

June 20, 2022

The Board of Ellis County Commissioners met in regular session at 5:00 pm Monday, June 20, 2022, in the Commission Chambers, at the Administration Center, 718 Main Street, Hays, Kansas. Chair Robert "Butch" Schlyer called the meeting to order. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present: Chair Robert "Butch" Schlyer, Commissioner Joe Leroux and Commissioner Neal Younger. Also present were County Administrator Darin Myers, County Counselor Bill Jeter and County Clerk Bobbi L. Dreiling.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

There were no changes to the order of business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There will be no executive session.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

Chair Schlyer asked for any changes to the draft minutes of June 13. No changes were given; the draft minutes were approved as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: _____ **Younger** _____ **Second** _____ **Leroux**

To approve the Consent Agenda items A-G as presented, including the following:

Payment Voucher Claims

Freedom Claims Management dated June 15th in the amount of \$26,269.03

Vouchers dated June 21st in the amount of \$1,650,631.81

Open Edge for solid waste credit card fees dated May 16th in the amount of \$738.77

Purchase Order #7665 to Commercial Signs for \$60,714

Payroll #12 dated May 29-June 11 in the amount of \$532,224.43

Disposition: _____ **Motion was carried by a voice vote of three to zero**

ISSUES FROM PERSONS NOT ON THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

No issues from persons not on the order of business

MONTHLY DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Commissioners said they all looked good

EMS/HAYS MEDICAL CENTER

Ellis County EMS Director Danita Schroeder is requesting that the Commission approve the Ambulance Transport Agreement with HaysMed. Historically, ECEMS had contracted for Non-emergency transports with HaysMed to facilitate patients from their facility that need a specialized test at another healthcare facility but are not being released from HaysMed. ECEMS can provide that transport, if available, of the patient to and from the other facility. The last contract for this service was drawn up in 2009. The fees associated with this agreement have not changed since it was originally implemented and they are far below what is needed to cover the costs of these transports. Schroeder presented HaysMed with a new contract raising our transport fee from \$150.00 to \$250.00, mileage fee from \$10.00 to \$12.00 and added a wait time charge of \$30.00 per half hour. This will bring us closer in line with what other EMS services are charging for the same transports. Schlyer asked if HaysMed agreed to this agreement.

Schroeder said they do. Leroux said we have to cover our costs and not lose money. Younger asked how long the contract is for. Schroeder said it is year-by-year.

Motion: _____ **Leroux** **Second:** _____ **Younger**

I move to approve the Ambulance Transport Agreement with HaysMed.

Disposition: _____ **Motion passed by a voice vote of three to zero.**

LANDFILL RATE INCREASES

Environmental Services Director Justin Craig is asking the Commission to approve the rate increases for Solid Waste. The last significant rate adjustment at the Ellis County Solid Waste/Transfer station was in February of 2018. With the increase in fuel costs to transfer our waste, as well as the day-to-day maintenance and operation of the landfill, we would like to propose a rate adjustment for municipal waste, construction & demolition material, tires, the City of Hays tree rate for 2023, & a 3-tier pricing structure on municipal waste effective August 1, 2022. We will review the impact in the spring of 2023. Should another adjustment be needed, that will allow our producers time to include it in their operating budgets. Our current contracts with Inner Circle Trucking and Finney County expire in April of 2026. When negotiations begin and as they progress, it is anticipated there will be a future request prior to the effective date to offset the anticipated increases in expenses.

3-Tier Landfill Proposed Rates for Municipal Waste:

Type: Municipal Waste	<u>2023-24*</u>	<u>2025*</u>	<u>2026</u> (New contracts April 2026)
Standard	\$78 per ton	\$78	?
Ave 75 ton/month**	\$75	\$76	?
Ave 300 ton/month**	\$74	\$75	?
(\$10 minimum/ up to 240 Lbs.)			
City Trees (1/1/2023)	\$1200	\$1400	?

*The 2024 & 2025 rates have been discussed with the producers as a tentative plan to offset the anticipated increase in 2026. Will review in the spring of 2023 to allow for budgeting.

**New codes in WasteWorks or monthly discount tickets.

8/1/2022

Construction & Demolition \$40/ton \$10 minimum (up to 500 Lbs)
 Tires are currently \$220/ton or a \$6 minimum for up to 2 car tires. We would like to request that rate be changed to \$270/ton with a \$10 minimum for up to 2 car tires. The removal rates have increased to \$235 ton (quoted for 6 months in May 2022) and history shows that this will continue to increase. I spoke with several tire dealers in Hays and the average of their disposal rates was just under \$5/tire. The following rates will remain the same:

Clean Rubble	\$15/ton	\$10 minimum (1320 Lbs)
Special Waste	\$100/ton	
Trees & branches	\$20/ton	\$15 minimum (1500 Lbs)

White goods	\$10/ton	\$10 minimum (2000 Lbs)
Appliance untagged	\$30 flat rate	
Appliance tagged	\$12 flat rate	

Expected revenue increase of approximately **\$75,000.00** per year.

