

MINUTES OF THE KINGMAN
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
ON April 17, 2023

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. April 17, 2023, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

Jerry Henning, Chairman

Patrick Elpers, Commissioner

Jack Thimesch, Commissioner

Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

Brandon Ritcha gave the invocation.

Visitors: Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Catherine Rohrer, South Central Kansas Community Corrections Administrator; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director and Johnna Fairchild, Rural Champion.

Online Visitors: Heather Kinsler

Staff: Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Sheriff Wood and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

Chairman Henning asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

No additions made.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public Comment.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk let the Commissioners know that the courthouse elevator went down around 4:30 p.m. on Thursday and KONE was notified. They should be here today to fix the elevator.

8:35 a.m. Catherine Rohrer, South Central Kansas Community Corrections Administrator was in with updates on the Juvenile and Adult services.

Ms. Rohrer discussed the numbers between alcohol and drug use.

Ms. Rohrer brought in the 2024 juvenile grant document and 2024 adult grant document for Commissioners signatures.

Ms. Rohrer left the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

9:15 a.m. Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director was in with Johnna Fairchild, Rural Champion, to give an update on Child Care. Kingman has a new daycare and Cunningham Center has now become a Center.

Ms. Fairchild let the Commissioners know that she met with Lt. Governor Tolland about the need for Childcare in Kingman County.

Ms. Fairchild left the meeting at 9:41 a.m.

Ms. Schrag discussed the grants that she is waiting on with the Commissioners.

Ms. Schrag submitted a copy of an article that the Center for Infrastructure & Economic Development that is titled "Kingman County, KS Uses Millions in Wind Farm Revenue to Protect Citizens".

Commissioners were concerned with the information in the article not being factual.

Ms. Schrag said she would email the Center about the false information in the article.

Ms. Schrag left the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

10:08 a.m. Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director was in to discuss the residential rezone that the Planning/Zoning Board declined it.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers approved the recommendation by the Zoning Board to deny case KZ-23-001 Agricultural District(A-1) to (R-R) Rural Residential District. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session at 10:16 a.m. with Stan Goetz, HR and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of non-elected personnel matters of nonelected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:21 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to open session at 10:21 a.m. with no decision made.

10:21 a.m. LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer was in to review March financials with the County Commissioners.

Ms. Stegman let you know that the LATCF funds received will be a total of \$100,000.00 and could be used for excess charges towards the tower if needed.

Ms. Stegman left the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

10:36 a.m. Sheriff Wood, Undersheriff Hillman and Macay Ewy were in with updates.

Sheriff Wood presented the monthly department report for March.

Undersheriff Hillman presented the KSFibernet quote and AT & T quote for fiber to the tower.

Commissioners would like to have the contracts for KSFibernet and AT & T to review the inclusions.

Mr. Ewy said that he will see what a 60 month contract would be from AT & T.

Mr. Ewy, Sheriff Wood and Undersheriff Hillman left the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

10:51 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with the old plans for the Hwy 54 bypass for the Commissioners to look at.

Mr. Arensdorf gave an update on FAS #12 that there was some cracks in the tining so they want to seal it before it is finalized.

Mr. Arensdorf gave an update on Bridge X.0-21.2 that is done and application will be submitted to the state for reimbursement.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that the shoulder project North of Cunningham has begun.

Mr. Arensdorf has picked up the Emergency Management pickup and wanted to know what kind of reimbursement they want for the vehicle.

Commissioners said whatever he sells his used 1997 pickup for can be put towards the Emergency Vehicle Pickup.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the April 10, 2023 Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:30 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.