

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARION COUNTY, KS**

January 17, 2017

Commission met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. the Marion County Courthouse with Chr. Randy Dallke, Comm. Dianne R. Novak, and Comm. Lori L. Lalouette present. Also present were Co. Clerk Tina Spencer and members of the press. Citizens in attendance for portions of the session were: Jim Hefley, Tom Britain and Mike Beneke.

Chr. Dallke asked for any changes to the agenda. Lalouette said she would like time to make a brief statement after all members of the press were in attendance. Dallke acknowledged Lalouette's request and also added time to discuss ongoing and new projects at the end of the scheduled business.

MINUTES: Lalouette moved to approve the minutes of January 9th as presented. Dallke seconded and motion carried 3-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE: The Clerk's Report for the month of December, 2016 and monthly budget reports were reviewed. Department revenue reports were reviewed. There were no questions.

Information regarding the unfunded liability for KPERS under the Governor's budget plan was reviewed.

The invoice for the first quarter assessment for the North Central Kansas Regional Juvenile Detention Facility has been received in the amount of \$3,932.12. Novak is scheduled to attend the NCKRJDF meeting January 18th in Junction City.

Lalouette noted that the Community Mental Health Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for January was cancelled.

Insurance proposal: The additional cost to insure the Marion County Courthouse for an estimated \$3.03 million replacement value was reported by EMC Insurance to be \$3,038.00/year. After some discussion, Dallke moved to increase the value and pay the increased premium at \$3,038.00 for 2017. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0. Novak suggested that other companies submit proposals for 2018 coverage prior to the next renewal. Hefley commented that insurance should be utilized for catastrophic situations with higher levels of coverage but also some higher deductibles as appropriate.

Appointment of Special Prosecutor: The Board reviewed and acknowledged the appointment of Susan C. Robson as Special Prosecutor for Marion County on the following cases as indicated by County Attorney Courtney Boehm:

Brett D. Perrymore	16CR124, 15CR80
Bradford A. Cody, Jr.	14CR215, 16TR344, 15CR192, 16CR31
A juvenile	15JC24
A juvenile	15JC26, 15JC25
A juvenile	15JC16
A juvenile	15JC15
A juvenile	14JC12
A juvenile	14JC13
A juvenile	14JC14
A juvenile	14JC30
A juvenile	14JC32
A juvenile	14JC31
Layne Nienstedt	16CR184

These appointments were made in order to avoid conflict of interest for Boehm.

Salary sheets were signed:

Robin Taylor from \$2,222.00/mo. to \$2,669.00/mo. – promotion to Deputy Register of Deeds effective 1/9/2017
Melissa Riddle from \$2,021.00/mo. to \$2,061.00/mo. – six month raise effective 1/5/2017
Julia Ensminger from \$2,222.00/mo. to \$2,267.00/mo. – six month raise effective 12/21/2016

Spencer requested an executive session for 10 minutes to discuss personnel/pay. Dallke moved to enter executive session to discuss personnel/pay with Spencer for 10 minutes. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0. (9:24 a.m. to 9:34 a.m.) Open session resumed with a motion by Lalouette to extend the session for five more minutes. Novak seconded and motion carried 3-0. (9:34 a.m. to 9:39 a.m.) Open session resumed with no action.

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COMMISSIONER STATEMENT: Comm. Lalouette made an official statement regarding the intended recall petition and her District One commission seat. Lalouette stated that she appreciates the information she has received recently regarding her constituents' dissatisfaction with her performance. Her decision to run for the seat was fueled by her desire to help the citizens in her district and to move Marion County forward. Since accepting the position she has continued to have numerous competing priorities. Lalouette issued a heart-felt apology for failing to meet the expectations of the citizens of her district, noting that any decision she makes regarding her position will have a significant impact on those citizens and the entire County. She requested additional time to consider all aspects prior to making a decision whether to continue, stating that she should have an answer by January 23rd. Lalouette noted that she had met with Jim Hefley, of the committee, and discussed several things. Waiting until January 23rd to make her final decision will give her additional time to consult others in her circle of influence and allow her to have additional conversations she feels are necessary. After making her statement, Lalouette handed a letter to each of the other Board members and the press, generally outlining what she had said. The letter was addressed to the citizens of Marion County and Honored Commissioners.

Hefley publicly thanked Lalouette for meeting with him, noting that they had discussed a number of issues. Hefley said he believes that ultimately Lalouette will do the statesmanlike thing. He encouraged her to process the information and make her decision, still stating his belief that the right decision is to resign. It is the intent of the committee to allow Lalouette the requested time to make her decision. Hefley said that he appreciated the time and effort Lalouette went to in order to meet with him, and said that he holds no animosity toward her.

WEED/HHW/TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLING: Dir. Bud Druse reported that the crane is still having problems, even after an extensive recent repair and that it may need to be replaced. Maintenance expenses for the 11 year old crane were reviewed by the Board. Druse suggested the possibility of purchasing an excavator instead of a new crane, but Dallke was not in favor of the use of an excavator inside the building. After discussing the matter, Druse was instructed to get bids for replacement of the motor and lift portions of the crane.

A report outlining the cost of the recycling program for 2016 was reviewed. Druse stated that the County saved \$11,084.29 in 2016 by diverting the recyclables away from the landfill.

