

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF MIAMI COUNTY, KANSAS**

The Board of Miami County Commissioners met in regular session, in the Commission Chambers, Miami County Administration Building, Paola, Kansas, on May 10, 2023. Those present were:

Tyler Vaughan, Chairman	Shane Krull, County Administrator
George Pretz, Pro-Tem	Sheila Schultz, County Counselor
Keith Diediker, Commissioner	Stacey Weaver, Deputy County Clerk
Rob Roberts, Commissioner	Shannon Gaboni, Operation Specialist
W. Jene Vickrey, Commissioner	

Visitors: Courtney Crawford, Ellee Crawford, Haylee Crawford, Mary Koch, Dennis Koch, Jon Chitwood, Kitty Rhynerson, Jan Leslie, Brooklyn Lohman, Bret Glendening, Bill Osborn, Jeff Oliver, Michael Scanlon, Danny Gallagher, Karen LaDeux, Mike Martin, Dan Creason, Leland Prothe, Slina Prothe, Gerald Silvers, Marilyn Silvers, Marla England, Krista Schmid-Lee, Jennifer Williams, Sam Moon, Curt Kennon, Phil Dixon

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Vaughan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Pretz moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- Approval of minutes of the county commission meeting on May 3, 2023
- Approval of AP payment vouchers and payroll

Commissioner Roberts seconded; the vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS AND PROCLAMATION

Proclamation – Miami County Kansas Farm Tour 20th Year. Commissioner Pretz moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Proclamation – Prothe Pecan Farm. Commissioner Roberts moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Bret Glendening, Deputy City Manager for City of Osawatomie, requested the Commissioners to consider a resolution supporting the City of Osawatomie's request to establish the John Brown National Historic Park Site. This would include the Battlefield, the Adair Homestead, the land where the Adair Cabin once sat, the location of the Ghost Cabin, the Soldier's Monument, and the Old Stone Church. Michael Scanlon, City Manager for City of Osawatomie asked the Commission for their support in funding up to \$22,000 for the purchase of the other half of the land to build a public parking lot at the John Brown National Historic Park Site. There are two additional partners in the purchase of the land, the City of Osawatomie and the Greater Osawatomie Foundation. Commissioner Roberts stated that the county liquor tax can only go to parks and Miami County receives about \$75,000 a year from that tax. The money from the liquor tax will help fund the requested land purchase. Chairman Vaughan said this is a really big deal and he appreciates the creativity and the effort being put into the project. Commissioner Pretz moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Roberts seconded; the vote was unanimous. **(R23-05-021)**

Eric Sandberg, Road & Bridge Director, requested the Commissioners to consider a resolution authorizing truck restrictions on certain roadways in the unincorporated areas of Miami County, Kansas. These roadways would not be available for use by vehicles 48,000 lbs. and above and would include the following: 223rd Street from Gardner Road then east to Spring Hill city limit, Gardner Road from 215th Street then south to 239th Street, 239th Street from Gardner Road then east to Tontzville Road, Tontzville Road from 239th

Street then south to Harmony Road, Harmony Road from Totnzville Road then south to 255th Street. Mr. Sandberg had just received the letter of approval from Kansas Depart of Transportation after KDOT requested an alternate route for trucks, which will be K-68 and Highway 169. Road and Bridge will also publish the upcoming restrictions in the Miami County Republic for two weeks and are shooting for Memorial Day for signage to be placed and road restrictions to take effect. Commissioner Roberts moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous. **(R23-05-020)**

