

**FORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**  
**MEETING NUMBER 2023-33**  
**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. Pastor Kirk Larson, Grace Community Church, led the group in prayer, followed by Chairman Tasset leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Consent Agenda**

Approval of Minutes Meeting 2023- 32;  
Credit Card Statement

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

**Approval of Claims for Payment: \$415,908.26**

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

**Open Public Comment – None.**

**Unfinished Business- None**

**Legal Counsel - None**

**County Administrator's Report**

**Long Branch Lagoon: Pool Painting Project**

City of Dodge City Director of Parks & Facilities, Daniel Cecil discussed the proposal from Wildcat Painting to repaint the three pool areas at the Long Branch Lagoon. The Community Facility Advisory Board (CFAB) has recommended the approval of Wildcat Painting not to exceed the amount of \$73,500. This will come out of the Why Not Dodge Fund.

Commissioner Snook moved to approve the proposal from Wildcat Painting not to exceed the amount of \$73,500, as recommended. Chairman Tasset seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **Ford County Engineer: OS #97 Bridge Replacement / Change Order**

Ford County Engineer Jon Halbgewachs presented for approval the change order for OS #97 Bridge Replacement from L & M Contractors, Inc. for \$27,579.50.

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the change order from L & M Contractors, Inc. for the OS #97 Bridge Replacement project for \$27,579.50 as presented. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **Ford County Engineer: Report**

Ford County Engineer Jon Halbgewachs gave updates on projects he is working on. Presented a list of common interest between Ford County and Dodge City for the KDOT local consult meeting scheduled for October 4, 2023 at the Clarion Inn, 9:00 am to Noon, at Garden City. This is a public meeting. The more people attending from Dodge City and Ford County will help promote these projects for approval.

### **SouthWest Kansas Area Agency on Aging: Annual Plan**

SWKAAA Executive Director Brendan Wenzl presented for approval the annual plan.

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the SWKAAA plan as presented. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 2-0.** Commissioner Snook stated he could not hear the presentation and did not vote.

### **KPERS Designated Agent**

Vanessa Avila-Ochoa, HR Director, is asking designated agent to be appointed for KPERS. With the resignation of Pat Heeke, a new person needs to be appointed.

Chairman Tasset moved to appoint HR Director Vanessa Avila-Ochoa as the KPERS designated agent. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **Emergency Management: State Incident Support Program**

Assistant County Administrator Tanda Bartlett, reported, Emergency Manager Rex Beemer has submitted his application for acceptance into the Kansas Incident Support Program. This program plays an essential role in assisting the local/county in support of large, complex emergencies, natural disasters and special events. This could have him called for duty in other locations of disasters, with the understanding, if need arises in Ford County, he would come back.

**KCAMP Board of Trustees**

Assistant County Administrator Tanda Bartlett on the KCAMP Board of Trustees. Trustees are elected by the membership at the KCAMP Annual Meeting, unless appointed by the Board to fill a mid-term vacancy. Trustees serve three-year terms. Nominations must be received in the KCAMP office no later than October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Upcoming Meetings**

KEMA 2023 Conference: September 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Kansas Star Event Center, Mulvane, KS  
Community Facility Advisory Board (CFAB): 6:30 pm Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 City Commissioners Chambers, City Hall

Kansas Legislative Policy Group (KLPG): 2023 Annual Meeting, September 28-29, 2023 Hays  
International City/County Management Association: (ICMA) Annual Conference: September 30-October 4, 2023 Austin/ Travis County, Texas

KDOT Local Consult District 6 Meeting: October 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am- 12pm. At Clarion Inn, Garden City  
Joint Commission Meeting: October 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm. (Date subject to change)

**Executive Session: Acquisition of Real Property**

Chairman Tasset moved the Board recess into executive session to discuss the acquisition of real property pursuant to the acquisition of real property exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(6). The open meeting to resume in this location at 4:35 pm. IN addition to the Commissioners, the County Administrator, Assistant County Administrator, and the County Counselor should be included in the executive session. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 3-0.**

Commission returned to regular session. Chairman Tasset announced no action taken.

**Return to regular session at 4:15 p.m. No action taken****Executive Session: Personnel Matters Involving Non-elected Personnel**

Chairman Tasset moved the Board recess into executive session to discuss position vacancies pursuant to the personnel matters of non-elected personnel exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting to resume in this location at 4:50 pm. In addition to the Commissioners, the County Administrator, the Assistant County Administrator, the County Counselor, and Pat Heeke, should be included in the executive session. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commission returned to regular session at 4:50 pm

Chairman Tasset moved the Board return into executive session to continue discussion position vacancies pursuant to the personnel matters of non-elected personnel exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting to resume in this location at 5:05 pm. In addition to the Commissioners, the County Administrator, the Assistant County Administrator, the County Counselor, and Pat Heeke, should be included in the executive session. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commission returned to regular session at 5:05 pm. Chairman Tasset announced no action taken

**Executive session: Negotiation of Contract Terms**

Chairman Tasset moved the Board recess into executive session to discuss the negotiation of contract terms with iSi Environmental pursuant to the attorney-client privilege exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2). The open meeting to resume in this location at 5:15 pm. In addition to the Commissioners, the County Administrator, Assistant County Administrator, and the County Counselor should be included in the executive session. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commission returned to regular session at 5:15 pm.

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the contract with iSi Environmental, and to approve County Administrator to sign the contract. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Adjournment**

Chairman Tasset moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 p.m. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

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

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**Shawn Tasset, Chairman**

**Attested:**

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**Debbie Cox, County Clerk**