

MINUTES OF THE KINGMAN
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
ON February 13th, 2023

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. February 13, 2023, in the South Room of the Kingman Expo Center.

Jerry Henning, Chairman

Patrick Elpers, Commissioner

Jack Thimesch, Commissioner

Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

Chairman Henning gave the invocation.

Visitors: Bob Morris, Leader-Courier; Larry Landwehr; Ed Laverentz; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director; Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael; Julie Lyon; Bob Renner; Todd Fairchild; Gary Sterneker;

Staff: Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; Steve Bachenberg and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

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

Commissioners just had comments to be discussed at the end of the meeting.

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

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment.

Larry Landwehr said "Good Morning".

8:32 a.m. Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director, Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director and Julie Lyon were in to discuss applying for the SPRINT grant. The grant doesn't require a match to apply.

Ms. Schrag went over a list of items that she is wanting to include in the grant application.

Ms. Schrag discussed that she would like to get an Engineer's report.

Commissioners let Ms. Schrag know that it would take more time to get an Engineer's report and that it would not be ready by the grant deadline.

Ms. Frampton discussed that she had a no-rise permit from when they did the Expo Center remodel and she has extended the permit to keep it up to date. Ms. Frampton also wanted to commend the City for coming down in full force to help Commissioner Thimesch work on the drainage problem on the fair grounds.

Ms. Frampton requested support for closing in the south side of the building if the grant can be acquired. Chairman Henning discussed his concerns about the addition being in the floodway and that if you close it in then the square footage needs to be placed elsewhere to help with the drainage.

Ms. Schrag and Ms. Lyon discussed that the application may need a marketing plan included.

Commissioner Thimesch discussed that he had talked with Mr. Arensdorf about engineering costs with Kirkham Michael.

Commissioner Elpers asked what is done currently to promote the Expo Center.

Ms. Frampton said that she has a website and she sends letters out.

Ms. Schrag said that she could get a comprehensive marketing plan together for the application.

Commissioner Thimesch let Ms. Schrag, Ms. Lyon and Ms. Frampton know that it is important to get letters of support for an application.

Commissioners agreed for them to work on submitting the application for the SPRINT Grant.

Ms. Frampton left the meeting at 8:31 a.m.

9:31 a.m. Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director was in to request a non-elected personnel executive session with the Board and County Counselor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Elpers moved to go into executive session at 9:31 a.m. with Stan Goetz, HR and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of non-elected personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed, and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:43 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

County Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:43 a.m. with no decision made.

Mr. Goetz submitted a spreadsheet of payroll and benefits put together by Tiffany Aumiller, Payroll/Benefits Clerk for the Commissioners.

Mr. Goetz left the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

9:46 a.m. Ed Laverentz presented a handout on estimated totals of the RHID to the Commissioners.

Commissioners asked Mr. Laverentz how many years he would be looking at to receive reimbursed taxes.

Mr. Laverentz discussed the years and would like to do a 12-year period of time with an amount of \$175,000.00.

Commissioners received a Resolution from Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to be approved to start the RHID process.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers move to approve **RESOLUTION 2023-02, A RESOLUTION MAKING FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS OF THE NEED FOR HOUSING WITHIN**

KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS AND SETTING FORTH THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF REAL PROPERTY PROPOSED TO BE DESIGNATED AS A RURAL HOUSING INCENTIVE DISTRICT WITHIN KINGMAN COUNTY. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Laverentz and Ms. Schrag left the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

10:12 a.m. Charles Arensdorf and Tanner Yost were in to discuss the Nextera windfarm and the repairs that are being done.

Mr. Yost submitted a map of the intended route for the Nextera project haul route.

Commissioners discussed the haul route with the Township officers that were in attendance.

The Township officers discussed any concerns they had with the County Commissioners, Mr. Arensdorf and Mr. Yost.

A Township Officer discussed the road by Neville welding and that it is on the haul route presented.

Mr. Yost let the officer know that they have taken pictures and made a report on the current conditions of the roads in the haul route.

Mr. Arensdorf reminded the officers in attendance that the annual township meeting will be held March 13, 2023 at the Public Works building.

Township officers left the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

10:56 a.m. Charles Arensdorf and Steve Bachenberg, County Engineer were in with updates.

Mr. Arensdorf gave the Commissioners a cost estimate received from Josh Beckman, Kirkham Michael for a bridge replacement of FF.7-6.0 located 2 ¾ miles east of Midway on Old 54.

Commissioners discussed this bridge instead of the original bridge U8-17.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to change the funding from the U8.0-17 Bridge to the FF.7-6.0 Bridge. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners discussed if these bridges were on the bridge inspection report.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that these bridges were listed on the bridge inspection report.

Mr. Arensdorf gave the Commissioners an update on the coring project that was done on SW 70 St.

Commissioner Thimesch let the board know that he discussed a dirt pile and that it could be used for roads.

Commissioners advised Commissioner Thimesch to look into the cost of the dirt pile that could be used for roads.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed Mr. Bachenberg's engineering services will end at the end of May 2023 and asked if they would be interested in modifying his contract at the end of this one for future services. Commissioners let Mr. Bachenberg know that they are pleased with his service and he has been handling the engineering services for Kingman County well. They let Mr. Bachenberg know that they were willing to look at modifying his future contract services to keep him on with Kingman County.

Mr. Bachenberg, Mr. Arensdorf and Mr. Yost left the meeting at 11:58 a.m.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the minutes of February 6, 2023, Commission meeting to be approved.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the February 6, 2023, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning discussed a possible new vehicle for the Emergency Manager with the Board.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:16 p.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.