

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

February 13, 2017

Commission met in regular session at the Marion County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m. with Chr. Randy Dallke and Comm. Dianne Novak present. Comm. Lori L. Lalouette joined the session at 9:03 a.m. Also present were Co. Clerk Tina Spencer, Co. Counselor Susan Robson, and members of the press. Carl Stovall, Mike Beneke and Tom Britain were present for portions of the meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE: Marion County Economic Development Director Teresa Huffman, Florence Mayor Bob Gayle, Hillsboro Mayor Delores Dalke, Hillsboro Economic Development Director Clint Seibel, Jeanne Groves, Roger Fleming, Cynthia Fleming, Carl Stovall, Tom Britain, and Dawn Suderman were present to hear the presentation by the committee. Committee members present were Russell Groves, Craig Dodd, Jim Hefley, Judy Mills, Tammy Ensey, Roger Holter, Chris Hernandez, Rod Koontz and Jarod Jost.

Chr. Dallke welcomed those in attendance and thanked the task force for their work on behalf of the Marion County Community. Chris Hernandez introduced committee member Tammy Ensey, who began the presentation. Ensey noted that the group had been working hard and had experienced good cooperation between members. Both internal and external factors were considered as a new plan was developed. Russell Groves and Roger Holter were also presenters.

The group proposed the creation of an economic development corporation for the County, which would be a 501(c) (3) organization to be funded jointly by Marion County and by cities within the county. The group would have a Board of Directors and would hire an Economic Development Director and other support staff as deemed necessary. The mission statement outlined by the group for the Marion County Community is: "Marion County will be a unified and aggressive competitor seeking OPPORTUNITIES for existing and new commercial, industrial, and residential development resulting in prosperity for all." The emphasis will be placed on recruiting development and opportunities county-wide, leaving behind the idea of cities within the county competing for businesses.

Some efforts of the corporation will be: accountability, providing one voice for the entire county, representation for all communities, formation of a land bank, legacy creation, placing emphasis on community, connection and sustainability. The intent is for the corporation to have the ability to speak as a single voice while maintaining the integrity of all current economic development and community foundations within the county. The presentation suggested streamlining current efforts into a single organization with a common goal and vision. The proposal is modeled after the model currently in use in Finney County. The Economic Director of Finney County spoke during a video clip in the presentation, encouraging Marion County to take steps to move forward.

C. Fleming asked how community foundations will be involved in the process. Hernandez explained that the community foundations will be important, as they provide philanthropic opportunities for individuals who may wish to contribute to the organization.

Seibel asked how the group will work together with the current economic development groups already functioning within the county. Hernandez explained that communication between the group and current economic development groups would be essential before business recruitment takes place. Hernandez further emphasized the need for the communities to work together for the best interest of everyone and shift away from the competitive model of the past.

Suderman, who moved to Marion County several years ago from Chicago, says she loves the vision and the integrated approach that has been presented.

Dallke said that change needs to happen, and holding up a shovel, asked those in attendance whether they are ready to change, or whether this Board of County Commissioners and the citizens are going to put the first shovel of dirt on Marion County – (implying that without a major change the County will not survive). Dallke said that he would like to stand behind the group and their efforts.

Novak thanked the group for their work and commitment, stating that we need to give growth and opportunity a chance.

Lalouette concurred, stating that she is excited about what has been presented and supported the idea of modeling after Finney County.

Hernandez said that strong leadership will be needed at the County level, and requested an annual allocation of \$165,000.00 for five years from the County beginning in the current year (2017).

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE, CONTINUED: Dallke said that the County will need time to review the details to be sure that the arrangement would be legal and that funds can be identified. After further discussion, Dallke moved to support the plan presented and to proceed with identifying funding within two weeks. Novak seconded and motion carried 3-0.

PLANNING/ZONING/ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: Dir. Emma Tajchman and R&B Supt. Jesse Hamm joined the session. Tajchman initiated discussion on an application for a new building permit at 320th and Goldenrod. The landowners want to construct three homes. Tajchman said that she can approve the first lot split administratively, but that the second lot split would need to go through the planning commission for approval, according to the County's subdivision regulations. In addition, there is concern about the location of the driveway at the third proposed home site, as the road is within the flood plain.

Dallke said he would like to see the first lot split approved so that the individuals can move forward with the building permit for the first home site. Dallke said he would like to know if there is another way to accomplish the third home site without having to do a plat.

Hamm said he is concerned about having to re-rock the road every time it rains. The approximate cost to build up the road and install the needed culverts (not including fuel or labor) is about \$4,000.00. After further discussion, Novak moved to charge the landowner \$4,000.00 to help cover the cost of the materials for the road work, culvert and rock as part of the building permit. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 2-1. Dallke opposed, stating that he does not want to hinder the process of anyone building a new home.

Tajchman will attend a FEMA flood map planning meeting on February 15th. All three Commissioners had schedule conflicts and will be unable to attend.

Tajchman has been offered a scholarship to cover the cost of the National Association of Flood Plain Managers conference in Kansas City, MO April 30th – May 5th. At this conference Tajchman has the opportunity to take the test to become a certified flood plain manager, which is required in her position with the County. The County would incur the cost of the lodging. Lalouette moved to allow Tajchman to attend the conference. Dallke seconded and motion carried 3-0. Dallke noted that any time department heads are traveling to national conferences the Board should be consulted for approval.

Dallke noted that there were some concerns raised about County staff placing some large rocks within the flood plain in order to prevent vehicles from passing through an area with an exposed gas pipe. A citizen turned the County in to the Department of Water Resources. In order to leave the rocks, the County will need to purchase a permit for \$600.00. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was to have Park & Lake Supt. Steve Hudson remove the rocks. Dallke will follow up with Hudson. Dallke also noted that Atmos Energy will be working to take care of the problem with the gas line.

