

August 3, 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 Wanda Woods, Bahai's of Hutchinson.

There were two additions to the agenda; Sheriff grant for classification officer, Library 7 pm informal public hearing.

Lucy McClymont from Scotland was introduced. She is staying with the Schlickau family for 3 weeks during the summer learning about the United States culture. She stated that Kansas had the friendliest people and the climate was very different from Scotland. She gave a brief history of her families business and homeland stating she was interested in politics back home and the upcoming elections here.

Mr. Dillon moved, seconded by Mr. Schlickau, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on August 5, 2016 of \$563,012.98 as submitted and also consisting of pending Added, Abated and Escaped Taxation Change Orders numbered 2016-1147, 1150 through 1152. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

Mr. Schlickau moved, seconded by Mr. Dillon, to place back on the agenda for discussion purposes from 7/26/16 a contract with VendTech Enterprises for armed security guard services at the courthouse. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

Sheriff Henderson was present to give an explanation on the issue of a roving officer from VendTech Enterprises. He stated one certified officer would be positioned watching the cameras and serves as a backup officer and the other two are private security. The two private security officer's duties are; one was to be the first line of defense and have contact with the public by directing them to scanners, the other officer will be looking at the scope or scanner on bags. He stated these three

officers are fixed positions. The rover would be checking any of the three doors alarmed when and if they go off. These will be marked as **not** public exits so he would be the first to confront the situation. The other duty of the rover would be to assist when called to take people into custody from a courtroom. Sheriff Henderson said they are using off duty officers for standby and paying them overtime to escort people from the courtrooms on Fridays.

Commissioner Deming wanted to know if the Sheriff was going to deputize the private security guards. The Sheriff replied that civilian personnel could take people into custody if ordered to be in the Sheriff's custody by the judge. The rover could not make an arrest; only take people into custody by order of a judge or to assist a certified officer. That was one of the concerns the Sheriff had when checking into private security. The Board continued to discuss in length the need for the rover. The Sheriff stated you either do security or you don't, you cannot do it half way.

Commissioner Schlickau stated that two security guards would be adequate most of the time, but it is important to be prepared for a possible threat to public safety on a rare occurrence. County residents voted overwhelmingly to approve the jail project package that included the secured entrance of the courthouse. Mr. Schlickau concluded that the courthouse must be staffed at an appropriate level and he would support Sheriff Henderson's expertise for security staffing needs.

Commissioner Dillon made a motion to renegotiate the contract to only have two private security personnel as opposed to three, **seconded by Commissioner Deming**. Mr. Deming said he wanted to start the security plan with only two private security personnel but that he would be open to consider more if a need can be demonstrated by the Sheriff based on future problems. The motion was approved by a 2-1 vote with Commissioner Schlickau opposed.

Community Corrections Director Randy Regehr met with the Board to recommend approval for a request to apply for a Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$6,670. He explained that the grant would be used for their clients for drug and alcohol use. This grant will provide one class per week to clients for education and prevention. **Mr. Schlickau moved, seconded by Mr. Dillon,** to approve the grant as described by Mr. Mr. Regehr. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

Sheriff Henderson was also present to explain his request for a Classification Officer staffed from a grant. After the initial entry interview the inmate is placed in a pod of cells; then every 30 to 45 days staff would meet with inmates to re-evaluate their status. This is a one year, \$60,000 grant, covering the classification officer's salary, benefits and \$500 for training. The Sheriff stated that if this position was eliminated for the 2018 budget year adjustments could be made in the jail staff to avoid the additional expense becoming permanent. Mr. Deming said he favored moving ahead with the grant but believes there are more economical ways to handle classification needs in the jail and is opposed to the new position being paid with county funds. **Mr. Dillon moved, seconded by Mr. Schlickau,** to approve the Sheriff's request to apply for the grant for a Classification Officer. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

Commissioner Deming reminded all about the 7:00 pm Library informal public hearing.

Youth Services Director Bill Hermes and Emergency Management Director Adam Weishaar met with the Board for their regularly scheduled meeting. Both went over various topics not requiring action by the Board.

At 9:40 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 9, 2016.

Approved:

Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

Reno County Clerk
cm

Date