

MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
August 30, 2021

August 30, 2021

9:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

All Present

5:30 p.m. North Central Regional County Commission Meeting, Clay Center, KS

Chairman Becker and Commissioner Kueser - Present

Commissioner O'Dell - Absent

At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Becker opened the regular meeting. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the agenda as presented for August 30, 2021. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.** Commissioner Kueser amended his motion to approve the agenda with the following additions: Sheriff's Department, Non-elected Personnel; CDBG Environmental Review and Release of Funds Documents for Signature; and Additional Truck Purchase for Public Works. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

During Public Input at 9:02 a.m., Sheriff Jerry Montagne joined the meeting and updated Commissioners on the current jail counts and recent department activities. Sheriff Montagne then requested approval of a Personnel Change Notice (PCN) for the promotion of Trey Schmidt to Corporal Correctional Officer, effective September 5, 2021 to fill a vacancy. Commissioner Kueser made a motion for the Chairman to sign the PCN as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:07 a.m., Shalei Shea, Health Department Director, joined the meeting to present updates, and to answer questions regarding the current COVID 19 case rates, and vaccinations.

At 9:45 a.m., Chairman Becker opened the public hearing and read proposed Resolution 2021-23, which states that McPherson County will exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate in its property tax levy for the tax year of 2021 (30.329 mills) to fund the 2022 Budget. No one spoke during public comment. Chairman Becker closed the public hearing. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-23 as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **Chairman Becker voted aye. Commissioner Kueser voted aye. Commissioner O'Dell voted aye.** Following the resolution, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve and sign the 2022 Budget as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.** The County will levy \$15,244.093 from the 2021 tax.

Chairman Becker opened the next public hearing and read proposed Resolution 2021-24, which states that McPherson County will levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate for all McPherson County Rural Fire Districts to fund the 2022 Budgets for the County Fire Districts. No one spoke during public comment. Chairman Becker closed the public hearing. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve and sign Resolution 2021-24 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **Chairman Becker voted aye. Commissioner Kueser voted aye. Commissioner O'Dell voted aye.** Following the resolution, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve all Rural Fire District Budgets (RFD #1-#10) for 2022 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion for the Chairman to sign the following 2022 Budgets as presented: Soil Conservation District, County Extension Council, Fire District #10, and Unified 9th Judicial District/Courts. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:05 a.m., Janet Cagle, Director of Harvey/McPherson Counties Community Corrections, joined the meeting to request signature on the FY 2022 Total Adult Carryover Reimbursement Budget of \$60,476.04 and the FY2022 Total Juvenile Carryover Reimbursement Budget of \$11,706.96. Following discussion, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion for the Chairman to sign both documents as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the minutes for August 23, 2021, as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to appoint Chairman Becker as the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) voting delegate and to appoint Commissioner Kueser as the first alternate for the KAC Annual Conference to be held in October 2021. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to authorize the Chairman to approve checks and claims for September 6, 2021, and payroll for pay period ending September 4, 2021. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.** There will be no regular Commission meeting the week of September 6, 2021 due to the Labor Day Holiday.

At 10:20 a.m. Chairman Becker opened the public hearing for Planning & Zoning Case SD 2021-01; a request for signature on the Rainbow Run Subdivision final plat. Applicant/Developer, Kendra Anderson is requesting to change Lot #1 (34.12 acres) which is in the SE corner at the intersection of 23rd Avenue and Iron Horse Road, to residential, remaining in the Agricultural District. The Chairman asked John Verssue, Planning/Zoning/Environment Administrator, to review the background of the case including conditions and factors of findings. The case was approved by the Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals (BOPZA) at their August 16, 2021 meeting. There were no public comments made. Chairman Becker closed the public hearing. Following discussion, Commissioner Kueser made a motion to sign the final plat as requested. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:35 a.m., Chairman Becker opened the public hearing for Planning & Zoning Case SD 2021-02; a request for approval of preliminary and final plats of a small tract of Lone Tree Acres Subdivision. The applicant/property owner, Janson Investments, LLC along with their Agent, Nick Schmidt, Garber Surveying Services, are requesting approval of a small tract of land for one parcel for single family residential use. The property is located at an unaddressed agricultural location between 906 and 920 22nd Avenue. The Chairman asked Mr. Verssue to review the case including conditions, and factors of findings. The case was recommended for approval by a 5 to 1 vote of the BOPZA at their August 16, 2021 meeting. Mr. Schmidt shared additional information on behalf of the applicant/property owner. Several surrounding property owners shared their concerns, and requested the Commissioners deny approval of the case. Chairman Becker closed the public hearing and recused himself due to a conflict of interest. Vice Chairman O'Dell continued with the case. Following discussion, he reviewed options for Commission action. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to table Case SD 2021-02 for 90 days to consult with the County Counselor and obtain additional information. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **Vice Chairman O'Dell and Commissioner Kueser voted aye. Chairman Becker abstained.** The case will be rescheduled and placed on the County Commission agenda for 9:30 a.m. on November 29, 2021.

At 11:00 a.m. Claudio Faundez, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas representative joined the meeting for a Plan Review and discussion of options for Plan Renewal which begins coverage December 1, 2021. Mr. Faundez will return to a future meeting with proposals for the new plan year.

At 12:05 p.m., Tom Kramer, Public Works Director, joined the meeting with three (3) items:

- A. A request to approve the proposal from MKEC Engineering Inc. for an HVAC study for the Public Works Buildings. Following a review of the proposal, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve the study in an amount not to exceed \$3,600 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**
- B. A request for the following: the purchase of a 2023 tandem axle dump truck in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 and an estimated \$110,000 for accessories; a distributor truck and distributor in a total amount not to exceed \$247,000; and the conversion of truck #55 to a dump truck in an amount not to exceed \$130,000. Previous models will be sold at auction. Following discussion, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve all purchases as requested. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**
- C. A request to approve a PCN to end the introductory period for James Henry, Maintenance Worker II, effective September 5, 2021. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion for the Chairman to sign the PCN as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioners held discussion regarding Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) options for McPherson County employees. Following discussion, Commissioner Kueser made a motion for all salaried and hourly County

employees to receive a COLA of 4%, effective the pay period beginning October 3, 2021. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to authorize Chairman Becker to sign the CDBG Environmental Review and Release of Funds Documents as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 1:25 p.m. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to recess and reconvene September 7, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. to attend the North Central Regional County Commission meeting in Clay Center, KS. At 7:20 p.m., Commissioner Kueser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Becker seconded. **All voted aye.** Commissioner O'Dell was absent from the regional meeting.

Minutes recorded by Abbey Heidebrecht

Keith Becker, Chairman

David O'Dell, Vice Chairman

Thomas L. Kueser, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Hollie D. Melroy, County Clerk