

MINUTES OF THE KINGMAN  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
ON June 12th, 2023

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. June 12th, 2023, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

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.

Brandon Ritcha gave the invocation.

Visitors: Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Larry Landwehr; Sarah Hacker, Carnival Board member; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director; Rita Vogt, Conservation District; Chad Huffinan; Frank Strohl; Clint Foley; Kevin Wegerer; Weston Winter and Danielle Hollingshead, AdamsBrown;

Online Visitors: Heather Kinsler, Caller 01

Staff: Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse; Jamie Smith, County Treasurer; LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director and Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director.

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

Chairman Henning would like to add an executive session with the County Counselor and another one with Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the agenda with the addition of an executive session. 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 discussed that he saw Jamie Smith, County Treasurer come outside to wait on a customer that could not make it up the stairs and thought that was nice to see the service she was providing.

Commissioners thanked him for letting them know.

Sarah Hacker was in to ask if the County had some millings that they could provide for the Carnival's new tilt-a-whirl ride that they have to put up hopefully by the fair.

Commissioners thought that the County still had some millings but they would have to discuss it with Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

8:39 a.m. Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director was in to discuss the grants that were not received and why the state did not approve the requests.

Ms. Schrag submitted the 2024 Economic Development Budget request.

Ms. Schrag submitted the Proposed Funding of Housing Assessment to the County Commissioner.

Commissioners discussed the breakdown and asked why Norwich City was not included in the breakdown.

Ms. Schrag let the Commissioners know that Norwich is currently having their own assessment done is why they were not included in the breakdown for the Housing assessment for the County.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the \$6300.00 towards the Funding of the Housing Assessment with the understanding if Norwich City does decide to be included that they will pay their share of the assessment. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Schrag discussed some new grant opportunities for the Expo Center that she will be applying for.

Ms. Schrag left the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

9:19 a.m. Rita Vogt, Conservation District Administrator, Chad Huffman, Frank Strohl, Clint Foley, Kevin Wegerer and Weston Winter were in to submit the 2024 Budget Request.

Left the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

9:27 a.m. Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse was in with a department update.

Ms. Schwartz would like to order the panic buttons out of the LECP grant.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the purchase of the panic button system for the Health Department. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Schwartz let the Commissioners know that the West door was installed by Cheney Door and were called back at least once to finish caulking and replace threshold.

Chairman Henning let the Board know that the Health Department had plugged guttering and roof repairs that needed to be made so they had Aaron Parsons fix the emergency services.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve emergency repair services by Aaron Parsons(AP Roofing) in the amount of \$2245.00. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to remove the trees on the West side of the Health Department building. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Schwartz discussed the new sign for the Health Department and reviewed the two bids received.

Commissioners would like Ms. Schwartz to look at the current electricity to the sign.

Commissioners discussed the storage building and the new doors to the Health Department area.

Ms. Schwartz left the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

10:02 a.m. Danielle Hollingshead, AdamsBrown and LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer were in to discuss the 2023 County Audit with the County Commissioners.

Ms. Hollingshead and Ms. Stegman left the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

10:37 a.m. Jamie Smith, County Treasurer let the Commissioners know that the tax sale will be on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. in the Courtroom.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Jamie Smith, County Treasurer, Stan Goetz, HR and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 10:53 a.m. to discuss an individual 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 10:58 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:58 a.m. with no decision made.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Jamie Smith, County Treasurer, Stan Goetz, HR and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 10:58 a.m. to discuss an individual 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 11:03 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 11:03 a.m. with no decision made.

Ms. Smith left the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

11:03 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with May Financial reports for the Commissioners to review.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed the St. Leo Road Surfacing Project with the County Commissioners and that Kingman County was awarded \$1,293,600.00 to construct 2.5" of hot mix structural overlay on 8 miles of RS 363 from RS 359(Cunningham Road) to RS 296 (Zenda Road).

Mr. Arensdorf discussed the KDOT 2023 Local Consult Events schedule and is scheduled for October 2023.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that the FLAP Pre-Construction conference will be held virtually on Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted a new-hire sheet to be approved by the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers is making a motion to approve the new-hire for the Road & Bridge Department. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf left the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

11:33 a.m. Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director submitted a listing of the rentals last year and the income it made.

Ms. Frampton requested that the Commissioners look at the four-block rate again because the \$200.00 is high and she would lose the renters and the income it brings in.

Chairman Henning discussed that the rates being raised will help with the hiring of maintenance person for the facility.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the new rates for the Kingman Expo Center. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners discussed hiring part-time help for the Expo Center and asked Mr. Goetz to put an ad in the paper.

Ms. Frampton, Expo Center Director left the meeting at 12:24 p.m.

12:24 p.m. Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director was in to discuss a document for the Outpost at Cheney Lake.

Mr. Goetz discussed a resolution for a re-zone of land from Ag use to heavy industrial for Robert Casad.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve Resolution 2023-R9, A RESOLUTION CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS, UNDER THE AUTHORITY GRANTED BY THE ZONING REGULATIONS OF THE COUNTY AS ORIGINALLY APPROVED BY RESOLUTION NO. 2007-38. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning signed a document for the lease of the Sheriff Department vehicles.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, County Commission meeting minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 12:48 p.m. 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 will return to open session in the board meeting room at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 1:00 p.m. 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 will return to open session in the board meeting room at 1:05 p.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

County Commissioners returned to regular session at 1:05 p.m. with no decision made.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to appoint Shannon Allen to the Richland Township Treasurer position. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 1:09 p.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.