Novak asked for a status update on the Green/Shields case. Shields has been granted an extension to the clean up deadline, but there is still no final decision of the Board on what items might be allowed to remain at the location.

CO. ATTORNEY: Co. Attorney Courtney Boehm reported that she will be looking at some technological upgrades for the office. An additional subscription to the Full Court and Full Case programs will be purchased in order to ease a back log of preparing journal entries and other documents. The cost is not yet known.

Dallke asked if there is a way to notify citizens if there is a rash of crimes in a certain area. Boehm offered to discuss it with the Police Chiefs at an upcoming meeting to see if it is possible to implement some sort of public safety bulletin.

AMBULANCE: Dir. Ed Debesis noted the continued need for housing for full time personnel and/or a new station or station(s). Any plan moving forward will need to give consideration to both cost and response times. Debesis suggested including the public in the planning process. Debesis encouraged all three Commissioners to visit the current temporary lodging in Marion.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Supt. Jesse Hamm and Bruce Boettcher of BG Consultants requested an increase for the construction engineering contract for 90 hours on the Nighthawk HRRR project completed last year. The final wrap up of the project is nearly complete, but Boettcher explained that poor weather conditions caused extra engineering work on days that the contractor was not on site. The additional cost to the County would be a maximum of \$775.00.

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ROAD & BRIDGE, CONTINUED: Dallke said he understood the dilemma, but would have appreciated knowing about it sooner, instead of after the fact. Dallke moved to approve the additional engineering fees in the amount of \$7,750.00 with the County portion being \$775.00 or less. Novak seconded and motion carried 3-0.

The lease purchase documents for the 2013 motor grader authorized at the last regular meeting were presented for official approval. Dallke moved to enter a lease purchase agreement through Caterpillar Financial with final approval of the Co. Counselor. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0.

Hamm requested an executive session to discuss right of way acquisition with Spencer and Robson to be included. Dallke moved to enter executive session with Hamm, Spencer and Robson for 10 minutes to discuss right of way acquisition. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0. (11:40 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.) Open session resumed with a motion by Dallke to extend the session for 10 more minutes. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0. (11:50 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) Open session resumed with no action.

Novak moved to enter executive session for five minutes with Hamm, Spencer and Robson to discuss personnel/performance. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0. (12:04 p.m. to 12:09 p.m.) Open session resumed with no action.

Novak presented an invoice given to her by Gary Diepenbrock for rock he hauled and spread on his road. He requested the County pay half. Hamm said that no prior notice was given to the Road & Bridge office, and he did not recommend the County reimburse part of the cost. Novak stressed the importance of an official policy that can be applied equally to all citizens. No decision was made regarding partial reimbursement. Novak also questioned whether the County should ever allow citizens to grade our roads. Beneke said that he works some of his road at times when it needs work and County crews are not able to get there immediately.

WEED/HHW/TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLING: Dir. Bud Druse showed the Board the letter he intends to send land owners giving them advance notice that staff will be entering their property for the purpose of surveying for noxious weeds. (This is mandated by the state.) There were no objections.

Druse told the Board that legislation has been proposed which will classify the wild blackberry as a noxious weed.

Crane repair bids were reviewed:	Hoist System	Including wireless remote
Terex Services	\$10,411.91	\$12,645.96
Nelson, Inc.	\$13,125.00	\$15,000.00

Mackey and Sons bid several options for complete replacement, ranging from \$54,045.00 to \$65,046.00.

No decisions were made.

Solid tire bids for the skid steer were presented:

	Brand	Size	Total
Stetco	Stetco	12"x35"	\$4,716.96
		10"x35"	\$3,896.96
Rod's Tire	Stetco	12"x35"	\$5,359.45
	Silverstone	12"x35"	\$3,940.00
	Current (brand not stated)	12"x35"	\$4,300.00

After some discussion, Dallke moved to purchase the Stetco brand tires from Rod's Tire in the amount of \$5,359.45. Lalouette seconded and motion carried 3-0.

Lalouette left the session at 12:40 p.m.

Druse asked if the Board would allow some limited staff sharing between Road & Bridge and the Transfer Station to help cover vacation time requested. After discussion, the consensus was that if the department had staff available it would be acceptable with proper communication if there is a dire need.

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MINUTES: Novak moved to approve the minutes of February 3rd and February 6th as presented. Dallke seconded and motion carried 2-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Spencer reported that the broadcast area for Tri County Television (for televised Commission meetings) is primarily northern Marion County, Morris County and Dickinson County. The County would have to hire someone to film the meetings, but they would be broadcast by TCT at no cost. There was no interest expressed by the Board for filming meetings at this time.

Change orders affecting the current tax roll were reviewed by the Board and signed by Chr. Dallke.

Early checks were approved for processing:

#44252 to KCHRA in the amount of \$80.00 for training - Co. General/Commission

#44253 to Alexis Maender in the amount of \$57.78 for mileage - Co. General/Judicial

#44254 to MN Co. Register of Deeds in the amount of \$187.66 for checks - Co. General /ROD

Upcoming classes and meetings were reviewed.

Dallke moved to enter executive session with Robson and Spencer for 10 minutes for attorney/client business for ongoing legal concerns. Novak seconded and motion carried 2-0. (12:58 p.m. to 1:08 p.m.) Open session resumed with no action.

The work session scheduled for Friday, February 17th was discussed.

Dallke moved to adjourn. Novak seconded and motion carried 2-0. Meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Randy Dallke, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tina D. Spencer, County Clerk