

FORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
MEETING OF JULY 3, 2023
MEETING NUMBER 2023-26
COMMISSION CHAMBERS
3:30 P.M.



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The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the Commission Chambers at the Ford County Government Center.

Those present were:

Shawn Tasset, Chairman
Chris Boys, Commissioner
Ken W. Snook, Commissioner

J.D. Gilbert, County Administrator
Debbie Cox, County Clerk

Chairman Tasset called the meeting to order. Sherry Polkinghorn, Pastor of Congregational Care, First United Methodist Church, led the group in prayer, followed by Chairman Tasset leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ford County Public Hearing

Economic Development Exemption: Hi Plains Feed, LLC

Chairman Tasset opened the Public Hearing to receive all public oral and written comments pertaining to the EDX application for Hi Plains Feed, LLC.

Joann Knight with Dodge City/ Ford County Economic Development Corporation presented the application. Andy Linscott, General Manager of Hi Plains Feed, LLC, explained this expansion will help feed the cattle at local and new dairies intending to supply Hilmar Cheese Company, Inc.

Chairman Tasset moved to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0.

Consideration of Resolution No. 2023-19 A Resolution Providing Exemption from Ad Valorem Taxation Under Section 13, Article 11, of the Constitution of the State of Kansas for Hi Plains Feed, LLC.

Chairman Tasset moved to adopt Consideration of Resolution No. 2023-19 A Resolution Providing Exemption from Ad Valorem Taxation Under Section 13, Article 11, of the Constitution of the State of Kansas for Hi Plains Feed, LLC as presented. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minute Meetings: 2023- 24; 2023-25
Credit Card Statement

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Approval of Claims for Payment: \$1,008,535.69

Commissioner Boys moved to approve the claims for payment as presented. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Open Public Comment

Chris Smith, resident on McCaustland #2 Rd, spoke of the danger of the trucks from the trucking company that are going up and down that road. There was to be something done to make it safer for the school buses and students. Chairman Tasset stated he has been in contact with people about this today.

Chairman Tasset spoke on a Resolution that he will be presenting to NACo at the next meeting in July. The proposed Resolution is to amend classification criteria for small meat processing plants. The reason for this, the EPA has proposed new regulations regarding effluent discharge from small meat processing facilities defined by the EPA as employing fewer than 1000 workers.

Unfinished Business – None

Legal Counsel – None

County Administrator’s Report

Resolution No. 2023-20 Proclamation of a State of Local Disaster for Ford County Kansas

Ford County Fire Chief Rob Boyd presented for approval, Resolution No. 2023-20 A Resolution to Declare a Local Disaster in Ford County, Kansas. This will allow Ford County to receive state funds to help with the fire that occurred east of 134 Road and Primrose Road in the river bottom in the southeastern part of Ford County.

Chairman Tasset moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-20 A Resolution to Declare a Local Disaster in Ford County, Kansas. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0.

Ford County Engineer:**Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program / Geotechnical Engineering Services OS 50, OS 101**

Ford County Engineer Jon Halbgewachs with Kirkham Michael presented the proposals from both GSI and Terracon to perform geotechnical services for the OS 50 and OS 101 replacement projects. Terracon separated proposals for each bridge while GSI submitted a single proposal for both.

GSI \$10,552.00

Terracon \$10,900.00

Recommended to approve GSI at \$10,552.00.

Chairman Tasset moved to approve GSI Engineering to perform geotechnical engineering services for the OS 50 and OS 101 replacement projects, as recommended. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Construction Administration Additional Services Authorization

Ford County Engineer Jon Halbgewachs with Kirkham Michael presented for approval a change order to the design contract to coordinate a pre-construction conference, administer contractor pay estimates and change orders, and then coordinate a final walk-through inspection. The amount of the change order is \$8,000.00.

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the Jewell Road Asphalt Overlay Construction Contract Administration Service Agreement with Kirkham Michael, as presented. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Engineer Report

Ford County Engineer Jon Halbgewachs presented an update on projects he is working on.

US Highway 50 expansion west of Dodge City to Cimarron- Primary focus right now is placing asphalt pavement.

Hilmar Cheese Plant Roadway Improvements- The contractor has built the dirt grade and placed drainage culverts for the 113 and Outlaw Road improvements. They are working on cement treating the dirt grade and will top this with cement treated base before placing concrete pavement.

Low Water Crossing on 127 Road between Kettle and Marshall Roads and Off-System Bridge 97 replacement-on 134 Road south of Jewell Road, over coon Creek – anticipates starting work late July.

Paved Road Resurfacing (102 and 113 Road)- Ford County was not awarded KDOT Spring Cost Share funds for 102 Road. Kirkham Michael will work on revising the plans for 113 Road between Comanche St and US-50 to extend the 4-lane all the way to US-50 for a late Fall bid.

Jewell Road Reclamation completed in 2021 – Letter to APAC demanding a reply by July 1, for the to apply a sand seal over the entire project. They have not replied. Will turn to legal Counsel for no response.

US-50 Jct with W Wyatt Earp – KDOT District Engineer Ron Hall sent a request for KDOT Traffic Engineering to evaluate this intersection south of the casino (December 2022).

New Business:

In summer of 2024 Chris O’Neal Superintend for Road and Bridge plans to scarify the cold mix overlay, patch weak spots of the pavement, and then apply a new seal coat.

South West Kansas Area Agency On Aging: Sub-Region II Council

South West Kansas Area Agency on Aging is requesting the County Commission appoint one more individual to represent the county’s interest in the aging network and serve as a voice for elderly in the county. Each person serves a three-year term that begins October 1. Mignon Luckey and Sara Howard have expressed an interest in serving.

Chairman Tasset moved to appoint Mignon Lucky to serve on the South West Kansas Area Agency on Aging Sub-Region Council for Ford County. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0.

Upcoming Meetings

Community Facility Advisory Board (CFAB): Thursday July 13, 2023 at 6:30 pm. Boothill Casino & Resort Conference Center.

2023 NACo Annual Conference: Austin Convention Center in Travis County/Austin, TX July 21-24

Ford County 4-H Fair: July 20th= July 24th, 2023

Dodge City Days: July 27- August 6, 2023

Dodge City Roundup Rodeo: August 1st- August 6th. 2023

Adjournment

Chairman Tasset moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:31 p.m. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FORD COUNTY, KANSAS**

Shawn Tasset, Chairman

Attested:

Debbie Cox, County Clerk