

September 20, 2021

The Board of Ellis County Commissioners met in regular session at 5:00 pm Monday, September 20, 2021, in the Commission Chambers, at the Administration Center, 718 Main Street, Hays, Kansas. Chair Robert "Butch" Schlyer called the meeting to order. Commissioners present: Chair Robert "Butch" Schlyer, Commissioner Neal Younger and Commissioner Dean F. Haselhorst. Also present were County Administrator Darin Myers, County Counselor Bill Jeter and County Clerk Bobbi L. Dreiling. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

No changes to the order of business.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There will be no executive sessions.

### **APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES**

Chair Schlyer asked for any changes to the draft minutes of September 13, 2021. No changes were given; the draft minutes were approved as presented.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Younger** \_\_\_\_\_ **Second** \_\_\_\_\_ **Haselhorst**

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

#### **Payment Voucher Claims**

Waste Connections for Solid Waste dated September 15 in the amount of \$23,271.76

Insurance payment to FCMI dated September 8 in the amount of \$20,906.78

Invoices dated September 21 in the amount of \$619,313.39

Purchase Order #7578 to Paul Wertenberger Construction for \$236,500

Purchase Order #7600 to Foley Equipment for \$38,486.16

#### **Tax Adjustments**

Tax roll adjustment number 2021000065

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

### **ISSUES FROM PERSONS NOT ON THE ORDER OF BUSINESS**

No persons not on the order of business.

### **MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Commissioners all agreed the reports look good.

### **SOLID WASTE JOB TRAILER PUBLIC HEARING**

**Motion:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Schlyer** \_\_\_\_\_ **Second** \_\_\_\_\_ **Haselhorst**

I move to open the public hearing for the sale of the Solid Waste Job Trailer.

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

Landfill Foreman Vern Ruder stated that after the new office space and scale house at the Solid Waste Division of Environmental Services was completed the 2005 trailer that was used for office space and scaling is no longer being utilized or serving a purpose for Solid Waste. Per K.S.A. 19-211(a)(4), the procedure for the Public Hearing for a private sale has been followed. He said there was a bid of \$10,000 from Hess Services. Schlyer asked if that was an appropriate offer. Ruder said he thought it

was. Haselhorst and Younger both agreed it was a fair offer.

**Motion:** Haselhorst Second Younger

I move to approve the 2005 Solid Waste office Trailer to Hess Services in the amount of \$10,000.

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

**Motion:** Schlyer Second Haselhorst

I move to close the public hearing regarding the office trailer sale.

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

### **ELLIS COUNTY 2020 AUDIT**

Melissa Romme and Alexis Crispin of Adams Brown, the CPA firm conducting the Ellis County independent audit presented their findings to the Commission. Romme went over the details of the actual 2020 audit. Crispin then discussed with the commissioners the single audit on the Cares grant funding. Schlyer indicated that the Cares grant funding was a moving target and said he doesn't want to hold anyone responsible. He asked if they recommend a consultant to run the new program. Crispin said other counties that are using them it seems things run a little bit smoother for those counties. Younger said it had to be a learning experience for everyone that received funding. Romme thanked the Departments for getting them all the paperwork to conduct the audit, and that it was supplied to them in a timely manner. The County had no uncorrected or misstatements; there will be a journal entry that will be supplied to make some corrections, but this is nothing unusual. She stressed that weekly deposits need to be made. County Administrator Darin Myers personally thanked Melissa and Alexis for their work done on both the regular and single audit.

### **NORTHWEST KANSAS COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

Northwest Kansas Community Corrections Director Erin Geist updated the Commissioners on their in-house services and programs. She also discussed the different agencies they partner with to provide these services and where their funding comes from.

### **SKID STEER PURCHASE**

Public Works Director Brendan Mackay went over the two options to purchase a compact track loader (skid steer). Road and Bridge currently has a 2012 Bobcat T650 that has approximately 3800 hours on it and needs to be replaced. The CAT 259D3 is a direct replacement size and capability, and the employees have been able to demo it and like the way it performs. The Bobcat T76 is a new model that is heavier and larger than the current Bobcat T650 but it is the smallest offering from Bobcat that has the hydraulic flow rate needed to run the attachments the department uses. To utilize the Bobcat T76 at a minimum they would have to purchase a larger bucket and upgrade the axles on the trailer that transports the machine to the work area. The CAT 259D3 is more expensive upfront but has a better resale than the Bobcat. Haselhorst agreed that the resale on the CAT 259D3 would be better than the Bobcat.

