

MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
October 5, 2020

October 5, 2020
Regular Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Commissioner Kueser - Absent

Chairman Becker opened the regular meeting at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Kueser was absent. Commissioner Loomis made a motion to approve the agenda for October 5, 2020. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.**

During Public Input at 9:00 a.m., Sheriff Montagne updated Commissioners on jail counts and department activities. Sheriff Montagne also requested approval to replace the failing water softener system at the Law Enforcement Center. Following discussion, Commissioner Loomis made a motion to approve the purchase of a new system from Culligan at a cost of \$14,000. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:10 a.m., Jeff Butler, IT Coordinator, joined the meeting to discuss proposals from Hopp's Sound, for AV technology upgrades to the Courthouse Main Courtroom (total cost \$71,598.77), Magistrate Courtroom (total cost \$64,489.70), and the County Building Commission Meeting Room (total cost \$88,111.49). Following discussion and a review of bids, Commissioner Loomis made a motion to suspend the County's purchasing guidelines in obtaining additional bids due to the CARES Act Funding deadline, and approve the upgrades as presented. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:25 a.m. Lorna Nelson, Old Mill Museum Director, joined the meeting to request to fill the vacant Assist Clerk position at the Old Mill Museum. Following discussion, it was a consensus among Commissioners to delay the decision for one week and obtain additional information regarding the 501(c) 3 status of the museum.

At 9:35 a.m. Becky Goss, McPherson Community Foundation, joined the meeting to discuss SPARK Fund grant applications regarding loss of income for McPherson County small businesses (max of \$10,000) and nonprofit organizations (max of \$25,000). Following discussion, Commissioner Loomis made a motion to allow the Community Foundation to administer the SPARK Funding grants, with a deadline for applications of November 30, 2020 and to amend the total amounts available for allocation to nonprofits to \$200,000, small businesses to \$300,000, allocations of \$88,000 toward rent/utility subsidy, and \$50,000 toward childcare for individual clients and childcare facilities. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:52 a.m. Tom Kramer, Public Works Director, joined the meeting to request approval to fabricate a stainless-steel scrubber for the Asphalt Plant. Following discussion, Commissioner Loomis made a motion to approve the fabrication bid from Welco Services, Inc. for a total cost not to exceed \$45,000. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:00 a.m., Shalei Shea, Health Department Director, joined the meeting and updated Commissioners regarding current COVID-19 cases within the County. At 10:05 a.m., Ms. Shea requested fifteen (15) minutes in executive session, including Rick Witte, County Administrator/Financial Manager, to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Loomis made a motion to go into executive session as requested. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye. No action was taken in executive session.**

Commissioner Loomis made a motion for the Chairman to sign a Personnel Change Notice (PCN) on behalf of the Treasurer for a correction to the hourly wage of Michelle Hett, MVL Clerk, effective September 20, 2020. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner Loomis made a motion to approve accounts payable for October 5, 2020 and payroll for pay period ending October 3, 2020. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.**

Mr. Witte presented information and his recommendation regarding options for the 2021 County BCBSKS medical/dental plans. Following discussion, Commissioner Loomis made a motion to approve the recommendation to continue with the current "Grandfathered Plan" policy, with an approximate 5% premium increase for employees as well as the County. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:50 a.m., Commissioner Loomis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.**

Minutes prepared by Abbey Heidebrecht

Keith Becker, Chairman

Ron Loomis, Vice Chairman

ABSENT

Thomas L. Kueser, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Hollie D. Melroy, County Clerk