Sheriff Frank Kelly requested the Commissioners to consider a resolution authorizing a Public Safety Compensation Plan. Sheriff Kelly said that after several weeks of discussion with the County regarding the pay for dispatchers and certified jail staff the Sheriff's Department and HR have come up with a pay wage structure. Chairman Vaughan agreed that they have had lengthy discussions and in Sheriff Kelly's own words, they are in a staffing crisis. Commissioner Roberts wanted to know if differentiating between two of the three departments, the third being patrol, how does this effect the rank and file of other officers who come in and fill voids for the positions. Sheriff Kelly said there are certified jail staff and certified patrol, and he puts his officers where they are needed, so how do you differentiate. Chairman Vaughan said that would be HR's responsibility in evaluating whether deputies are in the jail or on patrol and distinguish between the pay scales as patrol would not be getting the \$2.50 wage increase. Commissioner Roberts wanted the record to state that law enforcement is absolutely a critical mission for Miami County, and it has been repeated multiple times how important it is that the citizens have adequate, well established law enforcement individuals to include patrol units, detectives, jail staff and civilians who work in the dispatch center. All these individuals have a critical mission to deliver the correct communications to every call that comes in. Commissioner Roberts said Sheriff Kelly has diligently done his research to evaluate what it will take to staff his department and Miami County is currently in a marketplace in wages. He said anyone can go to any industry within a 20-minute radius and receive higher wages. The Sheriff has lost some deputies to those higher wages and the County Commission has an opportunity to demonstrate to the rank and file of our law enforcement officials that they are 100% behind them. The Commission had heard a presentation by the elected officials and professional staff that said it would take a \$3.00 wage increase, utilized from the unfilled paid positions, within the Sheriff's Department in the approximate amount of \$320,000 to recruit, retain and provide support. Commissioner Roberts would not be able to support the motion of the \$2.50 wage increase but would support the \$3.00 wage increase, with no differentiation between departments, which is the recommendation of Sheriff Kelly. Commissioner Pretz stated he does not know how much juice will help right now but \$2.50 is what the County can do at this time. Sheriff Kelly wanted the Commission to understand if this does not work to recruit and retain then the Sheriff's Department will have to farm out the positions and this will cost the County a lot of money. The Commission also just took an agency and split them apart and people are not being treated fairly. Chairman Vaughan moved to approve a recommendation to evaluate a pay increase of \$2.50 for jail staff and dispatchers to solve the immediate crisis within those two departments and with the full intent of evaluating every other position during budget time. Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was 4-yes, 1-no (Roberts). **(Pending Resolution)**

STAFF COMMENTS

Holly Ray, HR Director, wanted to make the Commission aware of the situation going on with Timeclock, which is the county's payroll software system. Timeclock is integrated with CIC and CIC is the county's budgeting software. Due to Timeclock being unavailable, Human Resources is currently working on inputting every employee's time by hand and there is more than you can believe that goes into submitting payroll. HR is very disappointed by the service, as no one from CIC has reached out or returned correspondence about the issue. HR will be looking into moving off of that integration between Timeclock and CIC.

Shane Krull, County Administrator, that there could be a possibility of Early Childhood Care out of Osawatomie to come to the Commission meeting next week.

J. Collin Reynolds, County Attorney, wanted to update the Commission on the upgrades to the case management system. In the process of addressing contract concerns, the company redid their basic contract form. Mr. Reynolds feels all the issues have been addressed and he will be sending out an update later in the afternoon for final review.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vickery said the Metcalf Project is almost complete and looks great. Commissioner Roberts would like to hold a ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the completion of the project. Commissioner Vickrey will work with the City of Louisburg on ceremony.

Commissioner Pretz would like to reiterate on the Sheriff's Department compensation plan. He wanted to stress that the Commission did all that they could do, now. The Commission works for everybody. They work to have good public safety, work for the taxpayer and are just trying to make it all work.

Chairman Vaughan says this meeting highlights what public service does. You get to celebrate a National Historic Park site; you get to make a motion on something you have been working on for 4 years and you get to make a really hard decision around pay for your employees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Roberts moved to have an Attorney-Client Privilege Exception Executive Session to discuss correspondence for Always and Furever and a dog issue for 15 minutes beginning at 1:57 to include the Commissioners, County Administrator, and County Counselor. Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous. No action was taken at this time. Chairman Vaughan reconvened the regular meeting at 2:12.

ADJOURNMENT

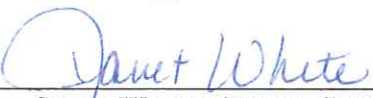
The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

(Seal)




Tyler Vaughan, Chairman

ATTEST:


~~Stacey Weaver, Deputy County Clerk~~
Janet White, County Clerk