

ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

May 20, 2024

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened on this 20th day of May 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:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the May 20th agenda as printed. Commissioner Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Bender moved to approve the May 13th minutes as printed. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

No one was present for the public forum.

APPOINTMENTS:

Stacie Schmidt, Ellsworth County Economic Development Director, presented the National Travel and Tourism Week Proclamation. Commissioner Bender made a motion to sign the proclamation for National Travel and Tourism Week, May 19 through the 25, 2024. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Teresa Shute, Noxious Weed Superintendent, said by statute she had to sell chemicals for the County. Noxious Weed allows townships and the state charge accounts for chemicals. The Commissioners would like a policy that all charge accounts be paid within 60 days, or a finance charge will be assessed.

Joyce Kraus, representing the Wilson Heritage Museum, presented the 2025 budget for \$3,500, an increase of \$250 or 7.7%.

Glenna Phillips and Becky McCary, representing Central Kansas Mental Health Center (CKMHC), requested \$36,850 for the 2025 budget, an increase of \$2,730 or 8%.

Amanda Ellis and Melissa Taylor asked if the county would purchase a bench or two to put by the district court. The Commissioners said they would discuss this further with District Court.

Cortny Hutchison and Emily Ahlvers, representing Bukaty Companies, shared their proposal and comparison to our current broker. The Commissioners thanked them for working on this.

Commissioner Rolfs joined the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Shawn Esterl, Saline County Environmental Services, furnished his 2023 annual report. Ellsworth County had a total of 460.5 hours spent on Septic and water systems for the year. Mr. Esterl updated the Commissioners on the LEPP grant Ellsworth County received for replacement of wastewater systems. A meeting to inform the public will be held June 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the J. H. Robbins Memorial Library basement meeting room.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Dirk Larson asked if it would be possible to get a permit to cut firewood out of the landfill burn pile. The Commissioners said they would give it some thought but are concerned with the liability.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Bender moved to approve the request to exchange Federal Funds submitted by Dale Houston, Road & Bridge Supervisor, this is under the Federal Aid Fund Exchange Master Agreement. Commissioner Rolfs seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Rolfs moved to adjourn at 12:00 Noon. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Shelly D. Vopat, Ellsworth County Clerk