

MINUTES OF LABETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 7, 2024

A special meeting was called by the Chairman of the Labette County Board of County Commissioners was held in the Commission Room of the Labette County Courthouse located at 517 Merchant Street, Oswego, Kansas, on the 7th day of June, 2024 at 9:00 o'clock a. m.

There were present the following Commissioners, constituting all the Board:

Terry Weidert
Vincent B. Schibi
Cole J. Proehl

An open discussion was held by the commission concerning requesting local legislators to allow a question to be presented to the residents of Labette County, Kansas, concerning all volunteer fire departments in the county. The reason for the meeting was due to the Commissioners' discussion with the volunteer fire departments and the financial and equipment issues they are facing.

The Commissioners discussed the various issues with taxes against the possible benefits of the sales tax revenue to support the citizens of Labette County, Kansas. A proposed sales tax of up to 0.125% to bring financial support to all ten fire departments in the County, including Parsons municipal fire department. The revenue from the tax was to be split evenly amongst the departments and the sunset for such a tax would be five years. Such a tax would provide increased coverage and protection for all residents of Labette County, Kansas. Said tax will be received from the State and issued to the Labette County Treasurer for monitoring and meeting all requirements of state and federal law. Dispersal from the County Treasurer to the fire departments shall be twice a year, in June and December. Said monies shall be distributed directly to the Fire Chief and the Secretary of each volunteer fire department, and such persons may only use those monies for equipment, maintenance, cost of operations, and fire trucks. Each year every fire department receiving such monies shall appear before the Labette County Board of County Commissioners before the end of January to show how said monies were spent. A copy of the fire department's yearly audit shall be given to the Commissioners at the January meeting.

Discussion and debate over the matter was closed. A motion was made by Commissioner Vincent B. Schibi to accept the above-described tax and have this presented to the legislature for authorization to put this matter on the ballot in the general election to be held on November 5, 2024. Commissioner Cole J. Proehl seconded the motion. The results of the vote were:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote: Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Cole J. Proehl	X	
Vincent B. Schibi	X	
Terry Weidert	X	

The result of the vote was three votes for and zero votes against.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Labette County Board of County Commissioners has adopted by motion the proposed sales tax and corresponding information stated above and is hereby incorporated and adopted. This proposal is to be given to the Kansas State Legislature for approval to put the matter before the citizens of Labette County, Kansas on the November 5, 2024, General Election.

Said minutes are approved and affirmed by the Labette County Board of County Commissioners.


ATTEST:

Commissioners:


 Gena Landis, Labette County Clerk


 Terry Weidert, Chairman




 Vincent B. Schibi


 Cole J. Proehl