

MINUTES OF THE KINGMAN
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ON December 27th, 2022

Chairman Foley called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. December 27th, 2022, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

Fred Foley, Chairman

Jerry Henning, Commissioner

Jack Thimesch, Commissioner

Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

Commissioner Henning gave the invocation.

Visitors: Bob Morris, Leader-Courier; Larry Landwehr; Patrick Elpers; Staci Jackson, District Court Clerk; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director;

Online Visitors: Joyce;

Staff: Ron Leroux, Noxious Weed Director; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; Susan Hubbell, Register of Deeds and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

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

Commissioner Thimesch would like to add an attorney-client privilege executive session.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda with the addition of an executive session for attorney-client privilege. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Foley asked if there was any public comment.

Larry Landwehr said "Good Morning".

Patrick Elpers asked about the Horizon East addition acres per lot because he was asked by some individuals why are they 5 acre lots instead of 10 acre lots.

Commissioners let Mr. Elpers know that Mr. Lavarentz followed all the steps for the addition to be put in place.

8:35 a.m. Staci Jackson, District Court Clerk was in to ask for remaining funds to be placed into the Equipment Reserve Fund for a recording system in the small courtroom and a new copier because the current copier is old and needs replaced.

Ms. Jackson submitted a letter from Judge Mott that the defender fees would be going from \$3000.00 to 4500.00 per month.

Commissioners discussed the need for a new recording system in the small courtroom.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the purchase of a new recording system for the small courtroom. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Jackson left the meeting at 9:03 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director was in with an update.

Ms. Schrag let the Commissioners know that the County has received a Seed Grant to help with 12 projects throughout the county.

Ms. Schrag submitted the reports for Dilapidated structure program with remaining funds available of \$17,250.00 and the Façade Program with remaining funds available of \$3262.95.

Commissioners discussed the programs and let Ms. Schrag know that they are for the programs and still want to put up to \$50,000.00 for them.

Commissioners discussed that the Expo Center needs some help for improvements.

Ms. Schrag discussed grants available for the Expo Center.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve Option #2 which is \$26,000.00 to the Façade Program and \$24,000.00 to the Dilapidated Program. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Schrag left the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

9:38 a.m. Ron Leroux, Noxious Weed Director was in with the Chemical bid totals for the following received:

SIMS \$24,346.60
Nutrien \$10,635.25
Van Diest \$9,793.11

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the bids received from SIMS, Nutrien and Van Diest. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Leroux discussed sending a form out to the Townships for spraying.

Mr. Leroux let the Commissioners know that there is an upcoming annual Noxious Weed Conference coming up that he will attend.

Mr. Leroux left the meeting at 9:57 a.m.

Chairman Foley read correspondence from KAC (Kansas Association of Counties) that the dues for 2023 will be \$2,427.17.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve membership to KAC in the amount of \$2427.17 for 2023. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to withdraw membership to the League of Municipalities for 2023. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners signed the following abatements and one addition:

ABATEMENTS		ADDITION	
2022000116	-87.42	2022000120	+41.70
2022000117	-86.54		
2022000118	-1516.48		
2022000119	-1495.10		
2022000121	-3.14		

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the December 19th, 2022, Commission meeting minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the December 19th, 2022, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioner

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session at 10:15 a.m. with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss pending administrative proceedings pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of matters which would be deemed privileged under the attorney-client relationship, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:25 a.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:25 a.m. with no decision made.

10:30 a.m. Susan Hubbell, Register of Deeds was in to discuss her budget and the expenses that are yet to be taken out. Ms. Hubbell let the Commissioners know that her budget may be over due to unforeseen expenses.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session at 10:42 a.m. with Susan Hubbell, Register of Deeds and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of 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 10:52 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioner returned to regular session at 10:52 a.m. with no decision made.

Ms. Hubbell left the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

10:57 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with a request from Ninnescah Township for a consultation of a road intersection at SW 50th Street & SW 30th Avenue.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the consultation of a road in Ninnescah Township. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that the FLAP project letting was moved from last week to this week.

Commissioners discussed the windfarm information received from Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael for reconstruction and that they need to be informed by the Company of heavy loads on County Roads and the routes they are going to take.

Mr. Arensdorf left the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to re-appoint Greg Reno to the Public Building Commission which will expire December 31, 2023. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

11:34 a.m. Susan Hubbell, Register of Deeds was in to request an executive session for non-elected personnel matters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session at 11:36 a.m. with Susan Hubbell, Register of Deeds and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of 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 11:51a.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 11:51 a.m. with no decision made.

Ms. Hubbell left the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:58 a.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.