

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

February 26, 2024

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened on this 26th day of February 2024 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse.

Members Present:

Dennis L. Rolfs, 1st District Commissioner

Gregory C. Bender, 2nd District Commissioner

Shawn Thomas, 3rd District Commissioner

OPENING BUSINESS:

Chairman Bender called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Rolfs moved to approve the minutes for February 20, 2024. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Teresa Shute, Noxious Weed, Landfill & Recycling, requested signatures for her annual management plan and year-end report.

Jerry Marsh lodged a complaint against the hospital board. Mr. Marsh said the hospital is not receptive to the public attending the board meetings and he was denied being placed on the agenda. Mr. Marsh was informed that the public is welcome to attend the meetings but there is no public forum. Commissioner Thomas suggested the Commissioners educate themselves and he would contact Mr. Marsh with an answer.

APPOINTMENTS:

Jim Kirkbride, Ellsworth County Medical Center CEO, informed the Commissioners that it has been decided to suspend going forward with the surgical center. February 14th the hospital had the ribbon cutting for the Mammography Suite. Everyone is excited to be able to offer this service.

Dale Houston, Road & Bridge Superintendent, and Jon Halbgewachs, representing Kirkham Michael, gave an update on the progress for the bridge by Wilson. The concrete was poured

last week, and the dirt work is being done to prepare for pouring the asphalt. Mr. Halbgewachs said, "It is moving along well." There are 82 working days left.

Derek Ptomey and Brad Homman, representing the Goldberg Group Architects, had heard the Courthouse had multiple issues. Also in attendance was Sheriff Marston. Mr. Ptomey displayed a report of a similar project they are doing in Harvey County. Sheriff Marston took Mr. Ptomey and Mr. Homman on a tour of the courthouse so they can make their recommendations.

Commissioner Thomas left the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Bender moved to approve allowing COOP to rent the 4-H Barn and concession stand per the contract for usage for one day on May 3, 2024. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Rolfs moved to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Shelly D. Vopat, Ellsworth County Clerk