

**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 July 10, 2024. Those present were:

Tyler Vaughan, Chairman	Shane Krull, County Administrator
George Pretz, Pro-Tem	County Counselor, when present
Bonnie "Rob" Roberts, Commissioner	Janet White, County Clerk
W. Jene Vickrey, Commissioner	Cari Foster, Operation Specialist
	Wendy Newton, Election Specialist

Absent: Keith Diediker, Commissioner

Visitors: Samatha Poetter Parshall, Darrin Petrowsky, Mike Martin, Courtney Crawford, Vickie Vetter-Scruggs, Jeff Oliver, Marc Cochrane

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Courtney Crawford, 30842 Indianapolis Rd, spoke about the annexation from Osawatomie to Victory Chevrolet on Hwy 169 without going through a public hearing. She questioned why the Commission would give their consent which then means a public hearing is not required. She said that the Osawatomie City minutes said that Economic Development, Janet McRae, gives 70-80% of her time to Osawatomie. She questioned how Ms. McRae can work for the County and Osawatomie. She stated that money was given to Osawatomie for sewers and a National Park that is still not a National Park. The minutes also showed \$250,000 given to Osawatomie to help with economic development. She wants to know how can you say that we as Miami County residents have no say in potential and past annexations even though your constituents do not want it?

Samatha Poetter Parshall, 203355 W. 299th Street, stated she is here in her official capacity as Representative District 6 about the land annexed on 169 Highway. Osawatomie has made it clear they do not care about the county residents as approval of Annexation did not matter. She said any land touching the annexed land can now be taken without consent, by the city. Asking the Commissioners to ask the Attorney General to investigate the violation of KSA 12-520(g).

Vickie Vetter-Scruggs, 31622 Oak Grove Road, stated she stands here today in solidarity with the other two speakers on what's going on in Osawatomie. She stated there are "shenanigans and injustices which also include MARC (Mid-Atlantic Regional Council), Placer AI, this annexation that's going on, the airport upgrade for the arrival of goods (what goods are those), Warehouses, solar industrial complex, Climate Action, EPAs environmental socialism and Federal overreach, Broadband expansion and data collection that goes with that." My passion is in Health and I'm having to reach out of my scope. "All of these things seem to aim harm in one way or another rather than to help the people of Miami County." "Are the people of Miami County getting a choice, and are they aware or getting notified of the facts all of the things that are going on, or are they hoping no one sees it?"

Commissioner Pretz responded he was not aware of the date Osawatomie and Paola annexed along Hwy 169 and would like to verify that date; possibly around 2011. He said that the cities need to do a comprehensive plan, the county is currently working on a comprehensive plan and the boundaries of Osawatomie have not varied much from the plan of 20 years ago. He said he spoke with the City of Osawatomie and that they have no intentions of annexing all that ground or any of it. They cannot annex any land over 20 acres without the owner's consent unless it is platted per KSA12-520(b). If you read further into the statutes, it says that no agricultural land can be annexed if it's used for agriculture purposes into the city. Commissioner Pretz stated he would fight any annexation of the City of Osawatomie with extreme measure. To answer the question about Ms. McRae of Economic Development to Miss Crawford,

Osawatomie getting 70% of her time was true at one time, but I don't believe that is true today. Osawatomie was asking for the most help at that time and the Economic Development Department gave it to them at that time, they help everybody. He also stated that everyone pays County taxes.

Commissioner Roberts responded about the \$250,000 given to Osawatomie. That was part of a 6 million Federal Grant money, and all the cities received the same amount. He would like Mr. Krull to get together with our County Counselor and examine what took place in the annexation of both highways to make sure everything was done according to the law for us to know if we should ask the Attorney General to look at it.

Chairman Vaughan stated in a historical fact, in the last six years, we have had one island annexation request come before the commission and three of us, still up here today, voted no.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of minutes of the county commission meeting on July 3, 2024
- Approval of AP payment vouchers
- Add-On: Payroll
- Add-On: NRP Tax Rebate

Commissioner Roberts seconded; the vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS AND PROCLAMATION

Holly Ray, H.R. Director, stated the recognition link is under employee portal.

Holly Ray presented the Employee of the Month and had the employee's directors and or co-workers come up and say a few words.

2024 Employee Recognition Winners: February- Pete Swaney, EMS, March- Matt Oehlert, Road & Bridge, April- Jordan Wiseman, Treasurer's Office, Director for 1st Quarter- Kenney Cook, Planning Director

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Kenneth Cook, Planning Director, asked the Board of Commissioners to consider approval of a Resolution to vacate Front Building Lines and Easements (Oakwood Dr. Right-of-Way, Utility & Temporary Cul-de-sac) identified on Lot 1 & Lot 2 of Oak Leaf Subdivision and dedication of a new utility easement. The subject properties are located on the South side of 299th St. 3,000 feet East of Spring Valley Rd, in the SE ¼ of Section 12, Township 17S, Range 24E, Middle Creek Twp. Commissioner Vickery moved to approve the Resolution as presented, Commissioner Pretz seconded; the vote was unanimous. **(R24-07-017)**

Commissioner Vickery moved to approve the Easements as presented, Commissioner Pretz seconded; the vote was unanimous **(A24-07-036, A24-07-037)**

STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Roberts invited Eric Sandburg, Road & Bridge Director, to come up and respond to Mr. Martin's concerns about his road from last week's meeting. Commissioner Roberts said he and Mr. Sandburg drove the road and saw the concerns he had. Mr. Sandburg said the road is a rock shelf and has a natural reoccurring problem when it rains. He is aware of the issue and plan to fix it, but it will be with trial and error as they have already tried a few things. Commissioner Roberts stated a possible solution could be to pave it.

Commissioner Peretz invited Matt Oehlert, Road & Bridge Project Manager, to give a quick update on the Old KC Road south of Paola? Mr. Oehlert stated a question everyone has is when is it going to be done? We are 6-8 weeks out, about mid-August. He said we will switch to the west side in the next week or so and should go a lot quicker. He said they will be doing an asphalt leveling course at the end of the project. We anticipate being on time and on budget, if not under budget.

Darrin Petrowsky, District 4 KDOT Engineer, stated the K68 project is running behind schedule. He said they were running behind due to obtaining all right of ways, relocating utilities, and BABA (Buy America,

Build America) requirement issues. The Original start was October 2024 and has been moved to October 2025 and will take two construction seasons. He says it is still a priority for KDOT to complete. Commissioner Roberts asked if the delay would affect the funding? Mr. Krull asked if the County would be required to pay more due to the delays? Mr. Petrowsky said the funding is in place and believes it will be held static; the county will not be required to pay more.

Mr. Petrowsky stated another project in Miami County is the bridge repair over the Marais des Cygnes River on Hwy 169. It had a start date in June but has been moved back to fall because of manufacturer issues.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vickrey stated it would be great to have K68 done someday, the sooner, the better.

Commissioner Roberts stated he wanted to follow up about a comment made earlier on the airports and warehouses. He asked the board if they were aware of anybody bringing warehouses to our airport? Mr. Krull responded that he thinks there was an overly broad statement about the investment of infrastructure. The scope of the project has not changed, and the airport will stay the same. He said there are 2 very successful restoration businesses housed at the airport.

Commissioner Pretz stated the airport is used as an integral part of Miami County businesses. Also, the Commissioners have been invited to a MOKAN Communications ribbon cutting on July 11th at 6:30 p.m. at 3409 W 222nd St. in Bucyrus, there could be more than 2 commissioners there.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.




Tyler Vaughan, Chairman

ATTEST:


Janet White, County Clerk