

February 16, 2023

The Board of Ellis County Commissioners met in Special Session for a Commission Retreat at 9:00 am, Thursday, February 16, 2023 at the Rolling Hills Zoo in Salina Kansas. Chair Younger called the meeting to order at 9:01 am. Commissioners present were: Chair Neal Younger, Commissioner Nathan Leiker and Commissioner Michael Berges.

Also present was County Administrator Darin Myers, County Clerk Bobbi L. Dreiling, Public Works Director Brenda Mackay, EMS Director Danita Schroeder, IT Director Mike Leiker, HR Coordinator Jennifer Taylor, Health Director Kim Reel, Treasurer Vern Ruder, Deputy Appraiser Eugene Rupp and Sheriff Scott Braun.

Presenters and facilitators for the Commission Retreat were Seth Bate and Cy Rogers with Community Engagement Institute of Wichita State University.

There were several discussions had throughout the retreat that included the following:

- Action Plan for county roads and communication with the public on future work on the roads.
- Having two in-service days throughout the year instead of one.
- Maintenance on the buildings that we have now, and future buildings and the sustainability of them in the future.
- The budget and working on ways to sustain what we have and also putting back dollars into reserves in the event of a major crisis.
- Progression and succession planning for our workforce.
- Finding ways to get grants and administration of them; hiring a grant writer to help with this process.
- If grants do become available that are in large dollar amounts it was discussed about outsourcing some of the work.
- Planning for the future needs to be a priority.
- Each department discussed what their goals are.
- Commissioners discussed their goals.

Broke for lunch at 12:20 pm. Reconvened at 1:05 pm.

Discussions that were had in the afternoon were:

- The future of Ellis County and how we can get there.
- How to keep the lines of communication open.
- Keep looking at and utilizing the strategic plan, and, updating it as we are able to accomplish items on it.
- What we are committing to the organization, community and history of Ellis County.

Meeting adjourned at 3:31 pm.

BOARD OF ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

NEAL YOUNGER COMMISSIONER CHAIR

ATTEST:

BOBBI L. DREILING, ELLIS COUNTY CLERK

MICHAEL BERGES, COMMISSIONER

NATHAN LEIKER, COMMISSIONER