

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 17, 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

Absent: Keith Diediker, Commissioner

Visitors: Jeff Oliver, Bill Osborn, Ted Beauchamp, Shay Hanyak

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ted Beauchamp, 23205 Moonlight Road, stated thank you for the commission's answer on the speed limit change around 3 years ago. Mr. Beauchamp mentioned the asphalt road being put in when Gardner expanded the water treatment plant as an example of this commission working together with Johnson County, giving many of us the opportunity to learn about annexation laws. Some background history is it was an island annexation. The unique part of that annexation is it required Gardner to come here and explain their plans and required 2/3 vote. The benefit was it gave us residents a voice through our elected commission, in that process and stated his comments have nothing to do with Osawatomie. Mr. Beauchamp asked the board to think about what the future of the northern part of our county looks like, and in 10 to 30 years at least one of the Johnson County cities will probably be developing into Miami County. Mr. Beauchamp wants residents to have a seat at the table if or when that happens. He stated he believes KAC (Kansas Association of Counties) is talking to other counties across the state about potential changes of annexation statutes. "I'd like to see our state legislature approve a small change to statutes that says any city annexing land in a county, where they do not currently have established city limits, shall follow the provisions of statute 12-521" which outlines the process of island annexation. Mr. Beauchamp wants the commissioners to set up a meeting or host KAC in a study session to discuss putting this into a bill. Feels the KAC is in the best position to drive this towards law.

Bill Osborn, 27223 W. 235th Street, stated he supports Mr. Beauchamp's initiative. Stated he would like feedback on the township structure after looking at the ballot structure, as well as to know what is the current function of townships and how it has changed overtime? Mr. Osborn questioned, who oversees the township boards and trustees? Asked when the townships access their mill levies do they have to have a hearing?

Commissioner Roberts stated that they are elected officials, and that would be you the voter because we don't oversee them.

Mr. Krull, County Administrator stated the easiest way to gain understanding of the townships is to go on the Kansas Revisors website then look up the Kansas statutes for townships and it will give you the A-Z listing. Janet White, County Clerk, stated yes; they hold hearings just like we do.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of minutes of the county commission meeting on July 10, 2024
- Approval of AP payment vouchers and payroll

Commissioner Roberts seconded; the vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Vaughan opened the public hearing to amend the 2024 Road & Bridge budget at 1:19p.m.

Lucas Mellinger, Finance Director, requested the commissioners to approve the amended Road & Bridge budget. He stated we are republishing the Road and Bridge budget to get access to the cash balance. The amendment is for

\$400,000 for rock for gravel roads, \$300,000 for equipment, \$100,000 for transportation plan, and \$1 million for additional asphalt funding. He is requesting \$1.8 million in extra funds that will be going towards the road infrastructure in Miami County.

Chairman Vaughan closed the public hearing at 1:21p.m

Lucas Mellinger, Finance Director, requested the Commissioners to adopt the amended 2024 Road & Bridge budget. Commissioner Roberts moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Pretz seconded; the vote was unanimous. (A24-07-038)

APPLICATIONS

Frank Burrow, EMS Director, requested the Commissioners to consider the purchase of a new ambulance for Miami County EMS. Commissioner Pretz moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Roberts seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Roberts requested the approval of two members of opposite political parties to observe the destruction of ballots. Commissioner Roberts moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Pretz seconded to approve James (Lyle) Wobker and Heather Lawrence-Kauk for the destruction of the ballots; the vote was unanimous.

STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Krull, County Administrator, stated that next week a County Counselor will be here to review the recent fence viewing results.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vickrey stated I should have said something when the discussion of the annexation took place. I appreciate the concerns when Merrick was Speaker of the House, he did all he could to fashion those laws in the favor of citizens and counties. We were able to make some changes at that time and put requirements that cities have to fulfill before annexing an area; they can't just come in and not have a plan. The counties and residents need more of a voice in that annexation process.

Commissioner Roberts stated he has a request that has to do with the successful budget season for us. During the budget season we live streamed the study sessions. In the study session we receive information and talk about pros and cons. We do not make any decisions; the decisions are made during the meeting at 1:00 PM, or when the legal date and time the commissioners have established to do business.

Commissioner Roberts moved to live stream the study sessions effective next week 7/24/2024. Commissioner Pretz seconded; the vote was unanimous.

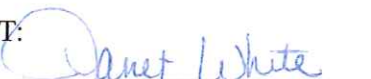
Commissioner Pretz stated some events of the Miami County Fair have started and will be in full swing next week and want to announce there could be 2 or more commissioners participating in any of the activities at the Miami County Fair.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.


Tyler Vaughan, Chairman

ATTEST:


Janet White, County Clerk