

## **Labette County Board of Commissioners September 23, 2019**

### **Convene**

Chairman T. Douglas Allen called the regular session of the Labette County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. on September 16, 2019 at the Commission Room. Attendance: Lonie R. Addis, Present: T. Douglas Allen, Present: Fred E. Vail, Present.

### **Others Present for the Meeting**

County Counselor Brian K. Johnson and County Clerk Peggy Minor.

### **Media present**

Rena Russell from the Labette Avenue and Ray Nolting from the Parsons Sun.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Lonie R. Addis made a motion to approve the minutes of September 16, 2019 as submitted. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Abstain), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Labette County Health Fair - 2019**

Commissioner Lonie R. Addis made a motion for the following county locations to be closed to the public on Columbus Day, October 14, 2019 so Labette County employees can attend the Labette County Health Fair: Labette County Courthouse (Oswego), Labette County Health Department (Parsons) and the Attorney's Office located at the Judicial Center (Parsons). T. Douglas Allen seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Health Fair – Blood Work Reduction - 2019**

Chairman T. Douglas Allen made a motion to increase the reduction for participation in the Blood Work at the Labette County Health Fair from \$25.00 to \$50.00 per month to go towards the monthly employee health insurance premium; this also includes increasing the regular Option 1 (Option A) employee health insurance premium from \$100.00 to \$125.00 and the Option 2 (Option B) from \$75.00 to \$100.00. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Emergency Management Director Charlie Morse – Updates**

Sewer District No. 1 – Charlie informed the Commissioners that the Sewer District Advisory Board would like for Charlie to oversee everything; the Advisory Board just wants to be involved with major decisions for the district. They do not want CDL showing up until they have contacted Charlie Morse. Charlie has also contacted CDL and informed them that they need to provide more itemized invoices stating exactly what they are repairing or doing and time spent at the project. The original CDL employee that initiated the contract with the Sewer District is no longer with CDL; Charlie is scheduled to have a meeting with three employees from CDL to discuss exactly what the Sewer District wants and how they want to handle it. Charlie also stated that subpar valves were installed at each residence on the sewer lines when the project was initially created; it costs around \$3,000 to \$4,000 to replace each one and they are approximately 50 connection sites – he stated these need to be replaced and suggested refinancing the sewer project. Commissioners did not think refinancing the project was possible. The Sewer District Advisory Board did not want to replace the vacant position they have on the board. Commissioners said this was fine.

KEMA Conference – Charlie attended the KEMA Conference in Topeka – some of the topics discussed were Cyber Security and the Nebraska flooding. Currently Charlie is the District Vice-President for KEMA; he was asked to consider being the state KEMA president; Charlie stated there will be a three (3) year commitment (Vice-Chair for one year, President the next year and the past President for the last year) and there would be some time involved with it. It would probably not happen for two years if he agreed to it. Charlie told Commissioners he would like to do it they agreed. No formal action was taken regarding this.

## **Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) – FY 2020 Carryover Reimbursements Plan Budget**

### **Summary & Budget Narrative**

Commissioner Lonie R. Addis made a motion to authorize the chairman's signature on the FY 2020 Carryover Reimbursements Plan Budget Summary and Budget Narrative for JJA in the amount of \$26,085.44. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Labette County 911 Advisory Committee – Resolution No. 2019-22-A – Robert Spinks**

Commissioner Lonie R. Addis made a motion for the Board of Commissioners to adopt and execute Resolution No. 2019-22-A appointing Robert Spinks to the Labette County 911 Advisory Committee as the Chief of Police for the city of Parsons replacing Scott Gofourth. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Labette County 911 Advisory Committee – Resolution No. 2019-23-A – Darren Eichinger**

Commissioner Lonie R. Addis made a motion for the Board of Commissioners to adopt and execute Resolution No. 2019-23-A appointing Darren Eichinger to the Labette County 911 Advisory Committee as the Sheriff for Labette County replacing Robert Sims. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Recess**

Commissioners recessed the Commission meeting at 9:55 a.m. in order to move the next portion of the meeting to the Courtroom to accommodate the number of public in attendance to hear the comments on the Wind Farm. The meeting reconvened at 10:10 a.m.

### **Mel Hass – Comments on Wind Farm**

Labette County resident Mel Hass presented the Commissioners and the public with some of the views and experiences he has accrued in the past few years regarding Wind Farms. Mr. Hass previously lived in Illinois and his property was surrounded by wind farms; him and his wife moved to Labette County in December, 2013. Mr. Hass shared his experience with all aspects of the wind turbines.

Mr. Hass asked in closing that Labette County have Wind Farm regulations in place before potential Wind Farm stakes are claimed; he believe this is fair to Labette County residents and potential Wind Farm so all parties know what to expect; the Neosho Wind Farm is in the process of being built – for Labette County I would let this project serve as our education regarding wind farms and potential zoning ordinances; he did not know if Labette County has a planning and zoning department to research this issue but he would suggest that Commissioners have a committee to study this issue and present the findings to the committee to determine what course of action that is necessary or should be; he would also be in favor of Labette County to enact a Wind Farm Moratorium for twelve months to educate ourselves regarding the Neosho Ridge classroom; the Cow County did an eighteen month moratorium to study the issue to come up with their zoning ordinance. So if a moratorium is enacted I suggest Labette County formulate and enact a wind farm ordinance so the public and the wind farms are aware of the restrictions; lastly, he wanted to thank the County Commissioners for allowing him to speak; it is an issue that important to him and he is looking for some sort of protections and to work with everyone because he loves it here and he sure doesn't want to have this issue crop up again to have to move again. Mr. Hass feels everyone can work together if we have wind farms but we are going to have to think outside the box to do so.

Chairman Allen thanked Mr. Hass for his time and all of the information.

### **Recess**

Commissioners recessed the regular meeting at 11:18 a.m. so they would have time to move the meeting back to the Commission Room. The meeting reconvened at 11:28 a.m.

### **Accounts Payable**

Chairman T. Douglas Allen made a motion to approve the following checks: Accounts Payable check nos. 18729 thru 18837 in the amount of \$290,693.86. Fred. E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

**Executive Session**

Commissioner Lonie R. Addis made a motion to go into executive session for non-elected personnel. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes). Others present were County Counselor Brian K. Johnson and County Clerk Peggy Minor for a period of ten minutes to reconvene at 12:10 p.m.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board of Commissioners the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m. until 9:00 a.m., Monday, September 30, 2019.

Attest

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk Peggy Minor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, T. Douglas Allen