

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ON November 26th, 2018

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Kingman County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas on November 26th, 2018. Those present:

John Steffen, Chairman
Fred Foley, Commissioner
Jerry Henning, Commissioner
Carol Noblit, County Clerk
John Caton, County Counselor

Visitors: Larry Landwehr; Jason Jump, Leader-Courier; Richard Chandler, Sempra (Conference Call); Trish Voth, Sempra Attorney; Dan Deming, Reno County Commissioner; Ron Sellers, Reno County Commissioner; Gary Meagher, Reno County Commissioner; Ron Hirst, Reno County Commissioner and Bob Bush, Reno County Commissioner.

Staff: John Wimer, Noxious Weed Director; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; Amber Hartley, Deputy Appraiser; Richard Batchellor, Appraiser(Conference call)

Chairman Steffen called the regular Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Chairman Steffen asked if there was any additions to the agenda.

Commissioner Henning would like to ask a couple of questions about the Expo Center.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the agenda with the addition of a couple of questions about the Expo Center. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The County Clerk submitted the minutes of the November 19th, 2018 Commission Meeting for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the November 19th, 2018 Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

8:14 a.m. John Wimer, Noxious Weed Director was in with a price comparison spreadsheet from the bids received for chemicals last week and he feels that it should be purchased by item to purchase the chemical.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the bid total of \$47,145.63. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Wimer left the meeting at 8:20 a.m.

8:24 a.m. Amber Hartley, Deputy Appraiser and Stan Goetz, HR were in to ask for an executive session for employee evaluation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Foley moved to go into executive session to discuss and individual employee's evaluation with Amber Hartley, Deputy Appraiser; Richard Batchellor, County Appraiser by conference call and John Caton, County Counselor at 8:25 a.m. 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 8:40 a.m. Commissioner Steffen seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The County Commissioners returned to regular session at 8:40 a.m. with no binding action taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Foley moved to go into executive session to discuss and individual employee's evaluation with Amber Hartley, Deputy Appraiser; Richard Batchellor, County Appraiser by conference call and John Caton, County Counselor at 8:40 a.m. 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 8:42 a.m. Commissioner Steffen seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The County Commissioners returned to regular session at 8:42 a.m. with no binding action taken.

Ms. Hartley left the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

8:59 a.m. Trish Voth, Sempra Attorney and Richard Chandler, Sempra (conference call) were in to discuss the agreements for Flat Ridge III and Flat Ridge IV.

Chairman Steffen feels that Flat Ridge III and Flat Ridge IV should be treated as individual wind farms.

Commissioner Henning discussed that Flat Ridge IV had not been discussed until recently to be combined as Flat Ridge IV. Commissioner Henning would be in favor of the \$150,000.00 for Flat Ridge IV.

Commissioner Foley discussed that the Flat Ridge IV offer of \$150,000.00 up front payment would be fine and appreciates that they are offering.

Chairman Steffen said that each windfarm has had \$300,000.00 up front payments and each one should be the same.

Mr. Chandler let the Commissioners know that they did a lot of discussion with his organization and came up with a \$150,000.00 up front payment for Flat Ridge IV.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve Resolution 2018-R15 for Flat Ridge III with an upfront payment of \$300,000.00. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve Resolution 2018-R16 for Flat Ridge IV with an upfront payment of \$150,000.00. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved with two votes for and one vote against by Commissioner Steffen.

Commissioners discussed the road agreement and what they would like it to include.

Chairman Steffen would like the engineer costs to be included in the payment to the County.

Mr. Chandler let the Commissioners know that all the items they are discussing is usually provided in the road agreement.

Ms. Voth and Mr. Chandler left the meeting at 9:44 a.m.

County Commissioners signed county vouchers in the amount of \$68,208.77.

Chairman Steffen discussed the LEC project and suggested they look at an independent construction manager to keep the Commissioners informed.

Chairman Steffen started introductions with the Reno County Commissioners.

Gary Meagher, Chairman of the Reno County Commission asked if there was anything in the County's Nextera Agreement that prohibits them giving information about NextEra.

The County Commissioners said there is nothing in their agreement that prohibits them.

The Reno County Commissioners proceeded to ask questions about the windfarm that they have with NextEra.

Mr. Goetz let the Commissioners know that the cost per megawatt was negotiated and that is up to you to decide. You want to be fair when pricing the megawatts.

The County Commissioners discussed the transmission line that was put in before the NextEra Windfarm.

Reno County Commissioner Dan Deming would like to know from each individual County Commissioner what their feelings are about the windfarms.

Commissioner Foley let him know that he is for wind energy. Wind Energy is good for the environment.

Commissioner Steffen struggled with the process, but he wanted to do what is best for the County.

Commissioner Henning said windfarms are mostly between the landowners and the windfarm but the County needs to protect the county. Also, he doesn't feel that it is a negative impact.

Mr. Meagher wanted to know if they have heard if there's been any health issues from the windfarms because he had heard reports from Germany about the frequencies causing health concerns.

Commissioner Henning said that the light flicker is the worst part but the chemicals that are put on crops would be more of a concern than the windfarm.

County Commissioners thanked the Reno County Commissioners for coming and asking questions.

Reno County Commissioners left at 10:49 a.m.

Commissioner Foley let the Commissioners know about the fence viewer's complaint and that it is still an issue so a fence viewing is needed.

10:58 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in and let the Commissioners know that he had men out from 4 to 8 p.m. yesterday to check roads.

Mr. Arensdorf told the Commissioners that a John Deere backhoe 310SG is missing and Deputy Brent Wood is handling the investigation.

Mr. Arensdorf left the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:20 a.m. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.