October 7, 2013

The Board of Ellis County Commissioners met in regular session at 6:45 p.m.,
Monday, October 7, 2013, in the Commission Chambers at the Courthouse, 1204 Fort
Street, Hays, Kansas.

Chair Dean F. Haselhorst opened the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

The meeting opened with everyone standing and saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Haselhorst asked the County Clerk to take roll.

County Clerk Maskus called the roll:

Commissioner Swede Holmgren, present
Commissioner Barbara K. Wasinger, present
Chair Dean F. Haselhorst, present

It was noted that a quorum was present.

Also present were County Administrator Greg Sund and County Clerk Donna J.

Maskus.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Wasinger Second: Holmgren

To approve the agenda as submitted.

Disposition: Motion carried on a voice vote of three to zero.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

Motion: Holmgren Second: Haselhorst

To approve the County Commission Minutes of September 16, 2013, as
presented.

Disposition: Motion carried on a voice vote of three to zero.

CONSENT AGENDA

To approve the Consent Agenda including the following:

Personnel Appointment

Zane A. Hesting, Community Corrections Office, Surveillance Officer, Fund 37 at
90% and Fund 39 at 10%, $12.00 salary per hour, part-time position, effective September
15, 2013.

Christopher E. Scheidegger, Community Corrections Office, Surveillance Officer,
Fund 37 at 90% and Fund 39 at 10%, $12.00 salary per hour, part-time position, effective
September 15, 2013.
Change of Employee Status

Nathanuie McDermott, Community Corrections Office, resignation effective September 15, 2013.

Janet L. Giersch, Court Trustee Office, employment ended due to change in state child support contract effective September 28, 2013.

Kristie A. Haynes, Court Trustee Office, full-time to part-time classified position, twenty hours per week, salary from $15.43 to $8.65 per hour, effective September 28, 2013.

Lee A. Fisher, Court Trustee Office, full-time to part-time classified position, twenty hours per week, $8.65 per hour, effective September 28, 2013.

Sherry S. Fisher, Court Trustee Office, employment ended due to change in state child support contract effective September 28, 2013.

Kerry L. Wasinger, Court Trustee Office, full-time to part-time classified position, twenty hours per week, $8.65 per hour, effective September 28, 2013.

Adam Comeau, EMS, part-time to full time position, Range 25, Step 2 at $10.38 to $8.97 per hour, effective September 29, 2013.

Brent Rouse, EMS, full-time to part-time position, Range 31, Step 2 at $11.99 per hour to $13.91 per hour, effective October 13, 2013.

Ryan Werth, EMS, full time to part-time position, Range 31, Step 2 at $11.99 per hour to $13.91 per hour, effective October 13, 2013.

Michael J. Garrison, Noxious Weed Department, resignation effective October 1, 2013.

Account Payment Claims

Re-issue checks due to check stock on voucher claims dated September 24, 2013 at $15,977.40.

Re-issue checks due to check stock on voucher claims dated September 24, 2013 at $13,793.54.


Health Insurance Claims dated September 30, 2013 at $195,973.32.

Re-issue checks due to check stock on voucher claims dated October 2, 2013 at $10,000.00
Re-issue checks due to check stock on voucher claims dated October 2, 2013 at $9,850.35.

Re-issue checks due to check stock on voucher claims dated October 2, 2013 at $9,012.19.

Re-issue checks due to check stock on voucher claims dated October 2, 2013 at $1,973.18.

Special Voucher Claims on Rural Water District Number 1C dated October 3, 2013 at $20.39.

Voucher Claims dated October 8, 2013 at $483,429.59.

Payroll Claims

Payroll Register dated September 20, 2013 in the amount of $150,744.65 for payroll deductions and $207,653.42 for payroll claims.

Payroll Register dated October 4, 2013 in the amount of $140,666.67 for payroll deductions and $199,375.15 for payroll claims.

Approval of RWD 1C KANSTEP Project Payment Request Number 9

Payment request Number 9 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Number 12-ST-003 at $40,000, for the Rural Water District Number 1C.

Approval of KCAMP Amended Bylaws and Inter local Agreement

Approve the KCAMP amended bylaws and Inter-local Agreement as presented.

Purchase Order

Purchase Order Number 7113 to Computer Cop, Sheriff’s Department, on internet monitoring software at $3,000.

Disposition: Motion carried on a voice vote of three to zero.

REGULAR AGENDA

COUNTY TREASURER OATH OF OFFICE

County Clerk/Election Officer Donna J. Maskus administered the Oath of Office to Ann Pfeifer as the Ellis County Treasurer, effective October 8, 2013. Pfeifer is the County’s first female Treasurer elected to the office in Ellis County per the Ellis County Historical Society.

COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE REPORT – SUSAN SCHLICHTING
Ellis County Extension Agent Schlichting updated the Commissioners on current activities with the Extension Office including activities during National 4-H Week with maps and apps activities with geo spatial map design with youth in Hays, Ellis, and Victoria; 4-H Week coloring contest, displays on 4-H activities and projects, 4-H outreach programs in “clowning around” in Ellis and Hays; and youth from the area participated in the Northwest Kansas Youth Forum held in Hays with the keynote speaker former Ellis County 4-Her Chelsey Smith. Agent Schlichting invited Commissioners to attend the upcoming 4-H Achievement Banquet to help celebrate the success of Ellis County 4-H Members. Agent Schlichting reported on the upcoming Extension Programs including aging concerns, real estate, and fraud protection/cyber security.

APPRAISER – DEAN DENNING LETTER OF RETIREMENT

County Appraiser Dean Denning announced that he will be retiring December, 2013, with almost 25 years of service as Ellis County Appraiser. Denning stated that he has had the pleasure to work with 15 Ellis County Commissioners over his years. Mr. Denning highlighted several experiences in his years as Ellis County Appraiser.

Commissioners thanked Appraiser Denning for his years of service to Ellis County.

PUBLIC WORKS

HIGHWAY 40 EAST PROJECT

County Administrator Sund stated that Public Works Director Mike Graf had advertised bids for the Highway 40 East Project. The bids will be opened on October 23, 2013, with plans for the bids to be awarded in November.

NORTHWEST KANSAS COUNTY OFFICIALS MEETING

The Northwest Kansas County Officials Meeting will be held in Lebanon, Smith County, October 16, 2013, with Commissioner Wasinger, Public Works Director Mike Graf, and County Administrator Sund planning to attend the meeting.

OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGE FUNDING AWARD

County Administrator Sund announced that Ellis County has been awarded a State 2015 Off-System Bridge Funding Grant for a bridge located southwest of Antonino. This Ellis County award of nearly $1 million dollars is part of $8.2 million for the 2015 awarded statewide for 2015 projects.
FENCE VIEWING

Commissioners Holmgren and Haselhorst along with Public Works Director Mike Graf had been appointed to the fence viewing committee to address the complaint filed by Robert Boardman. It was noted the County needs to set a date and time for the fence viewing committee to meet at the site. Notice must be sent to the parties. The viewing was set for Wednesday, October 16, 2:00 p.m., at the site.

KIRKHAM MICHAEL CLIENT APPRECIATION DINNER AT KAC CONFERENCE

Commissioners Holmgren and Haselhorst, Public Works Director Graf, and County Administrator Sund will be attending the Kirkham Michael Client Appreciation Dinner during the KAC Conference.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

AUGUST EMS ACTIVITY REPORT

EMS Director McCue presented the EMS August Activity Report. There were 184 patient transports and $83,976.05 fees collected. McCue explained that the State Set-off Program has been better in collecting delinquent payments through the State’s tax refund program than having collection agencies; for this reason, EMS uses the State Set-Off Program.

RATE INCREASES

Emergency Medical Services Director (EMS) Kerry McCue stated that ambulance rates have not changed since 2009 in Ellis County. McCue found current EMS charges are lower than the surrounding counties. He said it is important to keep EMS rates comparable so providers do not shop around. In addition, they need to be reasonable to insure that write-offs do not increase.

McCue proposed the following rate increases to the current ambulance services:

- Basic Life Support non-emergency: $375 to $450
- BLS Emergency: $450 to $500
- Advanced Life Support (ALS) Level 1: $375 to $550
- Advanced Life Support (ALS) Emergency 1: $550 to $650
- Advanced Life Support (ALS) Level 2: $650 to $750
- Special Care: $750 to $950
- Mileage reimbursement: $10 to $15
- Half-hour wait time: $20 to $50
- Drug Administration, plus drug cost: $50 to $175
- Non-profit ambulance stand-bys (at a high school game, for instance) from $90 to $125 for the first 4 hours and $50 an hour after the 4 hours
- Ambulance standbys for a profit location: $125 total to $75 per hour
McCue noted that they have added being on stand-by at the soccer and wrestling events, as they also cover the races held at the Ellis County Speedway.

Motion: Holmgren
Second: Wasinger

To approve the proposed EMS rates effective January 1, 2014.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH

ACTIVITY REPORT – AUGUST, 2013

The Commissioners reviewed the August Health Department Report. It was noted that 68 flu vaccines had been given through the County Health Department through August.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

COUNTY COUNSELOR MEETING ATTENDANCE

Sund noted that County Counselor Bill Jeter has not had an increase in fees since 2002. Sund said in addressing the desire to have Mr. Jeter attend Commission Meetings, it opens the door to a discussion of rates. Mr. Jeter proposed two options; an inclusive retainer or continuing the current hourly charges with an increase in hourly fee rate. The retainer would include his attendance at County Commission Meetings. Currently County Counselor Jeter has a conflict with the current Commission Meeting dates and a time. Therefore, the Commission may need to consider setting a new meeting date and/or time.

Commissioners do agree that they would like to have County Counselor Bill Jeter present at their meetings. No decision was made at this time.

COURTHOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC DESIGNATION

Treanor Architects had asked if the Commission wish to nominate the Ellis County Courthouse to the National Register of Historic Places. If approved then Kansas Tax Credits could be earned and then sold to an income producing entity. Past history has show a return of $0.85 to $0.87 returned on the dollar of the project cost by selling tax credits.

Commissioners were concerned with the requirements that would come with a National Historic Register designation. Sund said he will seek more information. No action was taken.
Commissioners did review the Midwest Energy 2013 Official Ballot in voting for District 1, District 3, and District 5 Board of Directors.

Motion: Holmgren  Second: Haselhorst

To vote for Lon Frahm, District 1; Keith Miller, District 3; and John Blackwell, District 5.

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

REIMBURSED EXPENDITURES

County Administrator Sund discussed that when the County’s Auditors presented the 2012 Audit in July, they changed the accounting for reimbursements. Sund said this has caused major concerns among department heads because it reverses many years of historic practice and may lead to not having sufficient budget dollars to operate for the entire year since some departments use reimbursable revenue dollars to help their budgets. In addition, without ability to plan for this change in practice, the County will need to use Contingency dollars to support budgets through 2014. Therefore, County Administrator Sund has asked if dollars in the emergency contingency could be used to help County Budgets work through these two budget years.

A meeting is scheduled with County Departments and the auditors to discuss the change in how some revenues are handled in the County Budgets. Sund said he will have more information on this subject in the near future.

RADIO UPGRADE PROJECT BILL

Sund presented a bill for $31,553.70 from Nex-Tech for work on the radio system since completion of the re-banding project. He said they created new templates and installed encryption; the set-up on additional radios was not included in the re-banding project.

Commissioners Wasinger asked that the entire bill not be paid until the services are completed.

Commissioner Haselhorst asked “When will the project be completed”?
ICMA CONFERENCE

County Administrator Sund reported on the ICMA Conference that he had attended. Sund stated that the conference was really good with several keynote speakers that were excellent.

KLPG MEETING

County Administrator Sund reported on the KLPG Meeting that he had attended with water issues; endanger species, housing issues and oil and gas depletion discussed.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SELECTION PROCESS

County Administrator Sund announced that five firms submitted proposals on the construction manager at risk selection process.

Commissioners expressed that hiring a construction manager is not a good use of tax dollars.

Motion: Wasinger  Second: Holmgren

To withdraw from seeking a Project Construction Manager for the Courthouse, Law Enforcement Center and Emergency Medical Services/Rural Fire Projects.

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

COMMISSION TABLE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

County Administrator Sund asked for input from the Commission on the table needs for the Administrative Center, 718 Main Building Project. They want to consider the needs of the ten member Zoning Board which would meet at this location, and the needs of the County Commission. Commissioners would like to see some options and prices on some table arrangements.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – AUGUST 2013

No comments were given on the August 2013 Financial Report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Holmgren  Second: Wasinger

To go into Executive Session at 8:37 p.m., to not exceed 15 minutes to continue discussion not involving an elected official.

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

The Open Meeting resumed at 8:52 p.m. with no action taken.

COUNTY COMMISSION
Commissioner Holmgren and County Administrator Sund will be attending the Governor's Water Conference on October 24 and 25, 2013.

Commissioner Chair Haselhorst and Holmgren will be attending the KAC Conference on October 29 through 31, 2013.

ADJOURN

Motion: Wasinger Second: Holmgren

To adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

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

The next schedule meeting is set for Monday, October 14, 2013, at 6:45 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at the Courthouse, Hays, Kansas.

BOARD OF ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DEAN F. HASELHORST, CHAIRMAN

BARBARA K. WASINGER, COMMISSIONER

SWEP DE HOLMGREN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

DONNA J. MASKUS, COUNTY CLERK