

FORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
MEETING OF OCTOBER 2, 2023
MEETING NUMBER 2023-36
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

Tanda Bartlett, Assistant County Administrator
Debbie Cox, County Clerk

Chairman Tasset called the meeting to order. Chairman Tasset led the group in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Tasset changed the agenda order under the County Administrator's Report #3 Ford County Historical Society: Legacy Center Update will be the first topic.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes Meeting 2023- 34; 2023-35

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

Approval of Claims for Payment: \$699,663.38

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

Open Public Comment – None.

Unfinished Business- None

Legal Counsel - None

County Administrator's Report

Ford County Historical Society; Legacy Center Update

Dana Williamson with Williamson Architecture explained the next step in the Legacy Center. Two bids for phase II contractors. These will go straight for interviews. Will be talking to the two to see when interviews would work for them and the Commissioners.

Kent Stehlik, President of the Ford County Historical Society and Sonya Hughes, Treasurer Ford County Historical Society, updated on the Home of Stone, Legacy Center, and grants they have received. They will continue to look for grants for the Legacy Center.

Ford County Engineer: Report

Jon Halbgewachs, Ford County Engineer, presented an update on projects.

US Hwy 50 expansion west of Dodge City to Cimarron- Primary focus right now is placing asphalt pavement to connect county roads to highway.

Hilmar Cheese Plant Roadway Improvements on 112 and outlaw - There has been little activity this past month. KDOT Headquarters and the Governor's office are aware of the frustration with local residents and businesses.

Low Water Crossing on 127 Road between Kettle and Marshall Roads – sheet pile and railroad tankers for the new structure are in place. Currently placing dirt fill over the tankers and plan to start placing the concrete driving surface as soon as this week.

Off-System Bridge 97 replacement - on 134 Road south of Jewell Road, over Coon Creek – Construction of the new bridge is complete. Once the dirt contractor finishes placing dirt fill on the 127 Road low water crossing, he will backfill the ends of this bridge. Then L&M will place the cold mix asphalt on the bridge deck. This project is anticipated to be complete by the end of October.

Jewell Road overlay west of 118 Road through Wright - APAC started work on this project September 25. It is anticipated to be complete by October 6.

Paved Road Resurfacing (102) and 113 Road) – Kirkham Michael is 95% complete with 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 and include a concrete paving alternate.

Jewell Road Reclamation completed in 2021 – APAC has state in writing that they will place a chip seal at no cost to Ford County. Do not know if they can get this done in 2023. May need to wait until Spring when it is warmer. Chairman Tasset stated that this was to be done this year by October 1. If the road continues to deteriorate because of the cracks then what happens.

Solar Farms – reviewing a draft Road Maintenance and USE Agreement (RUMA) to present to the County Counselor and Director of Zoning for review and input.

KDOT Local Consult meeting scheduled for October 4 from 9 am to noon at the Clarion Inn in Garden City. Need people to show up to voice their concerns on to roads in Ford County.

Landfill: Request to Sell at Auction

Landfill Director Rigoberto Valverde is asking permission to sell at auction a 2015 9570R John Deere Tractor and a 2015 2010DE John Deere Ejector Scraper. Discussion was had to see if this was something that Road and Bridge could use, he will check into that.

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the request to auction items as discussed. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Landfill: Request for Bids / Tire Cutter

Landfill Director Rigoberto Valverde is requesting to go out for bids on a new tire cutter at the Landfill.

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the request to bids on a new tire cutter at the Ford County Landfill. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

County Treasurer: Tax Statements

Ford County Treasurer Kourtney Soltero received 2 quotes for printing and mailing of tax statements. Is requesting approval of Postalocity in the amount of \$12,906.67.

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the quote from Postalocity for \$12,906.67 as presented. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Mileage Reimbursement Rates

Mileage reimbursement rates were updated 9/18/2023 at the state level to \$0.655 per mile. Request the county approve the mileage rate update.

Commissioner Boys moved to approve updating the County mileage reimbursement rates from \$0.585 to \$0.655 per mile, as recommended. Chairman Tasset seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0.

Election Clerk: Canvass Schedule

Election Clerk Debbie Cox is requesting to set a Canvass date for the November 7, 2023 Election. Recommendation is within November 14th -17th. The Canvass is required to be between 8 am. and 10 am and within 13 days of the election.

Chairman Tasset moved to hold the Canvass for the November 7, 2023 Election on November 14th at 8:30 am. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Upcoming Meetings

KDOT Local Consult District 6 Meeting: October 4th, 9:00 am- 12pm. At Clarion Inn, Garden City
Joint Commission Meeting October 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm, City Commissioner Chambers, City Hall
CEDBR: 2023 Regional Outlook conference: October 20, 2023 at United Wireless Arena- 10:30 am to 2:00 Pm. Commissioner Boys, Administrator Gilbert and Assistant Administrator Bartlett will attend.

General Election Dates –October 23023

October 17, 2023 Last Day to Register to Vote

October 18, 2023 Advance Voting by Mail Begins

October 19, 2023 Advance In Office Voting Begins

October 31, 2023 Evening In Office Voting until 7:00 pm.

Chairman Tasset recognized County Administrator J.D. Gilbert for his 9 years of service.

Executive Session: Ford County Administrator’s Contract

Chairman Tasset moved the Board recess into executive session to discuss the County Administrator’s contract and evaluation pursuant to the personnel matters of nonelected personnel exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1).

The open meeting to resume in this location at 4:55 p.m.

In addition to the County Commissioners, the County Administrator the County Counselor, and Samantha Sweley should be included in the executive session. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Commission returned to regular session at 4:55 p.m. Chairman Tasset announced no action taken.

Adjournment

Chairman Tasset moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:59 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