

MINUTES OF THE KINGMAN COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ON August 30th, 2021

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the Commission Room of the County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas on August 30th, 2021. Those present:

Jerry Henning, Chairman
Jack Thimesch, Commissioner
Fred Foley, Commissioner
Carol Noblit, County Clerk
John Caton, County Counselor

Visitors: Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Larry Landwehr; Matthew Hanson, Witt O'Briens LLC; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director; Kallie Turner, Extension Agent; Andrea Wood, Extension Agent; Mike Floyd, Extension Board; Darla Harbert, Extension Board; Gail Flickner, Extension Board.

Staff: Linda Langley, Internal Auditor; Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; Richard Schott, Emergency Manager; Sheriff Hill and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

Chairman Henning gave an invocation.

Chairman Henning asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning opened the Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing at 8:32 a.m.

The Commissioners discussed the purpose of the Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing and asked for public comment.

No Comments were made.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve Resolution 2021-R13, **A RESOLUTION OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS TO EXCEED THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE IN ITS PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR THE TAX YEAR OF 2022**. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to adjourn the Revenue Neutral Rate hearing at 8:35 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning reconvened the Board of County Commissioners meeting at 8:35 a.m.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment.

The County Clerk submitted a video to watch from Heath Weninger for them to view on wind farms and solar farms.

Commissioners asked the Clerk to send Mr. Weninger a thank you email and let him know that it was watched.

8:40 a.m. Linda Langley, Internal Auditor was in to review the July Department Budget summary with the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning moved to open the 2022 County Budget Hearing at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment.

Linda Langley discussed about the mill levy and the tax dollars needed for the budget.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the 2022 County Budget. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners discussed the budget requests and when they are due.

Ms. Langley let them know that the end of May is the budget request deadline from departments

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to close the 2022 County Budget Hearing. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning reconvened the Board of County Commission meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Ms. Langley continued to review the department budget summaries with the Commissioners.

Commissioners discussed the capital reserve funds.

Ms. Langley left the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

9:32 a.m. Stan Goetz, HR was in and requested an executive session for non-elected personnel.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Foley moved to go into executive session at 9:40 a.m. with Sheriff Hill; Stan Goetz, HR and John Caton to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion on non-elected personnel matters of nonelected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:50 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:50 a.m.

Commissioners decided to hire a new 911 Communications Officer for the Law Enforcement Center.

Sheriff Hill left the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

Mr. Goetz let the Commissioners know that David Harbert is willing to be on the planning/zoning board with the Commissioners approval.

Mr. Goetz gave the commissioners information from the Planning/Zoning meeting on two towers for NextLink on personal properties. The next planning meeting will have four request for towers.

Commissioners discussed the tower requests.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve David Harbert for the planning/zoning board. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Goetz let the Commissioners know that Nextera has discussed with him about Solar power and would like for John Caton to be in the meeting September 8th, 2021 with them.

Mr. Goetz left the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

10:01 a.m. Andrea Wood, Extension Agent and Kallie Turner, Extension Agent were in with quarterly updates.

Kallie Turner let the Commissioners know that 34 kids signed up for tractor safety and 17 participants passed their test and are ready for the driving course portion.

Ms. Turner said that the Canola Field Tour held in Norwich on May 13th with the KSU Canola Breeder Mike Stamm had 17 in attendance.

Ms. Turner let the Commissioners know that they have a new SE Extension Agronomist Specialist come to visit.

Ms. Turner discussed 4-H and Youth Development; KSRE/Office Duties; Community Vitality; and upcoming events with the Commissioners.

Andrea Wood discussed the Simply Produce program with the Commissioners.

Ms. Wood let the Commissioners know about Storywalk; 4-H Day Camp; Norwich & Kingman Library Program; Rock Springs Camp; Babysitting Clinic; Kingman County & 4-H Fair and upcoming events.

Ms. Wood let the Commissioners know that she has resigned her position and will be the new JAG(Jobs for Americas Graduates) teacher at the High School on September 1st.

Ms. Wood also let the Commissioners know that their Office Assistant Jerika Francis has resigned her position.

Chairman Henning asked what the extension office budget is used for because it uses taxpayer dollars.

Ms. Wood let Mr. Henning know that the programs would not be done without the funding to be able to do them.

Mike Floyd wanted to know who is complaining about the Extension office and if they are complaining come to the board and they will explain what the tax dollars are used for.

Chairman Henning just wants to be educated on what the Extension office provides.

Ms. Wood let the Commissioner know that the Extension Council is made up of 24 members and 9 executive board members.

Ms. Wood explained what the Livestock committee and Fair Board do.

Ms. Wood, Ms. Turner and board members left the meeting at 10:43 a.m.
Chairman Henning recessed the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

10:50 a.m. Chairman Henning reconvened the meeting.

10:50 a.m. Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer submitted quotes for the Tag office and the Treasurer's Office from Iconic IT.

The quote for the Tag office is for 4 monitors and 2 cameras in the amount of \$2534.70.

The quote for the Treasurer's office is for 6 monitors and 1 camera in the amount of \$2986.09.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the purchase of monitors for the Tag office in the amount of \$2534.70 from the County Treasurer Auto fund. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the purchase of the Treasurer's office monitors in the amount of \$2986.09 from the Technology Fund. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Luntsford left the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

10:59 a.m. Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director was in to let the Commissioners know that she had a manufacturer's luncheon and who attended.

Commissioners discussed housing in Kingman County.

Ms. Schrag discussed having a job fair for the businesses looking to hire help.

Ms. Schrag left the meeting at 11:32 a.m.

11:35 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in to discuss the SE 20 St seal coat project with Hall Brothers, Inc. with an Onyx Mastic Surface Seal for 6.03 miles in the amount of \$114,226.81.

Commissioners let Mr. Arensdorf know to let Hall Brothers, Inc. know if they can get the project done before the end of September then they would be interested.

Mr. Arensdorf updated the Commissioners on OS M.0-7.5 Abutment repair.

Mr. Arensdorf left the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

11:50 a.m. Matthew Hanson with Witt O'Briens LLC was online to kickoff their services for the ARPA funds.

Mr. Hanson discussed that the ARPA funding the County has until December 31, 2024 to obligate those funds to projects and until December 31, 2026 to spend and liquidate the monies.

Mr. Schott asked Mr. Hanson if he had any feedback from the special meeting that was held on the 25th with the cities.

Mr. Hanson felt the responsibilities of the ARPA funds were not being understood.

Chairman Henning let Mr. Hanson know that he doesn't want a lot of administrative spending instead of putting the money towards projects.

Commissioner Thimesch asked if phone systems and computers could use ARPA funding to replace.

Mr. Hanson discussed what and how it could be covered.

Mr. Hanson left the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Mr. Schott said that the report hasn't been filed yet as the website hasn't made it available yet.

Commissioners discussed options for spending the funding with Ms. Langley and Mr. Schott.

The County Clerk submitted the August 23rd, 2021 Commission Meeting minutes and the August 25th, 2021 Special Meeting minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the August 23rd, 2021 Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the August 25th, 2021 Special Meeting minutes. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The County Commissioners signed vouchers for the Road & Bridge in the amount of \$24,530.86.

The County Commissioners signed county vouchers in the amount of \$281,069.20.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 1:20 p.m. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.