

April 18, 2017  
Reno County Courthouse  
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners met in agenda session with, Chairman Dan Deming, Commissioner Ron Hirst and Commissioner Bob Bush, 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 Pastor Tim Kraft, First Church of God.

There was one addition to the agenda; discussion to appoint commissioner to Quest Center Board.

**Mr. Bush moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on April 21, 2017 of \$251,920.00 and also consisting of pending Added, Abated and Escaped Taxation Change Orders numbered 2017-488 as submitted. Then on the consent agenda was a Letter of Support for the Health Department accreditation. Next, quitclaim deed on real estate property deemed as surplus to be conveyed to the City of Arlington during the March 28, 2017 Agenda Session. Said property is located within the City of Arlington - southwest of the Coop and between Highway 61 and the railroad track. The motion was approved by roll call by a 3-0 vote with the exception of item C the Letter of Support for the Health Department accreditation.

Health Department Director Nick Baldetti explained item C for the NAACHO Letter of Support for application for the Health Department accreditation from PHAB (Public Health Accreditation Board). He said PHAB was created in 2007 to serve as the national public health accrediting body. The Health Department has been working on the process for more than two years. Accreditation would help them get grants and 10 essential services of public health. Our health department is a category 1 with a population of 100,000 or fewer the initial accreditation review fee would be \$14,000 and a service fee of \$5,600. He said they had a grant that would pay \$7,500 toward the cost stating it will help them become more accountable fiscally and improve the performance and quality of work that they offer. Mr. Deming questioned the expense of becoming an accredited health department, cautioning that this approval may lead to more departments requesting accreditation something he believes has value but is not a necessity in challenging budget times. **Mr. Bush moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve and

revisit next year the Letter of Support as submitted by Mr. Deming in the packet. The motion was approved by roll call by a 3-0 vote.

Aging/RCAT Transportation Director Barbara Lilyhorn met with the Board to recommend approval for a request by Reno County Public Transportation to declare as salvage to be sold on PurpleWave Auction: 2008 Ford El Dorado Areotech bus with 115,576 miles; 2002 Chevrolet Activan with 176,487 miles; and various Mobile Data terminal components. She is asking to sale the buses in June with PurpleWave. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Bush,** to approve the request by Mrs. Lilyhorn. The motion was approved by roll call with a 3-0 vote.

Mrs. Lilyhorn was also present to recommend approval to designate Friday, May 19, 2017 (National Bike to Work day) as a free ride day on all RCAT services. **Mr. Bush moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the bike to work free ride by RCAT. The motion was approved by roll call with a 3-0 vote.

Appraiser Brad Wright met with the Board to discuss natural disaster tax abatements for homes involved in the fires and determine a date that it applies. He stated the notification letters were sent out, 10 to totally destroyed residents and 14 partially destroyed residents. So far, one responded with partial damage and it did not qualify. He was asking for direction on who would handle notification letters to the tax payer, whether the Board would like to send them or his office.

Commissioner Hirst asked the last date damage could have been done to any property.

Commissioner Bush wanted to know any recommended date from Mr. Wright.

Mr. Meagher said you would be safe to say March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 to be included in the tax abatement.

Mr. O'Sullivan stated to abate out the first two months. Mr. Deming clarified when the event took place. Mr. O'Sullivan stated March 1<sup>st</sup> was a recommended date.

**Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Bush,** to approve that the effective date for awarding real estate tax abatement claims arising from the March, 2017 Reno County wildfires be March 1, 2017. The motion was approved by a roll call with a 3-0 vote.

At 9:40 the meeting recessed for five minutes.

The meeting reconvened with all Commissioners, County Administrator Gary Meagher, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

The Board outlined overall goals and changes in meetings or procedures.

Mr. Hirst went first with his wish list. He stated the pros and cons then went into scheduled tours of each commission district, participation in NRP, recognize the importance of agricultural asset, public works meet with township elected officials before any decisions are made to rehab, replace or close any bridges, fund Quest Center to level in 2016, develop policy for IRB requests, revisit the need for 3 security personnel, define burn decision on when to or not burn, revisit Strategic Plan, assign commissioner to attend Fire Chief's meetings and Quest Center Board meetings, initiate effort to maintain contact with our youth, discuss evening meetings and somewhere else in county, maintain 3 commissioners with 2 terms.

Mr. Bush followed with department head survey of commission priorities, meetings in each district once a quarter, resolve bridge on 43<sup>rd</sup> Street issue, medical services, and automation review by department.

Mr. Deming was last with quarterly or semiannual information meetings with City of Hutchinson and City of South Hutchinson, meetings in rural communities, agenda sessions on Tuesday hold twice a month, evenings meetings, develop a county IRB policy, revisit idea of 5 commissioners, with the goal of a district plan to be put before voters in November 2018.

**Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Deming,** to approve the appointment of Mr. Bush as executive officer from the Commission for the Quest Center Board. The motion was approved by roll call 2-0, Mr. Bush abstained.

Maintenance Director Harlen Depew met with the Board for his regular scheduled meeting. He discussed biking in Kansas and other states. He has logged 10,000 hours on routes around Reno County roads and mentioning Bike to Work Day May 19, 2017. He spoke about other various items not requiring the Board to take action.

Aging/RCAT Transportation Director Barbara Lilyhorn and Automotive Director Kyle Berg met for their regularly scheduled meeting. Both discussed various items not requiring the Board to take action.

Commissioner comments:

Mr. Bush thanked the other commissioners for covering him while he was stuck in Chicago last week.

Mr. Hirst commented on SCKEED interviews for a new executive director, open house annual board meeting, and KCCA conference.

Mr. Deming had no comments.

At 10:45 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 25, 2017.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk  
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Date