

`THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ON October 17, 2016

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in regular session in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Kingman County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas, on October 17, 2016. Those present:

Fred Foley, Chairman

John Steffen, Commissioner

Carol Voran, Commissioner

John Caton, County Counselor was present.

Visitors: Donna Hardesty; Gayle Dye; Jason Jump, Leader-Courier; Larry Landwehr; Jim Wahlmeier, Kingman Community Hospital Administrator; Merlin McFarland; Greg Schreiner; and the following with Kingman Community Hospital: Fred Vaughn, Christine Jennings, Nita McFarland, Nancy Stucky, Neil Freund, Sondra Nickel, and Angie Maloney.

Staff: Nancy Borst, Communications Coordinator; Sheriff Randy Hill; Heather Kinsler, 911 Coordinator; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning Director; Fred Simon, Emergency Manager; and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

Chairman Foley called the public hearing for the county's amended budget to order at 8:00 a.m. Foley asked for public comment on the amended budget. There was none.

MOTION: Commissioner Voran moved to approve the amended budget. Commissioner Foley seconded. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Steffen moved to close the budget hearing. Commissioner Voran seconded. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Foley called the regular commission meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Chairman Foley asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Commissioner Steffen would like to discuss redistricting of commission districts and the Dale #20 bridge.

MOTION: Commissioner Steffen moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Foley seconded. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Foley asked whether there was any public comment. Larry Landwehr said good morning.

MOTION Commissioner Voran moved to sign the agreement with File Safe with a change to paragraph 6 regarding the number of days to cancel the agreement upon renewal. Commissioner Steffen seconded. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Voran moved to approve the Oct. 11 minutes. Commissioner Steffen seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners discussed redistricting of the county commission districts. Commissioner Voran indicated that other counties hire an independent firm to do redistricting. This would eliminate any bias. She did not have a cost estimate. Commissioner Steffen said cost could be a factor. The consensus was for Commissioner Voran to investigate this further.

8:45 a.m. Staff and board members from Kingman Community Hospital were in to discuss a possible resolution calling for a public vote for a three-quarter cent, county-wide sales tax, with proceeds benefitting the hospital.

Christine Jennings, the hospital's marketing director, gave a PowerPoint presentation that outlined how changes in reimbursements and a lack of Medicaid expansion in Kansas have created financial losses for KCH. She noted the hospital has operated for 46 years without public financial support. The sales tax would be used to help pay operating expenses.

Jim Wahlmeier, hospital administrator, said that as a non-profit healthcare provider, KCH can ask the county to pass a resolution to let the public vote on a sales tax of up to 1 percent with proceeds used for healthcare. He said there would be no sunset provision to the tax if it is approved by voters.

Ms. Jennings indicated the hospital would like to do the election by mail in March 2017. The hospital would pay the expenses for the election.

Commissioners thanked the hospital for its presentation and invited hospital staff to come back in two weeks for further discussion.

Mr. McFarland, Mr. Wahlmeier, Mr. Vaughn, Ms. Jennings, Ms. McFarland, Ms. Stucky, Mr. Freund, Mr. Schreiner, Ms. Nickel and Ms. Maloney left the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

9:55 a.m. Sheriff Randy Hill and 911 Coordinator Heather Kinsler were in to discuss the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Hill gave commissioners a copy of Undersheriff Jerry Mart's letter of retirement. His last work day will be Dec. 16, 2016. Mart has worked for the county for 25 years. The sheriff said he plans to promote the next undersheriff from within the department. He hopes to hire a new deputy by the end of November.

Ms. Kinsler presented three quotes for a new administrative telephone system for the Sheriff's Office. She said she prefers the middle price quote, which would provide a system compatible with other components already in place, use existing wiring and which gives a price discount because it is from the current provider.

MOTION: Commissioner Voran moved to approve the bid from AT&T in the amount of \$15,854.44 for a new administrative telephone system for the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Steffen seconded. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Kinsler advised commissioners that the county recently was awarded an Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant of \$93,869 to purchase a ProQA Emergency Dispatch Software Program for 911. This software integrates the power of the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED) Protocols with current computer technology. This brings the total value of grants received by the Sheriff's Office in the past three years to approximately \$292,000. The next step is working on policies and obtaining training on the new software.

She noted that 911 needs a new computer server to support this new software. She will go to the 911 Board to see whether the 911 fund can pay for at least a portion of the cost of a new server, which is estimated to be \$23,400. The server will need to be purchased even if the 911 Fund is not available. Sheriff Hill noted that the current server at the Law Enforcement Center is maxed out.

Mr. Hill and Ms. Kinsler left the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

10:30 a.m. Stan Goetz was in to discuss HR/planning/zoning matters.

He presented an employee status form for commissioners' signatures for a part-time employee that now is a full-time employee in the Appraiser's Office.

He also presented the recommendation of the Kingman County Planning Board to grant a request for a zoning change from A-1/General Agriculture District to R-R Rural Residential District in the county.

MOTION: Commissioner Steffen moved to approve **RESOLUTION 2016-R-30 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 Voran seconded. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The Planning Board will meet at 7 p.m. Oct. 24 to consider an application for a conditional special use permit for the proposed Flat Ridge IV commercial wind farm. The meeting will be held in the large third floor courtroom at the courthouse. Mr. Goetz distributed a copy of the FRIV development plan to each commissioner.

Mr. Goetz left the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

10:52 a.m. Charles Arensdorf was in to discuss county roads. Approximately 100 locations have been identified for patching or repair on blacktops used by the current commercial wind farm construction and the recent power transmission line construction.

There was a brief discussion of the Dale #20 bridge. Mr. Arensdorf noted that Steve Bachenberg, county engineer, will be at the Oct. 24 meeting and he would like to participate in the discussion of options for this bridge's repair or replacement.

Mr. Arensdorf left the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:25 a.m. Commissioner Voran seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.