

February 1, 2021

The Board of Ellis County Commissioners met in regular session at 5:00 pm Monday, February 1, 2021, in the Commission Chambers, at the Administration Center, 718 Main Street, Hays, Kansas. Chair Robert "Butch" Schlyer called the meeting to order. Commissioners present: Chair Robert "Butch" Schlyer and Commissioner Neal Younger and Commissioner Dean F Haselhorst. Also present were Interim County Administrator Darin Myers, County Counselor Bill Jeter, and County Clerk Bobbi L Dreiling. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

One executive session.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

Chair Schlyer asked for any changes to the draft minutes of January 18, 2021. No changes were given, the draft minutes were approved as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: _____ **Haselhorst** _____ **Second** _____ **Younger** _____

To approve the Consent Agenda items A-G as presented, including the following:

Payment Voucher Claims

- Payment Voucher Claims dated February 2, 2021 for \$367,844.32
- Payment Voucher Claims for credit card purchased dated January 22, 2021 for \$105,52,75
- Payment Voucher Claims for Solid Waste dated January 19, 2021 for \$18,516.54
- Payment Voucher Claims for the credit card charges for solid waste dated January 19, 2021 for \$331.93
- Payroll #2 dated January 29, 2021 for \$417,669.63
- Payment Voucher for February Health Insurance dated January 29, 2021 for \$186,401,99

Tax Adjustments

Tax roll adjustment number 202100005. Void 2021000041.

Disposition: _____ **Motion was carried by a voice vote of three to zero**

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

None

COVID-19 UPDATE

Health Services Director Jason Kennedy gave an update on COVID-19. Vaccine clinic is going very well. Last week was their first week to give vaccines. They received a Sunflower Grant for \$5000 that will be used to cover the rent for three months. Schlyer commented he had received an email from a citizen with a complaint of snow removal at the site. Kennedy stated snow was cleared in front of the building and all access points.

NOXIOUS WEED PROGRESS REPORT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Weed Control Supervisor Director Gary Haas presented the Annual Noxious Weed Management Plan for 2021 and the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress report for 2020. The Noxious Weed Eradication report is submitted annually and includes a financial summary, weed survey, acres of herbicide treatments, herbicide disbursement summary, and an enforcement summary. 6400 acres of county right-of-way and county properties, 1640 acres of State right-of-way and their service yards and 202 acres for the City of Hays and their service yards were sprayed in 2020. The Noxious Weed Management Plan for 2021 has minimal changes but does now include treatment for sericea lespedeza. There were 20 acres of sericea lespedeza that were sprayed last year.

Motion: _____ **Younger** _____ **Second** _____ **Haselhorst** _____

To accept and sign the Annual Noxious Weed Management Plan for 2021 and the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress report for 2020 .

Disposition: _____ **Motion was carried by a voice vote of three to zero**

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BUILDING

Interim County Administrator Darin Myers, Environmental Supervisor Mason Ruder and Landfill Foreman Vern Ruder gave an update on the Environmental Services building. RFP's were put out to build the new Environmental Services building. Sealed bids have come in. Younger commented on getting a button for handicap access to the building and would like to see that added as a change order on the bid.

Motion: _____ **Schlyer** _____ **Second** _____ **Younger** _____

Accept the low bid from Haselhorst Builders for \$173,000 for constructing a 1500 sq. ft. office building to house Environmental Services offices.

Disposition: _____ **Motion was carried by a voice vote of three to zero**

RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION, NW BUSINESS CORRIDOR

Interim County Administrator Darin Myers discussed the right-of-way acquisition for the NW Business Corridor. Driggs Design Group with Land Acquisitions Inc. will work with local property owners along the project to purchase smaller parcels of land.

Motion: Haselhorst Second Younger

Allow Buck Driggs Design Group in conjunction with Land Acquisitions Inc. to negotiate the right-of-way acquisition for parcels needed to complete the NW Business Corridor project.

Disposition: Motion was carried by a voice vote of three to zero

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN APPROVAL

Interim County Administrator Darin Myers discussed the Hazard Mitigation Plan which helps local jurisdictions complete different risk assessments throughout their region to help reduce the loss of life and property. The plan helps agencies assess their infrastructure through mitigation efforts in making improvements to decrease the impact of the next disaster.

