

MINUTES OF THE KINGMAN  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
ON August 21, 2023

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. August 21, 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; Tad Hacker; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director; Sarah Carroll, Invenergy and Tyler Mowbray, Invenergy.

Online Visitors: Tammy; Heather Kinsler; Caller 01-Caller 08; Chrissy Bartel L, Kelly and Zach Bieghler.

Staff: Sheriff Brent Wood; LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse; Susan Hubbell, Register of Deeds; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

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

Commissioners discussed having LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer added to the agenda.

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.

Tad Hacker discussed the upcoming Constitutional Day with the Commissioners and asked if they would like to read the same amendments as last year.

Mr. Hacker read the Kingman County Proclamation of Constitution Week 2023.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through September 23, 2023, as Kingman County Constitution Week. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Larry Landwehr mentioned a bridge and asked if it was one of the bridges being repaired.

Commissioners let Mr. Landwehr know that it was to be repaired.

8:44 a.m. Sheriff Wood was in to discuss that he received six new to them desks for a good price and he let them know he now has six old metal desks that he wanted to know what he should do with them.

Commissioners would like to give the Departments and Employees first dibs to the old metal desks so an email will be sent out to departments.

Sheriff Wood submitted a quote from Sunny Communications, Inc. for refurbished radios in the amount of \$29,633.64 for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the purchase of 16 Motorola APX4500 Mobile 700/800 radios from Sunny Communications, Inc. in the amount of \$29,633.64 to be paid out of the Diversion fund. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Sheriff Wood discussed the vehicles that had been damaged and purchasing a vehicle from County Capital Equipment fund.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the purchase in the amount of \$53,595.40. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Sheriff Wood left the meeting at 8:56 a.m.

Chairman Henning moved to open the Public Hearing for the CDBGCVR at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Henning asked for public comment.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk asked where the funds would be administered through.

Ms. Schrag said that the funds would be handled through the County and SCKEDD would administer the grant.

Mr. Landwehr asked if the grant was to help prepare for future possibility of COVID.

Ms. Schrag said it is to help businesses with technology upgrades that could be used in case of another closure or needing to work remotely.

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

Chairman Henning closed the public hearing for the CDBGCVR Grant at 9:15 a.m.

Commissioners discussed Economic Development with Ms. Schrag.

Ms. Schrag left the meeting at 9:17 a.m.

The County Clerk submitted the minutes of the August 14, 2023, meeting for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the August 14, 2023, meeting minutes. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

9:29 a.m. Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse was in with a department update for the Commissioners.

Ms. Schwartz discussed that immunization/vaccinations are up due to school beginning.

Ms. Schwartz let the Commissioners know that the generator repair was done on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August and is working great.

Ms. Schwartz submitted the School Health Services Contract with Cunningham to be signed.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the School Health Service Contract with Cunningham USD 332 2023-2024 School year. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Schwartz discussed applying for the Workforce Grant and that the grant is from December 2023-November 30, 2027. The grant would help her update the health department policy book and job descriptions.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the Workforce Development Grant 2023-2027. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

9:50 a.m. Susan Hubbell, Register of Deeds was in with a department update.

Ms. Hubbell discussed that her department server has been having some issues, so she purchased an external hard drive to continue to do backups. She is looking at purchasing a new server.

Ms. Hubbell discussed investing technology funds and has been waiting seven months to get a decision to move money.

Ms. Hubbell discussed that she could make more money for the taxpayers by going outside of the County than keeping it in Kingman County.

Commissioners would like to keep the money in the County banks and not moving to a bank outside the county.

Ms. Hubbell left the meeting at 10:05a.m.

10:05 a.m. LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer was in to discuss the financial breakdowns for EMS with the Commissioners and Sheriff Wood.

Commissioners discussed the finances received and disbursed in past years for the EMS.

Commissioners discussed dispatch.

Ms. Stegman and Sheriff Wood left the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

10:47 a.m. Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; Sarah Carroll, Invenergy and Tyler Mowbray, Invenergy were in to discuss Flat Ridge 4 & 5 with the Commissioners.

Ms. Carroll let the Commissioners know that she has gotten approval to pay \$3200.00 per megawatt instead of \$3,000.00 and each windfarm will receive \$750,000.00. Also, Ms. Carroll let them know that there will be a one-time lump payment at year 11 at \$4379.18 per megawatt.

Ms. Carroll and Mr. Mowbray left the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

Mr. Goetz let the Commissioners know that there is a department head meeting will be on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Mr. Goetz left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

11:15 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with a permit from:

1. Evergy-Pole replacement and upgrades along Sections 16,21,27,33 & 34, Township 29, Range 6W (Eagle Township).

Mr. Arensdorf submitted the July budget reports to review for his department.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted a request from Valley Township for consultation on a bridge.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the Valley Township request for consultation. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted a handout on "Build Kansas Fund" for the Commissioners to review.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that the bridge North of Cunningham is scheduled to have a bid letting on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:03 p.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.