

January 18, 2021
Unofficial Minutes
Russell County Commission Meeting

At 9:00 am Steve Reinhardt made the motion to open the meeting Daron Woelk seconded and Duke Strobel approved. Others present for the meeting were: Clerk Mary Nuss, Administrator John Fletcher, County Attorney Dan Krug and Treasurer Trish Strobel. Others attending portions of the meeting were: Chris Brown, GIS Director, Sheriff Fred Whitman and Appraiser Kenton Lyon.

Steve Reinhardt made the motion to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2021 meeting. Duke Strobel seconded and Daron Woelk approved.

Kenton Lyon, Appraiser, explained to the Commission the process of the Tax Corrections that they sign. Tax corrections 2020-45, 48-50 were signed with a tax decrease of \$6,147.84.

Alan Kuntzsch, Public Works Director, updated the Commission on road projects in the County.

Discussion was held regarding the Landfill and how the hours and pay works regarding closing on windy days. Alan will bring in to the next meeting their wind policy. Alan Kuntzsch brought in the first 3 quarters of 2020 minimum cost per load at the Landfill.

The road crew is working on the Paradise Blacktop, south of Paradise City, to try to repair it.

OS64 structure at 20086 4-Corners Rd, is complete and the crew will start replacing the fence.

Road and Bridge has 2 graders that could possibly be up for a buyback program. The machine at Lucas has 6,248 hours and the one at Dorrance is 5,595. Steve asked if they could rotate the machines and put the machines at the shop, that may not have a lot of hours, out on the Lucas and Dorrance routes and bring those in to the shop. It was also asked if they could buy extended warranties on these machines. Discussion was held regarding replacing with new or doing a buyback program. No decisions were made today.

Daron Woelk made the motion to appoint Steve Reinhardt as Chairman. Duke Strobel seconded and Steve Reinhardt approved.

Steve Reinhardt appointed Daron Woelk as Vice Chairman. Duke Strobel seconded and Daron Woelk approved.

Steve Reinhardt made the motion to approve the following appointments to these Boards. Daron Woelk seconded and Duke Strobel approved.

MENTAL HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE – Pam Novak

HEALTH OFFICER – Paula Bitter

COUNTY HEALTH MEDICAL CONSULTANT – Dr. Tyrel Somers, MD

KPERS AGENT – Connie Schinkus

WORKMAN’S COMP. PHYSICIAN – Dr. Tyrel Somers, MD

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER – Russell County News and Lucas-Sylvan News

DEPOSITORIES – All County Banks Meeting Statutory Requirements

SOLID WASTE COMMISSION – Steve Reinhardt Commissioner, Alan Kuntzsch, John Fletcher Rich Krause and Chadd Stevenson – City of Russell, Kent Ellis – County House Hold Hazardous Waste

REPRESENTATIVE NORTHWEST KANSAS PLANNING BOARD – Duke Strobel

REPRESENTATIVE KANSAS LEGISLATIVE POLICY GROUP - Commissioners

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION ON DISABILITIES – Brad Zweifel

ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR PARKS & RECREATION - Convention and Visitors Bureau

JUVENILE CORRECTION ADVISORY BOARD – Heather Fletcher

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) BOARD – Larry Hickman

CENTRAL KANSAS COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD – John Fletcher

POST ROCK SCENIC BYWAY COMMITTEE – Daron Woelk

CENTRAL KANSAS LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING GROUP – Duke Strobel

SPECIAL DEPUTY COUNTY CORONER – Steve Boltin

LUCAS FIRE DIST #2 CHIEF & ASSISTANT CHIEF – Kenny Cain & Brent Steinle, Secretary – Justin Couse.

WALDO/PARADISE/NATOMA FIRE DIST #3 OVERALL DISTRICT CHIEF – Keith Koelling

PARADISE STATION CHIEF – Quentin Maupin, **NATOMA STATION CHIEF** – Keith Koelling **WALDO STATION CHIEF** – Dustin Finkenbinder, **TREASURER/CLERK** – Kirk Koelling

RUSSELL COUNTY FIRE DIST #5 DISTRICT CHIEF – Tracey Kuntzsch, **Bunker Hill Assistant Chief** – Josh Vopat, **LINCOLN TWP STATION CHIEF** – Kurt Dewald, **FIRE DIST CLERK/TREASURER** – Justina Opdycke

GORHAM FIRE DISTRICT #1 – Chief Glen Blundon, **Assistant Chief** – Jeffery Blundon **Secretary/Treasurer** – Isaiah Robbins

DORRANCE FIRE CHIEF – Steve Vondracek, **ASSISTANCE FIRE CHIEF** - Nathan Pasek **TREASURER/SECRETARY** – Andy Phelps.

ASSISTANT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTORS – Justin Couse and Jordan Harrison.

