

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

October 25, 2021

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 25th day of October 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. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the Minutes for October 18, 2021. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Melinda Merrill, Owner of Midland Hotel, Wilson KS, asked why the City of Wilson didn't know anything about the COVID funds available through the County. Ms. Merrill didn't know anything about the ARPA (America Rescue Plan Act) and she believed the County should have reached out and better informed the public. Ms. Merrill was told that the City of Wilson was eligible for ARPA funds. Ms. Merrill said Lincoln County is using all of their funds for Daycare. Ms. Merrill said "We (City of Wilson) are losing people due to COVID. The City of Wilson was eligible to receive \$110,489.20 in ARPA funding.

APPOINTMENTS:

Nathaniel Florian, EMS Director, requested approval to purchase a fleet vehicle (a vehicle only available to government entities). Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to allow Nathan Florian to buy a 2020 Dodge Durango for EMS Response in the amount of \$29,250 to be paid for out of the equipment reserve fund. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to go into executive session with Nathan Florian, EMS Director, to discuss non-elected personnel for disciplinary and wages from 9:35 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Motion carried 3-0. At 9:45 a.m. Commissioners returned to open session with no action taken.

Jim Kirkbride, Ellsworth County Medical Center, CEO, informed the Commissioners that the Hospital currently has 8 patients, one of whom is COVID positive. Mr. Kirkbride again expressed his gratitude for the wonderful relationship ECMC has with Kerianne Ehrlich and her staff at the Health Department. Mr. Kirkbride reviewed ECMC's financials with the Commissioners explaining they are currently ahead and projected to be underbudget by \$208,000 for the year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rolfs believes that paying the \$5,000 membership to KNRC (Kansas Natural Resource Coalition) would benefit the landowners in the County of Ellsworth. He wanted Commissioner Bender to be present before making this decision. Commissioner Bender asked what the \$5,000 membership dues went towards. The Commissioners decided to table the decision until they get some more of their questions answered.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Dlabal adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk

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