

MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
December 27, 2021

December 27, 2021

9:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

All Present

10:15 a.m. Work Session at Public Works Office (Planning/Zoning/Environment; Public Works)

All Present

Chairman Becker opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. One item was added to the agenda: Work Session with Public Works. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve the agenda for December 27, 2021, as amended. Commissioner Kueser 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.

Also, during Public Input, Ronn Peters, McPherson, reported on the Annual Community Christmas Dinner and thanked Commissioners who assisted with the event.

Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the minutes for December 20, 2021. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:07 a.m., Tom Kramer, Public Works Director, joined the meeting for discussion on recent truck purchases from Summit Truck Group (STG), due to a change in ownership of STG. Following discussion, it was a consensus among Commissioners to encumber the cost of the trucks utilizing the capital reserve fund unless the new ownership and truck supplier can be determined for year-end encumbrance.

Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve checks and claims, encumbrances, witness checks, and jury checks for December 27, 2021, and payroll for pay period ending December 25, 2021, as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve and sign Resolution #2021-32, designating the McPherson Sentinel as the Official County Newspaper effective January 1, 2022, as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **Chairman Becker voted aye. Commissioner Kueser voted aye. Commissioner O'Dell voted aye.**

Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve and sign Resolution #2021-33, designating depositories for County funds, effective January 1, 2022, as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **Chairman Becker voted aye. Commissioner Kueser voted aye. Commissioner O'Dell voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve and sign Resolution #2021-34, authorizing participation in the Rural Opportunity Zone Student Loan Repayment Program for the calendar year 2022; with McPherson County allocating zero dollars per year for the purpose of matching payments from the State of Kansas to qualified individuals. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **Chairman Becker voted aye. Commissioner Kueser voted aye. Commissioner O'Dell voted aye.**

Commissioner Kueser made a motion to sign a letter of support to Kansas Senator Richard Wilborn, regarding an amendment to the Newborn Infant Protection Act, Kansas State Statute #38-2282, as recommended by the McPherson City Fire Chief and Chaplain. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve adds and abates for December 24, 2021, as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:42 a.m., Brian Bina, County Counselor, joined the meeting and requested ten (10) minutes of executive session for attorney/client privilege to discuss ongoing litigation matters. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the request including Rick Witte, County Administrator/Financial Manager. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye. No action was taken in executive session.**

In open session, Counselor Bina requested approval on the Settlement and Release Agreement between the McPherson Board of County Commissioners (MBOCC) and Calder Brothers Corporation, as well as between MBOCC and the other party, Berry Companies, Inc., for the purpose of closing the case. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:55 a.m., Commissioner Kueser made a motion to recess and directly reconvene at the Public Works Offices for work sessions with Planning/Zoning/Environment, and Public Works. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 2:02 p.m., Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 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