

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE CITY & COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ON March 16, 2017

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the North Room, Kingman County Expo Center, Kingman, Kansas on March 16, 2017. Those present:

John Steffen, Chairman  
Jerry Henning, Commissioner  
Fred Foley, Commissioner  
Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Visitors: Cletus Ast; Mark Arensdorf, Kingman City Commissioner; Stan Hacker, Kingman City Commissioner; Merlin McFarland, Kingman City Commissioner; Charlus Bishop, Kingman City Commissioner; Carol Voran, Donna Hardesty; Gayle Dye; Larry Landwehr; Jason Jump, Kingman Leader-Courier; Jim Rowland, Kingman Economic Development Director; Dolores Henning; DeAnna Gerhardt; Tina Watts; Keith Baringer; Kelly Wood; Carolyn Brown; Kirk Brown; Carol Young; David Lux; Michael C. Buss and Elizabeth Madden.

Staff: Nancy Borst, Communications Coordinator; Mendy Frampton, Kingman Expo Center Director; Steven Ramsey; Community Service Director; Brandon T. Ritcha; Assistant County Attorney; and Mark Schnittker, Courthouse Maintenance.

Chairman Steffen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all in attendance.

Chairman Steffen asked for approval of the agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Foley seconded. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Steffen asked if there was any public comment. Cletus with HYRA and Larry Landwehr asked to speak.

Cletus Ast let the commissions know that their attendance doubled this year for HYRA. Mr. Ast let the Commissioners know that what they are doing with the outdoor arena and the Expo Center is good and they are wonderful to work with. Hopefully their HYRA membership will grow next year as it did this year.

Larry Landwehr let the Commission know that the indoor and outdoor arenas look great. He would like to see the City and County work together.

Chairman Steffen thanked Mr. Ast and Mr. Landwehr for their comments.

Chairman Steffen asked the Commission what to do think of option #1 of the paperwork that was sent to them before the meeting to review.

Commissioner Hacker asked why would we lease the saddle & ropers building when we helped pay 50% of the building and let the County use the outdoor arena.

Commissioner Henning said he didn't know why they were not getting along with the City because the City bends over backwards for the County. If the city wasn't getting along then we would not be able to have parking by the Expo Center as the land belongs to the City.

Commissioner Arensdorf believed that there was some merit to option #1.

Chairman Steffen discussed the wording of option #1 and asked if the outdoor arena received a grant from the USDA.

Emily Graf let the Commissioners know that yes a grant was received for the arena.

Chairman Steffen said that he felt like things seem to be working out good between the City and the County.

City Commissioner McFarland said that things need to be booked and make sure that the mess made is cleaned up.

Commissioner Foley said he pretty much agreed with everyone. Mr. Foley felt that maybe a county representative could be on the committee and they needed to get things settled. The indoor and outdoor facilities need to be used to better the community.

City Commissioner Bishop was glad that he received the paperwork that showed someone has been thinking and working towards getting things figured out.

Chairman Steffen let the Commissioners know that Mendy Frampton had put the options together and has been working hard to get things done here at the Expo Center.

Chairman Steffen asked the Commissioners if they would like to discuss management of the Expo Center and outdoor arena. Then Mr. Steffen let everyone know that just because we discuss it doesn't mean it will happen.

City Commissioner Hacker discussed option#3 and if they would have a website that could see the facilities and their availability at once.

Commissioner Henning said he has voiced several times that the outdoor arena being run by a committee saves on the expense of running costs.

The City Commissioners said that they are under a contract with the Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce for one year for the Armory.

City Commissioner Arensdorf asked how many tax dollars should we put out to make a facility run. Also, a website to confirm bookings would be good.

Chairman Steffen would like for Mendy to talk with the Committee and one or two of the Commissioners.

City Mayor McFarland said that they need to figure out what is to be done and treat each facility the same. If renting stalls under the lean-to they need to keep them cleaned up. Mr. McFarland would like to get this worked out, get it branded and get it promoted.

Commissioner Foley said "so what's the next step?"

City Mayor McFarland said they should work with the committee and the management.

City Commissioner Bishop does not want to say how the facility should be run. Mr. Bishop said that the customers should be asked how we can do a better job. User input is needed to improve the bottom line.

Chairman Steffen asked if we they had landed anywhere.

City Commissioner Hacker said Mr. Wood, the committee and Ms. Frampton have been communicating.

City Commissioner Arensdorf said we need to make the booking easier and start with the marketing.

Mr. Wood let the Commissions know that he and Mendy have always gotten along. Booking needs to be done with one phone call to make it easier for the customer.

Ms. Frampton let the Commission know that she would be glad to be the central booking person and make contact with Mr. Wood, Committee and Emily Clouse.

City Commissioner Hacker said that they would need to talk about it at their next meeting.

Mr. Cletus asked if the City could possible get a set of rules for the outdoor arena and thanked the City and County for everything.

Chairman Steffen began the discussion of the Kingman EMS contract draft for 2018.

City Commissioner Bishop said to sign the contract and they will continue to do great service.

Zachary Bieghler, Kingman EMS Director said that the contract is a draft and is not finalized yet but the county share will not change much. Mr. Bieghler let the Commission know to remember that they were not fully staffed last year and are currently fully staffed.

Commissioner Steffen was concerned about the tax lid.

Ms. Clouse let the Commissions know that the Kingman EMS is exempt from the tax lid except for any building.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Foley moved to adjourn the special board meeting at 7:57 p.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.