Motion: SCHYLER Second Younger

Approve Ellis County Resolution 2021-02 accepting the new Ellis County Hazard Mitigation Plan

RESOLUTION 20 21-02

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Adopting the Kansas Homeland Security Region B Hazard Mitigation Plan

WHEREAS, the Ellis County Board of Commissioners recognizes the threat natural hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

WHEREAS, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“Disaster Mitigation Act”) emphasizing the need for pre-disaster mitigation of potential hazards;

WHEREAS, the Disaster Mitigation Act made available hazard mitigation grants to state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, an adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and

WHEREAS, Ellis County fully participated in the FEMA prescribed mitigation planning process to prepare this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Division of Emergency Management and FEMA Region VII officials have reviewed the Kansas Homeland Security Region B Hazard Mitigation Plan, and approved it contingent upon this official adoption of the participating governing body; and

WHEREAS, Ellis County desires to comply with the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act and to augment its emergency planning efforts by formally adopting the Kansas Homeland Security Region B Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, adoption by the governing body of Ellis County demonstrates the jurisdictions’ commitment to fulfilling the mitigation goals and objectives outlined in this plan, and

WHEREAS, adoption of this legitimizes the plan and authorizes responsible agencies to carry out their responsibilities under the plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ELLIS COUNTY, KANSAS, adopts the Kansas Homeland Security Region B Hazard Mitigation Plan as an official plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Ellis County Commissioners will submit this Adoption Resolution to the Kansas Division of Emergency Management and FEMA Region VII officials to enable the plan’s final approval.

Dated this 1st day of February 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS

Robert “Butch”

Schlyer, Chair

Dean F.

Haselhorst, Commissioner

Neal

Younger, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Bobbi L Dreiling, County Clerk

Disposition: Motion was carried by a voice vote of three to zero

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Interim County Administrator Darin Myers discussed Cathedral Road in Victoria regarding the scope and costs of the project. Received the contract from Ben Moore Studio on the roof design on the LEC. It was sent to County Counselor Jeter for review. Discussed the annual meeting at Colby for Little KAC that is April 21st. Ellis County is hosting it this year. He is asking the Commissioners who is attending as usually a Commissioner from the hosting county attends. The Commissioner Chair, or another Commissioner is the lead spokesperson to introduce the attending legislators.

COUNTY COMMISSION REPORTS

Haselhorst stated he went to Bill Ring’s retirement. Younger noted all the volunteer firefighters that were on the APLT40 report to be paid, and how he appreciates the number of individuals who are firefighters and help keep Ellis County safe. Schlyer had no report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Haselhorst **Second:** Schlyer

To recess into Executive Session under the following exception to the Kansas Open Meeting Act pursuant to a non-elected personnel matter with the subject to be discussed during executive session is on an employee personnel matter to include Commissioners, County Counselor Bill Jeter and Interim County Administrator Darin Myers.

Disposition: Motion passed by a voice vote of three to zero.

The Executive Session started at 5:35 pm
The Open Session resumed at 5:45 pm with no action taken.

COUNTY ATTORNEY PROJECTS

County Attorney Robert Anderson presented to the Commission his proposed operations of his office. He discussed his three funds that are available to him to operate from. His plan is to shift funds that are used to pay for office supplies, mileage and other like items from his budgeted fund to Fund 75. Upon freeing up these funds he will be able to hire a fifth full-time legal assistant. This will be able to be accomplished without any additional funds and not go over budget. He further discussed his need to upgrade his office furniture. The commissioners appreciated Anderson’s good communication and was asked to come back in 60 days to update them on his progress.

ISSUES FROM PEOPLE NOT ON THE AGENDA

Gene Chrysler approached the Commission on a four mile stretch of road in the NE corner of the County. He proposed he would donate rock to use on the four miles. Commissioners will address this with Public Works Director Brendan Mackay.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Schlyer adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 8, 2021, Administrative Center, Commission Chambers, 718 Main Street, Hays, Kansas.

BOARD OF ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ROBERT “BUTCH” SCHLYER, CHAIR

NEAL YOUNGER, COMMISSIONER

DEAN F HASELHORST, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

BOBBI L DREILING
ELLIS COUNTY CLERK