

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

January 29, 2024

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened on this 29th day of January 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 Bender moved to approve the agenda with the addition of Dale Houston. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the minutes for January 22, 2024, as printed. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

No one was present for the public forum.

APPOINTMENTS:

A Department Head meeting was held with the following present: **Kerianne Ehrlich, Nathan Florian, Dale Houston, Keith Haberer, Paul Kasper, Teresa Shute, Sue Arensman, Nancy Hysong, Kristy Battershell, and Shelly Vopat.** Chairman Bender asked everyone how it was going with LockIT providing IT. Dale Houston said the computers are slow after LockIT added their hardware. It was determined that everyone with computers over five years old was affected with computers that lagged. Commissioner Thomas asked the County Clerk to have Kirby Fox, LockIT Technologies, give an update on everyone's environment. Chairman Bender asked if the insurance change was getting straightened out. The reviews were mixed on the insurance.

Ralph Doubrava and Kirk Robson discussed how to fix the granite column in the front of the courthouse. Mr. Doubrava said the anchors for the column are rusted and failing. They have stabilized the column and will wait for approval from the historical society to fix the granite column.

Teresa Shute, Noxious Weed & Landfill Superintendent, presented a bids for the replacement Landfill heater. Water Works HVAC had a bid for \$2,592.25 and City Plumbing had a bid for \$3,488. Commissioner Rolfs made a motion to go with Water Works HVAC for a 150,000 BTU furnace for \$2,592.25 to be paid for out of the Landfill Capital Outlay Fund. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Dale Houston & Bret Dunlap, Road & Bridge, said the Mack truck that was ordered in October of 2022 was delayed again until July. Mr. Houston asked if he could cancel the order and get a Kenworth that would be ready in June. The Kenworth costs \$17,000 more. The Commissioners told Mr. Houston to contact Bruckner's Trucking and Equipment and cancel the order if they cannot have the Mack Truck here by May. Commissioner Thomas said a township called when they received a letter that Ellsworth County would not be mowing for them. Mr. Houston said that Commissioner Rolfs told him he didn't need to hire a new employee just to mow the townships. Commissioner Thomas made a motion to accept CB Trucking and Services' bid to grind asphalt, not to exceed \$65,000 to be paid out of the Road & Bridge milling budget. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Bender moved to approve \$500.00 to Central Plains, Ellsworth, and Sylvan-Lincoln's after proms out of diversion monies to support Ellsworth County Students. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Bender moved to approve 2024 election of Officers and Appointments. Commissioner Rolfs seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Rolfs moved to adjourn at 11:44 a.m. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Shelly D. Vopat, Ellsworth County Clerk