

February 2, 2016
Reno County Courthouse
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners met in agenda session with, Chairman Dan Deming, Commissioners James Schlickau and Brad Dillon, County Administrator Gary Meagher, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a short sectarian prayer led by Jim Unruh, Circle of Hope. Mr. Unruh gave a brief description on how Circle of Hope helps poverty families make changes and set goals in their lives with partnerships in the community through accountability relationships.

There were two additions to the agenda; sales tax report and savings to taxpayers by Mr. Meagher.

Mr. Dillon moved, seconded by Mr. Schlickau, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on February 2, 2016 of \$381,909.68 as submitted. Mr. Deming noted \$208,000 of that amount was from the annual workers comp premium a \$54,000 reduction from last year. He thanked and appreciated the Department heads and employee's efforts along with Mr. Meagher and Mrs. Harris for the reduction in premiums. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

Mr. Schlickau moved, seconded by Mr. Dillon, to open the public hearing on zoning case number 15/ZA/01 a request by Wendell and Keri Miller Living Trust (Applicant: Garber Surveying Service) to rezone approximately 2.5 acres of land from R-3 Moderate Residential District to I-1 Light Industrial District for the purpose of establishing a contractor's storage yard for Miller Home Builders. The property is located at the dead-end intersection of west 69th Avenue and Redwood Road. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

County Planner Mark Vonachen gave explanation of the Blue Spruce sewer project. He stated that Mr. Miller has a building on the sewer districts property and needs to vacate the premises. Mr. Miller is requesting a rezone from R-3 to I-1 Light Industrial so he would be able to move that building his

company has been utilizing since the 1970's, further east to his property. Mr. Vonachen reviewed the nine factors and six factors the staff approved. After some discussion, the Planning Commission approved the rezoning by a 6-0 vote. The zoning will be temporary until March when the industrial zoning will be eliminated and at that time a conditional permit will be issued. Some of the concerns from citizens were about Mr. Miller using 69th Avenue access for his trucks or utilizing Juniper Road and zoning districts. Taxpayers were also concerned about taxes being raised with this change to zoning in their neighborhoods. Mr. Meagher addressed the issue stating it would not affect their property values or taxes. Mr. Vonachen stated there was not a trend for commercial use so it will remain a residential tax base.

Dan Garber, Garber Surveying at 2908 N. Plum, made comments about the wastewater treatment lagoons, currently on the sewer districts property, were zoned R-3 and should have been zoned heavy industrial before. He stated they were taking Mr. Miller's building off industrial but zoned R-3 and moving it further east away from homes to the west. The land around the lagoons was zoned R-3 so you are not permitted to build houses within 300 feet from the lagoons, so the land was well suited for this use.

Mr. Dillon moved, seconded by Mr. Schlickau, to close the public hearing. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote. Mr. Deming stated this would be on the agenda for final action in the future after the protest period expires.

County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan met with the Board detailing a lease agreement with the City of Hutchinson for Reno County to continue leasing land for the use of firearms training. The lease is for a term of five years from January, 2016 through December, 2020. Mr. O'Sullivan stated this is a renewal for land owned by the city off US Highway 50. The Sheriff's department maintains and operates this shooting range and all law enforcement agencies are welcome to use it as long as the Sheriff agrees on the use. He recommended approval to make it retroactive to January 1, 2016. **Mr. Schlickau moved, seconded by Mr. Dillon,** to approve the lease agreement as outlined by Mr. O'Sullivan. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

Public Works Director David McComb met with the Board recommending approval of the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report and the Noxious Weed 2017 Annual Management

Plan. He stated that after this year, Public Works may add goals and strategies to the eradication report since the Noxious Weed Department was incorporated into the Public Works Department. The annual management plan is an accounting to the State showing acreage, chemicals used, cost of chemicals, and a balanced fund report that the Board of County Commissioners must submit each year to the state. The plan also shows that we do have a weed supervisor on staff. **Mr. Schlickau moved, seconded by Mr. Dillon,** to approve items #8 and #9 on the agenda as outlined by Mr. McComb. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

County Administrator Gary Meagher explained a meeting with Lynn Swartzkoff, Mann & Company, regarding the security entrance to try and come up with different features or options using the current entrance. Mr. Swartzkoff designed the approach and vestibule area where scanning machines would be placed. People would be screened and then go to the elevator or LEC. Possible installation of plastic doors would be utilized so nothing can be passed from person to person. He will meet with Mr. Swartzkoff and The Historical Society on February 16th.

Mr. Deming commented that Geary County had less space than we are planning on for screening and equipment. Geary County is a very restricted area.

Sheriff Henderson replied that Geary County did not have scanners or a walk through area. He was concerned about adequate space for people and machines. He discussed the fire codes for exits, wheelchair access, ramps being unsightly and safe during bad weather, using the lobby as a secured area or using the district court offices and security issues with hidden space behind a ramp. Mr. Meagher said ramps would be on the west side of stairs and could have heated coils installed for ice. Sheriff Henderson also brought up Municipal Court traffic. Mr. Meagher explained the men's restroom space that could be converted to security area.

District Court Clerk Pam Moses was in the audience and had concerns about using their offices on the first floor. She wondered where her offices would be relocated because they needed to be locked.

A large discussion went on about security.

The Board by consensus decided to keep working on alternatives for the security entrance with a ramp.

Mr. Meagher gave an explanation of the sales tax report showing it was down overall.

Mr. Deming noted some people have questioned why we have a county administrator. Here is a good example: a questionnaire for the law enforcement liability insurance premium was not properly filled out relating to our rates. Mr. Meagher, by keeping on top of daily details, corrected the mistake and saved the taxpayers \$12,000 over the originally billed amount.

Mr. Schlickau commented on the slight increase for the general liability premiums. Mr. Meagher stated we increased overall about \$3,000 toward the general liability auto premiums. Mr. Meagher gave credit to department heads and staff for keeping it low.

Human Resources Director Renee Harris, Youth Services Director Bill Hermes and Health Department Director Nick Baldetti met with the Board for their regularly scheduled meeting. Each discussed various current issues not requiring action by the Board.

At 10:45 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 9th, 2016.

Approved:

Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

Reno County Clerk
cm

Date