

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

September 13, 2021

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 13th day of September 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 Rolfs moved to approve the agenda with an addition of Nathan Florian of EMS. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the Minutes for September 7, 2021. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Greg and Celia Heller said the speed limit helped the first week going into Kanopolis, but no one is paying attention again. He wanted to know if the Sheriff could patrol the road since it is a County Road.

APPOINTMENTS:

Nathan Florian, EMS Director, presented a bid from Stueder Contractors Inc. with 4 proposal options for the HVAC unit for the new classroom at the EMS Building and a proposal from Rube's Inc. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to purchase the Goodman HVAC for \$9,992 from Stueders to be paid out of the County Building Fund. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Mr. Florian said he needs to hire one more full-time employee to be fully staffed. He will have a tuff decision to make because they have five really good applicants who have applied for the position.

Midway Extension District #15 staff came in to give the Commissioners an update as to what they have been doing. Kari Maul, Office Professional at the Ellsworth Office, and Kerri Van Winkle, full time program assistant, introduced themselves and new employees at Midway District #15. **Marcia Gier, 4H Agent**, told the Commissioners that the Ellsworth County Fair went very well. Members of Ellsworth and Russell County have submitted 100 different entries for the Kansas State Fair. The 4H Achievement Banquet is coming up, but they are still working on a location. Ms. Gier did inform the Commissioners that they should receive invites soon. **Clinton Laflin, Livestock Production Agent**, told the Commissioners that he spent time at the State Fair helping with the Junior Beef Show. Mr. Laflin said it was a strong showing. Ag Day will be held soon at Commissioner Dlabal's farm this year. **Craig Dinkel**,

Crop/Horticulture Agent, told the Commissioners that crop season is starting to slow down but he has been able to do a couple of Crop Classes. He is working on getting more test plots set up. **Jessica Kootz, Family and Consumer Sciences Agent** and Mr. Dinkel are working on trying to get a community garden started in Ellsworth City limits. There are a couple of potential locations to do this, but nothing set in stone yet. Ms. Kootz also talked about her program Simply Produce and the success that it has been. The pick-up location for the program is changing from the Ellsworth Co. Health Dept. to the American Legion parking lot. Ms. Kootz is about to get much busier though as Open Enrollment for Medicare is about to start.

Kerianne Ehrlich, Ellsworth County Health Department Director & Dr. Whitmer, Ellsworth County Health Advisor, came in to give a Covid 19 update. Also in attendance was Jerry Marsh, Mary Schmidt, Keith Haberer and Stacie Schmidt. Ms. Ehrlich informed the Commissioners that Ellsworth County has 12 active cases and a 53% vaccination rate. Covid tests must be sent out for processing as of right now and there is a turnaround of about 48 hours for results. The Health Department still has all 3 vaccines available.

OLD BUSINESS:

Elizabeth George, Office Clerk for the County Clerk's Office, addressed the Commissioners about the bid for landscaping for Ellsworth County Courthouse from Fox Landscaping. Commissioner Bender asked Elizabeth if the border for the north side of the building could only extend 1/3 of the building. Commissioner Rolfs asked if there was any way we could also include 3-4 trees into the landscaping plan. Ms. George will contact Josh with Fox Landscaping and report back to the Commissioners next week at the Commissioners Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Bender moved to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk

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