ZONING APPEALS AND RUSSELL COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION – Cindy Haselhorst and Mike Waymaster to 3 yr. terms. The entire Commission with their appointment years is as follows: Morris Krug, Chairman – 2022, Cindy Haselhorst – 2021, Laran Haselhorst – 2023, Dean Koehn – 2022, Mike Waymaster – 2021, Carl Denning – 2023 and Victoria Tomlinson – 2022.

Economic Development Board – Jon Birky, Trent Leach, John Fletcher, Don Varner, Karla Berry, Larry Hickman and Grace Blehm, Daron Woelk representatives from the County and Jon Quinday, and Jim Cross representatives from Russell City. (need one from city)

Steve Reinhardt made the motion to add the following people to the signature cards at the following banks: Stephen Reinhardt, Duke Strobel, Daron Woelk, Trisha Strobel, Ronnie Gideon, Mary K. Nuss and Kristi Whitman and to remove from the signature cards, Don Boxberger, Aaron Steinert and Teryn Yarmer. These signatures will be updated at the following County Banks: Sunflower Bank, Southwind Bank, Bennington State Bank, UMB Bank, Gorham State Bank, Wilson State Bank and Peoples State Bank. Duke Strobel seconded and Daron Woelk approved.

Duke Strobel made the motion to declare Friday, December 24, 2021 as a holiday and Friday, December 31, 2021 as holiday. Thursday, December 30, 2021 County offices will be closed to the public to complete year end business and no County employee will be allowed to leave prior to 2:00 pm. Daron Woelk seconded and Steve Reinhardt approved.

At 10:58 am Steve Reinhardt made the motion to enter into a 15-minute executive session for Attorney-Client Privilege with Trish Strobel, Dan Krug and John Fletcher in attendance. Duke Strobel seconded and Daron Woelk approved. At 11:13 am the meeting resumed with no action taken.

Paula Bitter, County Health Nurse, brought in her Letter of Understandings for WIC and Dietary Services for 2021. Steve Reinhardt made the motion to approve the Letter of Understanding with Belinda Kasper for the WIC and Dietary Services. Daron Woelk seconded and Duke Strobel approved.

Paula stated that our positivity rate for COVID has slowed since the implementation of the Mask Mandate on November 20, 2020. November positivity rate was 27.5%, December was 17.1% and 5.9% up to January 18, 2021. Since COVID started 38% of the County residents have been tested. Paula Bitter would like to set up a vaccination clinic at the 4-H Building when more vaccines are available. She is thinking the middle to later part of February for this Clinic. Vaccines could be will be good from 6 months to 2 years, but they don't know.

It was the consensus of the Commission to keep the mask mandate in place until February 16, 2021 where it will be reviewed again at 11:30 am.

Discussion was held with Sheriff Fred Whitman regarding a complaint that cattle is being injured and they are investigating what may be happening to them. The Sheriff's office is patrolling the area more frequently to help discover what is going on.

Steve Reinhardt made the motion to approve and sign the updated Procurement Policy for the County. Daron Woelk seconded and Duke Strobel approved.

Steve Reinhardt made the motion to extend the COVID -19 eighty-hour sick leave until March 31, 2021. This is only for employees that HAVE NOT USED any of this COVID time. Duke Strobel seconded, and Daron Woelk approved.

Daron Woelk made the motion approve Resolution 2021-1 requesting a waiver of the requirement of KSA 75-1120a from the Division of Accounts and Reports to extend through December 31, 2021. Duke Strobel seconded, and Steve Reinhardt approved.

Chairman Steve Reinhardt signed the CMB license for Iron Bird, LLC DBA LaSada Lodge.

Checks were approved and signed to be deducted from the following funds:

100 GENERAL	\$	364,295.68	310 WAL-PAR-NAT	\$	467.16
110 ROAD & BRIDGE	\$	3,726.26	320 DORRANCE FIRE	\$	4,632.56
130 NOXIOUS WEED	\$	1,055.40	328 RS CO FIRE #5	\$	9,361.95
140 4H	\$	216.32	330 APPRAISAL	\$	578.99
150 CVB	\$	5,402.53	340 SPECIAL R&B	\$	797.86
155 ED	\$	1,307.10	360 SOLID WASTE	\$	3,810.28
210 CAPITAL IMPROV	\$	3,379.80	370 EMPLOYEE BENFIT	\$	48,647.00
260 COUNTY HEALTH	\$	3,226.38	380 EM TELEPHONE	\$	293.02
290 GORHAM FIRE	\$	471.69	435 ROD TECH FUND	\$	350.75
300 LUCAS FIRE	\$	50.73	718 CTZ REVIEW BRD	\$	1,071.56

At 12:02 pm Steve Reinhardt made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Daron Woelk seconded, and Duke Strobel approved. The next meeting for the Russell County Commissioners will be February 1, 2021 beginning at 9:00 am in Commission Chambers, Courthouse.