk