

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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January 9, 2023

New 1st District Commissioner Doug Walbridge was sworn into office by the County Clerk.

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on January 9, 2023. Present were Commissioners Richard Malm, David Christy and Doug Walbridge. County Clerk Linda M Buttron was present. County Counselor Josh Ney was also present. Reorganization of the Board was held. Richard moved that he be elected as Chair. The motion died for lack of a second. David moved that he be Chair and Richard be Vice-Chair. The motion died for lack of a second. Doug moved that Richard be elected as Chair. Richard seconded. Doug voted in favor. Richard voted in favor. David voted no. Doug moved David be elected as Vice-Chair. Richard seconded. Doug voted in favor. Richard voted in favor. David abstained. Motion carried 2 – 0. Richard moved that the official county depositories be approved as provided by the County Treasurer: Bank of Oskaloosa, Kendall State Bank, Union State Bank, Denison State Bank, Mutual Savings Association, First State Bank and Trust and the Kansas Municipal Investment Pool. Doug seconded. All voted in favor. With regard to the Courthouse Hours, Richard moved that they remain the same. Doug seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. With regard to the Commission meeting schedule, discussion was held regarding the time for the work session. Doug moved that the work session be held from 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. and the regular meeting follow beginning at 1:00 until business is concluded for the day. Richard seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. With regard to the official newspaper, Doug moved that the Oskaloosa Independent be designated as the official paper. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. A notice to the township board for a beer license was signed. David moved that the minutes of January 3 be approved as presented. Richard seconded. Richard voted in favor. David voted in favor. Doug did not vote as this is his first meeting. Vouchers were reviewed and approved by the Counselor and the Board.

Treasurer Lisa Buerman met with the Board. Lisa presented a sealed bid for Lot 10 Block L Lakeshore Estates from Patrick Barnes. Patrick bid \$551.50. Richard moved that the bid be accepted as presented. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

James Tweed, EMS Director reported on 2022 statistics for the Department. EMS had 1634 calls, 948 transports to the hospital, 159 cancellations to Valley Falls and 32 transports from Valley Falls. Dispatch had 5,644 911 calls, 3085 burn permits, 40,033 administrative phone calls, 48,762 phone calls and 3,855 cases created.

Ben Domann, Public Works Director met with the Board. Ben reported that Auxiliary Services has completed the remodel of the Health Department. Work on furnaces in a couple buildings has also been completed. Ben reported a price increase for rock in 2023. Hamm's has increased what equates to .66 per ton. Chips have increased \$3.10 per ton. We currently have all chips purchased and on-site using the 2022 budget. Ben presented an accounting of the final costs for the Ferguson and Slough Creek project. The total project cost totaled \$623,000. \$58,000 was paid by Jefferson County and the remainder by an HRRR Grant. Ben discussed vehicles ordered through the Enterprise Fleet Maintenance program. Four vehicles are scheduled to be delivered this week. Two for the Sheriff and two for Public Works. Oil bids have been sent out. The bids will be opened February 27th. Jefferson County will be hosting the NEK Highway Association this spring. Wednesday March 22 was suggested as a date by the Board.

Dustin Parks, Community Development Director met with the Board. Dustin presented packets with information regarding solar and wind energy from other counties. FEMA has notified us that our Community Rating System renewal must be done this year. Discussion of the savings from the program was held. Dustin discussed the idea of adding the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) to the Planning Commission members. It has been difficult to keep the BZA at 5 members and currently 2 of the 3 members of the BZA also serve on the Planning Commission. The Board agreed to the idea by consensus. Dustin will work on a resolution to enact the combination.

Mary Smith, Willow Domestic Violence Center asked the Board to recognize January as Human Trafficking Awareness month. Mary read a proclamation regarding the issue. Doug moved that January be designated as Human Trafficking Awareness month in Jefferson County. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

A hearing was held at 1:30 p.m. regarding granting vacation of utility easements on two properties. Tom Hartley for Lots 16 & 17 Block P, Lake Ridge Estates and Douglas Jameson, JG Brown Subdivision for Lots 3 & 4. David moved that the easements be granted. Richard seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Richard moved that Resolution 2023-002 vacating the easements be approved. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

David moved that the Board recess into executive session to discuss matters of attorney client privilege with regard to legal advice with Ben and Sheriff Herrig present as part of the collective client until 2:05 p.m. Richard seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. The Board recessed at 2:00 p.m. Present during the session were Ben, Jeff, Josh and the Board. The Board reconvened at 2:05 p.m. The Chair announced that no binding action was taken during executive session.

Sheriff Jeff Herrig informed the Board of a contract for medical services at the jail with American Correctional Health (ACH) at a cost of \$79,000. The contract has been reviewed and approved for form by the Counselor. The Board indicated their agreement by consensus.

The regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Richard stated that the Board would then convene as the Land Bank Board. George Welch would like to purchase land bank property located at 2592 Detlor Road that is next to property. The Board asked how much he would like to pay for the property. He offered \$500. Richard stated the price should be higher. The Board offered a price of \$1000. George agreed to the price. Ronnie and Chelsea Pruitt want to purchase land bank property located at 10744 Prairie View Dr. Drive. Chelsea offered \$500. The Board refused. Chelsea offered \$750. The Board countered with an offer of \$1000. Chelsea will take the offer to her husband and get back to the Treasurer. The Land Bank Board adjourned at 2:14 p.m.