

MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2021

December 13, 2021

9:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

All Present

11:00 a.m. Meeting with State Senator and State Representatives

All Present

12:30 p.m. Work Session at Public Works

All Present

Chairman Becker opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Public Works Item A was postponed for a future meeting. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the agenda for December 13, 2021 as amended. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:05 a.m. during Public Input, Sheriff Jerry Montagne joined the meeting to update Commissioners on the current weekly jail count and department activities.

Ronn Peters also joined Public Input to report on the success of the Community Thanksgiving Dinner and to remind everyone that there will also be a Community Christmas Dinner on December 25, 2021. For information regarding the event please call 620-744-2760. To volunteer in assisting with setup, prep and serving, or cleanup, please call 620-755-0752.

Grant Owens, McPherson College student also joined Public Input with concerns regarding a current mask mandate at the college, and shared information regarding his position on mask effectiveness.

At 9:20 a.m., Wray Roofing representatives Jim Hollinger and Craig Helser joined the meeting to present a proposal for the May 26, 2021 storm damages to the roofing of County owned buildings. Commissioners discussed the insurance coverage relative to the roofing repair costs. Following a review of the proposal Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the repairs to County buildings as presented, except for the Infant Toddler Center, which will be excluded from repairs, and to add the TPO option to the Law Enforcement Center project. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.** The proposal will be adjusted to include the changes.

At 9:35 a.m., Rick Witte, County Administrator/Financial Manager presented a Proposed Amendment of the 2021 McPherson County Budget. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the Amendment as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:40 a.m., Julie McClure, Director of Emergency Management/Communications joined the meeting with two (2) items:

- A. A request to approve a quote from KA-COMM Inc. to purchase cabling and antennas for the signals involving towers located at the Law Enforcement Center, Lindsborg, and Moundridge. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve the request in an amount not to exceed \$20,264.62. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

- B. A request for signatures on a letter to the South-Central Region Homeland Security Council approving the appointment of Ms. McClure as the McPherson County Representative to the Council, and Tim Hawkinson to serve as the Alternate Representative, both for a two-year term. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to sign the letter as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve the minutes for December 6, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve accounts payable for December 13, 2021 and payroll for pay period ending December 11, 2021 as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve adds and abates for December 10, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Planning/Zoning Board appointments were recommended as follows: Glenda Taylor by Chairman Becker; Lori Bower by Commissioner O'Dell; and Kathy Nicholson as a re-appointment to the board by Commissioner Kueser. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the appointments as presented effective January 1, 2022. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:55 a.m., Tom Kramer, Public Works Director, joined the meeting with two (2) items (Item A is postponed):

- B. A request to fill a vacant Maintenance Worker position due to the upcoming retirement of Gary McBeath. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the request as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**
- C. A request to approve bids for the 2022 Roadway Maintenance Materials: aggregates and aggregate hauling, in estimated quantities (by unit prices) as presented. Following discussion of bids Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the request as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:15 a.m. TJ Wyssmann, McPherson City Fire Chief, joined the meeting with a request to install updated storm sirens at 14th Ave. and Pioneer Rd. in New Gottland Township. Following discussion, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve the request as presented in an amount not to exceed \$6,500. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 11:00 a.m., Chairman Becker introduced State Senator Rick Wilborn, and State Representatives Les Mason, Steven Johnson, and Stephen Owens. Each of the panel members were asked to report on the respective duties and interests of their offices, as well as current and upcoming legislative topics and proposed bills. City Officials and Administrators from McPherson County were also present and were given an opportunity to ask questions and share their ideas and concerns. Among the topics covered were redistricting in the house and senate, state budget, criminal justice reform, commerce and taxation including food/grocery tax, education budget, and COVID vaccine mandates.

At 12:10 a.m., Commissioner Kueser made a motion to recess and to reconvene directly to Public Works for a work session. At 3:21 p.m. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Minutes recorded by Abbey Heidebrecht

Keith Becker, Chairman

David O'Dell, Vice Chairman

Thomas L. Kueser, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Hollie D. Melroy, County Clerk