

MINUTES OF THE KINGMAN COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ON April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Kingman County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Those present:

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

Visitors: Larry Landwehr; Carol Voran; Deanna Gerhardt; Greg Ellis and Jason Jump, Kingman Leader Courier; Becky Birkenbaugh, Strong's Insurance; Scott Strong, Strong's Insurance.

Staff: Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director and Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Director.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Steffen asked if there was any public comment.

Larry Landwehr let the Commissioners know that Economic Development Council met last week and he gave an update.

Carol Voran let the Commissioners know that they went over the survey and that 70% said Kingman needs job opportunities and the next thing was Economic Development. Ms. Voran encouraged the County Commissioners to come to the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk would like to submit a correction to the March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 minutes. I worded the information on Norwich Fire District incorrectly. Carol Voran said that the Norwich Fire District does a great job with the distance they have to drive for Fire calls. The distance is what affects the landowners insurance and if the distance could be re-aligned could help with the landowners insurance.

The County Clerk submitted the minutes for the March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the County Commissioner meeting minutes of March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Steffen opened the meeting to public discussion of the Law Enforcement Center and felt that a few people left the meeting last week upset and wanted to give them time to talk.

Carol Voran asked why the existing Law Enforcement Center could not be used for storage because some departments have storage at the salt mines in Hutchinson and they could use the old cells for storage;

could be used as a tornado shelter. Ms. Voran then said a Center could be built somewhere that could be added on to in the future if needed and not build it on the smallest lot they own.

Ms. Voran asked if the 5 million dollar concept they chose include the furnishings also.

Ms. Voran wanted to know why a needs analysis was not done like it was done for the last facility; why build a kitchen if you don't have a cook and why not have the people that will be using it have a say so?

Ms. Voran asked if they only have 5 million , can we build it somewhere else and do it in phases. Also, Ms. Voran asked if they were building a 10 year building or a 40 year building.

Ms. Voran said "What good does it do me to bring anything up if your minds are closed".

Commissioner Henning let Ms. Voran know that the money set aside is pilot money from the Wind farms and if the people start challenging it at the state level then pilot payments will stop and we cannot rely on the pilot payments to help fund an LEC.

Commissioner Foley let Ms. Voran know that when he first got on the Board that the LEC was talked about. The Board submitted to the voter's twice options for a Law Enforcement Center and a way to fund it and it was voted down. Commissioner Foley went out and talked to two people who were heads of opposing groups and asked them if they can't support a 12million dollar facility could they support a 6 million dollar facility. They both told him yes and now we have come up with a 5million dollar facility.

Commissioner Henning said that he had people that knew what the plan was to build on to the West of the current facility. Also, current taxes are high enough and we are looking at a 24million school bond issue.

Chairman Steffen let the people attendance know that we have looked at other things and this is what they have come up with. The Company that was selected is a good Company. He asked other Counties who have used the Law Company and they are please with their work.

Chairman Steffen said safety needs to be the priority for the employees that work there; the prisoners and the public. The drawing is just a conceptual drawing and it can be changed. Steffen felt like they had enough information to select this Company and they will do a good job for Kingman County.

Commissioner Henning said that both Companies that submitted concepts were pretty much the same concepts.

Greg Ellis asked the County Commissioners what do we want to be able to expand for because he don't understand why they need so many jail cells. Mr. Ellis said why not use the old jail for the prisoners and move all the offices to a facility on the old Fisher Lumber lot.

Mr. Ellis told the Commissioners that he understood that segregation is a problem with the current facility.

Chairman Steffen said that Sheriff Hill has talked to the builders and we have an unsafe jail. Sheriff has done a lot of work.

Commissioner Henning said "We are doing the best with the dollars we have".

Larry Landwehr said whatever county property that the LEC is built on will be off the tax roll. Will the new jail be able to withstand a Category 5 tornado?

Mr. Landwehr talked about how his wife used to work in dispatch and when the jailer was busy the dispatcher would watch the prisoners on the monitors. The concept drawing is a good drawing; we need to do it now and it will be safer. Mr. Landwehr said it is reasonable, safer and a stronger facility.

Commissioner Henning said by using the pilot payments currently saved will not deplete our funds because our internal auditor Linda Langley will not allow that to happen. The pilot payment has been set aside for this Law Enforcement Center.

Gayle Dye said it is where it should be.

Deanna Gerhardt asked if you build this Law Enforcement Center will you then start to work on lower the County taxes?

Chairman Steffen let Ms. Gerhardt know that the County has eliminated positions to save money.

9:08a.m. Jani Arensdorf, Chamber of Commerce Director was in to discuss the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event. Ms. Arensdorf requested if the Commissioners would be willing to donate \$1500.00 for the fireworks like they provided last year.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve giving \$1500.00 to the Chamber of Commerce for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks from the General Fund. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Arensdorf left the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

9:10 a.m. Todd Lawson, Field Appraiser was in with an NRP extension request from Ronald & Lynette Warner for a year.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to accept the NRP Extension for Ronald & Lynette Warner for a year. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Lawson left the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

The County Commissioner reviewed and discussed the draft of the Unified Management Agreement that was received from the City of Kingman Attorney Cody Smith and suggested changes from John Caton, County Counselor.

9:30 a.m. Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director was in and discussed that he has talked to some entrepreneurs about CBD.

Mr. Goetz let the Commissioners know that a temporary fix for a septic system repair has been done by Rosenhagen.

Mr. Goetz submitted the minutes from the Planning Commission Meeting last week for the Commissioners to review. There was not a quorum at the meeting so decisions could not be made for the Norwich Subdivision. The next meeting to be held will be May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Goetz submitted a building permit for the following:

1. Nevin Mark Turner for a house in Section 20, Township 30, Range 05.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Foley moved to go into executive session with Stan Goetz, HR; Carol Noblit, County Clerk and John Caton, County Counselor at 9:55 a.m. to discuss an employee's performance 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 to be discussed, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:02 a.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The County Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:02 a.m. with no binding action taken.

10:05 a.m. Scott Strong, Strong's Insurance was in to discuss insurance pools. Mr. Strong introduced Becky Birkenbaugh and that she is our account manager. Mr. Strong let the Commissioners know that Insurance pools are like gambling.

Commissioner Steffen said that they are doing their fiduciary duty by looking at other options. Mr. Strong agreed that is good.

Mr. Strong and Ms. Birkenbaugh left the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

The County Commissioners signed County Vouchers in the amount of \$41,561.25.

The County Commissioners signed Road & Bridge Vouchers in the amount of \$22,425.02.

10:33 a.m. Carol Noblit, County Clerk was in with quotes for new voting equipment. The quotes were for 7 tabulators, 30 touch screens and election reporting systems. The quotes received were from the following:

UNISYN \$115,622.00  
ELECTION SOURCE \$143,611.50  
Election System & Services \$145,600.00

The Commissioners would like to receive a price for only 7 of each so no decision was made on equipment. County Clerk will bring in next week.

11:10 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with a consultation request from White Township.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning approved the consultation request for White Township. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted the County Engineer's/Road Supervisor's Annual Report for 2018 to the County Commissioners for review.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that there will be a letting for FAS 1428 Hot Mix Overlay-set for May 6, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. and a letting for U.7-8.0 bridge repair set for April 22, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

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

**MOTION:** Commissioner Henning moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:44 a.m. with no binding action taken. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.