Motion: _____ **Younger** **Second:** _____ **Leroux**

I move that we approve the proposed Ellis County Solid Waste rate increases and pricing structure effective August 1, 2022.

Disposition: _____ **Motion passed by a voice vote of three to zero.**

PLANNING AND ZONING MILEAGE COMPENSATION

Environmental Services Director Justin Craig is asking the Commission to approve the yearly mileage reimbursement for the Planning and Zoning Commission members. With the addition of the Zoning Board of Appeal duties, there has been discussion of how to help mitigate the expenses incurred by the members. Direct compensation is not allowed per Kansas statute 12-744. However, per Kansas Attorney General Opinion 96-16, reimbursement for travel expenses does not conflict with KS12-744. The cost would be approximately \$722.00 if all members attended all 12 meetings. A budget line item of \$1,250.00 has been proposed for the Environmental Department to cover this & possible site inspection expenses. Overall, there is reduction in the proposed budget for the Environmental Department due to a reduction in anticipated expenses. This budgeted amount would also include the new changes to the mileage rate. Schlyer asked if they were currently getting mileage reimbursement. Craig said they were not. Leroux agreed they need to be compensated, but would like to see that if someone else is already reimbursing their costs, he doesn't want to see people get reimbursed two or three times from different entities. Younger said it is a great idea. County Counselor Bill Jeter commented that Craig should check with the representative from the City of Schoenchen that if these members are getting reimbursed by the City of Schoenchen, they would no longer need to do so since the County will be paying for the mileage.

Motion: _____ **Younger** **Second:** _____ **Leroux**

I move to approve the reimbursement of mileage expenses for the Planning & Zoning Commission members incurred for travel to and from the scheduled meetings of the Planning & Zoning Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals, presentations to the Ellis County Commission, and related site inspections effective January 1st, 2023.

Disposition: _____ **Motion passed by a voice vote of three to zero.**

HEALTH DEPARTMENT MESSAGE CENTER

County Administrator Darin Myers is asking the Commission to approve the purchase of a LED message board to be installed at the Administrative Center building using State COVID grant funding. Ellis County Health Director Kim Reel has been working tirelessly with KDHE to apply for, and manage many grants being offered. Recently, a grant was awarded for the purchase and installation of a 4' x 8' double sided LED message board to be installed at the Ellis County Administrative Building. Please see the attached rendering of what the sign could look like. The planned usage of the sign would be to help direct information to the public for health-related emergencies, contact information for the health department, and locations of vaccination sites. The sign will come with a lifetime subscription to a cell service to be able to program the sign for use and messaging. It also comes with software to create and design the messages. It is proposed to be installed at the Ellis County Administrative Building because of

the location and traffic it will catch. Since it will be at this location, all other county departments will be able to display messages to the public. Some examples brought up by departments are voting information, job advertisements, closings, tag and tax information, holidays, special recognition messages, and commission meeting advertisements. Over the last month, the specifications for the project were created, and RFP was drafted and released to vendors. One proposal was received from Commercial Sign Company of Hays. The proposal meets the specifications and requirement of the proposal. It is considered a good bid and is under the budgeted grant funding allotment. The cost with a turn-key installation is \$60,714. The Ellis County Health Department was awarded \$67,306 from the State's COVID-19 ELC Expanding Infrastructure grant to reimburse Ellis County for this entire purchase. Schlyer said he thinks it would be helpful to have messages from the County. He asked who would do the programming. Myers said it comes with a life-time self-service agreement and lifetime training. Younger asked if we could advertise the health department's facility on it. Jeter said that it could be used for that. Leroux thought it was great and complimented Reel on seeking out this grant money.

Motion: _____ **Schlyer** **Second:** _____ **Younger**
I move to approve PO# 7665 for the purchase of one double sided LED message sign to be installed at the administrative building.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

County Administrator Myers reminded the Commission there will be a special commission meeting on June 22nd at 1:00 p.m. for the approval of the purchase of land.

COUNTY COMMISSION REPORTS

Younger had no report. Leroux said he met with the new employee with Grow Hays. Schlyer had no report.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Schlyer adjourned the meeting at 5:17 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 5, 2022, the Administrative Center Commission Chambers, 718 Main Street, Hays, Kansas at 5:00 pm.

BOARD OF ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ROBERT "BUTCH" SCHLYER, CHAIR

NEAL YOUNGER, COMMISSIONER

JOE LEROUX, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

BOBBI L DREILING
ELLIS COUNTY CLERK