**Motion:** Haselhorst Second Younger

I move to purchase the 2022 CAT 259D3 Compact Track Loader from Foley Equipment for \$38,486.16.

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

### **401(a) Retirement Contribution Options**

County Administrator Darin Myers is asking the Commissioners to provide direction on the contribution plan options. It was approved in the 2022 budget to provide funding for a new retirement contribution program with partial matching payments from the County. The County's current program, KPERS457 (Kansas Public Employees Retirement System) can be expanded to include a 401(a) program. To start the program, additional information is needed regarding the enrollment options within the

adoption agreement. Once the commission gives guidance, the agreement can be completed, reviewed by KPERSS, and the formally approved by the Commission. Those options are:

- Contribution Timing and Frequency
  - Suggested to correlate with payroll and benefit deductions on a bi-weekly basis, but only split out of the 24 of 26 yearly payroll dates like the current benefit deductions.
- Employee Participation
  - Available only to full-time and part-time employees who participate in the KPERSS 457 plan.
- Vesting
  - Once enrolled, an employee would be considered vested immediately within the program.
- Contributions
  - If an employee participates with a contribution between \$15.00 - \$29.99 into their KPERSS 457 deferred compensation plan, the county will contribute an additional \$15 to the new 401(a) portion of the employees deferred compensation plan. Employees who contribute less than \$15.00 would not be eligible in the program.
  - If an employee participates with at least minimum of a \$30 contribution, the county will contribute an additional \$30 to the new 401(a) portion of the employees deferred compensation plan. The max county contribution per pay period would be \$30 regardless of the maximum employee contribution above \$30.00.
- Rollovers
  - Rollovers from qualified plans would be permitted.
- Compensation paid after employment
  - No post-severance payments would be paid into the plan after their final working pay period.

Once the selections are identified, a resolution will be created to coincide with the Adoption Agreement for the Commissioners to approve. Also, the Personnel Manual will need to be updated to include the deferred compensation plan parameters. The goal is to have this completed by the open enrollment period for employees to start their contribution during the first payroll period in 2022. The 2022 budget includes a total of \$137,520 split between all departments based on the number of employees. This number is based on a 100% employee participation. Myers was told to move forward.

### **718 MAIN STREET PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD OF BID**

County Administrator Darin Myers presented to the Commission the low bid from Paul-Wertenberger Construction for \$274,500. After discussion with the lead facilities technician, it was decided not to include the south parking lot portion in the project if approved. This would eliminate \$38,000 which would create a new total for the project of \$236,500. The construction, if approved, would begin approximately March 1, 2022. The redesign would add about 40 new parking spaces. Myers indicated that there is a section of parking lot on the south side that could be sold to the owner of the apartment complex which would save \$38,000; the owner is interested in purchasing it. It would put the lot back on the tax roll. Schlyer said it was well known parking was going to be an issue when the building was bought. Haselhorst said to move forward in contacting the owner of the complex on the purchase of the parking lot. Younger questioned the handicap parking. Myers said there would be two more

additional handicap parking spots.

**Motion:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Haselhorst** \_\_\_\_\_ **Second** \_\_\_\_\_ **Younger**

I move to approve Purchase Order #7578 to repair the East parking lots located at the administrative building.

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

#### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

No report.

#### **COUNTY COMMISSION REPORT**

Younger attended the Northwest Kansas Highway Officials meeting, and also the Ellis City meeting. Haselhorst attended Northwest Kansas Highway Officials meeting; he also thanked all the county employees for writing the grants that are needed for the County. Schlyer attended the open house at the environmental office, and is meeting with the County Administrator this week as well.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Chair Schlyer adjourned the meeting at 6:02pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 4, 2021, 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEAN F HASELHORST, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
BOBBI L DREILING  
ELLIS COUNTY CLERK