A report outlining the perceived savings on disposal costs for household hazardous waste resulting from joining the Big Lakes HHW group was reviewed. Druse said that the cost for disposing of HHW would have been approximately \$24,573 compared to the actual cost paid through Big Lakes of \$15,910. Druse indicated a savings of approximately \$8,663 for participating in the program.

Druse reported that the Northeast District Weed Directors meeting will be held at the Marion County Lake Hall February 15th from 10 a.m. to noon, with lunch following. Druse said that the district will pay the cost of the lunch.

The tires purchased in March for the skid steer are showing more wear than expected and will probably need to be replaced within the next month or two, according to Druse.

A light bar for the department pickup truck will likely cost \$450.00 plus mounting hardware and would be visible from the rear of the vehicle. After further discussion, Druse was asked to get firm pricing on the light bar and also a rooftop light for the vehicle so that it can be seen from the front also. Druse will bring the information to a future meeting.

Druse asked whether he should seek estimates for a tire chopping machine. The consensus of the Board was to move forward with bids.

Hefley commented that a true cost of the crane maintenance/repairs should have depreciation factored in, and suggested buying tires locally for the skid steer.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Dir. Randy Frank reported that he recently provided hazmat refresher training for about 30 people in the County. Upcoming events for the next several months were reviewed:

- February 22nd – 6:30 p.m. Storm Fury on the Plains weather spotter training.
- May 22nd-23rd – ICS G300 Training at Tabor College
- June 5th – 6th – ICS G400 Training at Tabor College
- March 7th / May 10th – LEPC meetings are scheduled

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, CONTINUED: R. Frank will be working on a tabletop exercise in Peabody, an active shooter event and conversation with all schools and law enforcement, updates to the hazard mitigation plan, development of a debris management plan, disaster plans for the airports, and the development of an earthquake plan for the Goessel school district. In addition, he is continuing to develop layers for Pictometry.

SHERIFF: Sheriff Robert Craft asked when a meeting might be held with the cities and other agencies regarding the transition to the 800 MHz radios. The Board noted that no meeting has been set, but that the conversations should be happening soon in order to allow the other agencies time to make budget decisions for 2018. Craft said his department has been testing several different models, and asked about funding. During the budget planning process, it was decided to fund the radios through a lease purchase agreement.

The consensus of the Board was to have Sheriff Craft move forward with scheduling a meeting with the cities and other agencies (fire departments, etc.) to discuss the proposed timeline and costs involved in transitioning from the current 400 MHz system to the new 800 MHz system. Craft said the intent is to maintain both systems for a period of time with the end goal of everyone transitioning to the 800 MHz system.

A clear timeline and equipment list/cost will be needed for official County approval in order to secure financing.

AMBULANCE: Dir. Ed Debesis submitted run reports for the month of December and a cumulative report for 2016, along with comparative information from the prior year. Runs for December totaled 98, with Marion high at 35. There was one First Responder run.

Financial information was reviewed. The total billed for services was \$585,702.30, with \$416,033.92 collected, \$186,997.78 written off and \$164,278.84 outstanding as of December 31st. The department met budgeted income estimates for the year.

Dallke asked the status of the coverage of the different departments within the County. Debesis gave an overview of the communities and their coverage levels for January. It was noted that Hillsboro has a lot of time out of service due to a shortage of staff. Marion is being covered by full time staff that was hired recently. Debesis stated that there is currently no intention of removing ambulances from any communities within the County. Novak said the lack of coverage in Hillsboro is scary. She also noted that the City of Hillsboro seems very willing to assist the County in housing full time EMS crew members when the time comes.

Lalouette asked whether it might be possible within the budget to add one or two more full time crew members to assist in Hillsboro. No decisions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Beneke expressed disappointment in the selective journalism he believes is occurring within the County. He also apologized to Lalouette for putting pressure on her last week to resign immediately, noting that he failed to consider she may have other issues to consider such as health insurance, etc.

DISCUSSION – COMMISSION TO-DO LIST: Dallke said one item that should be added to the list for Commissioners is the consideration of a new EMS building. Debesis invited the Board to see the temporary quarters currently being utilized at the Marion ambulance shed. A new, more centrally located building would be an asset to the service, according to Debesis. Novak noted that such a facility would be best centrally located within the County. Locating a new facility between Marion and Hillsboro (possibly in or around Canada) was discussed and is believed to be the most efficient option. Response times for Marion and Hillsboro would remain about the same if that location was utilized. Outlying areas of the County would still rely heavily on the current system utilizing paid volunteers.

Other outstanding items will be reviewed by the Board and discussed next week.

ADMINISTRATIVE: 190th Erosion Issue: A Notice of Grant and Agreement Award was presented for approval and signature for the EWP streambank stabilization project on 190th. Dallke noted that he attended a project meeting on January 9th and things are beginning to move slowly forward. Several agencies are involved in the project. Dallke moved to approve the Notice of Grant and Agreement Award document as presented. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0. The document was signed by Chr. Dallke.

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ADMINISTRATIVE, CONTINUED: Spencer requested an executive session for five minutes to discuss property acquisition. Dallke moved to enter executive session for five minutes with Spencer to discuss property acquisition. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0. (11:49 a.m. to 11:53 a.m.) Open session resumed with no action.

Dallke moved to enter executive session for 30 minutes to discuss personnel/employee evaluations. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0. (12:00 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.) Open session resumed with no action.

Dallke moved to adjourn. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Randy Dallke, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk