

The Board of Brown County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Chairman Dwight A. Kruse, Keith Olsen, and Richard L. Lehmkuhl. Also present was Brown County Clerk, Melissa Gormley and Deputy County Clerk, Dawn Boyles. County Attorney Kevin Hill was present for a portion of the meeting via phone conference. Dwight Kruse opened the meeting at 8:10 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Pastor Jim Farris led the meeting with a prayer.

PAYROLL

The March 11, 2020, payroll was approved as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| General | \$76,359.19 |
| Road & Bridge | 15,846.89 |
| Election | 245.77 |
| Technology | 864.56 |
| Appraiser | 7,044.64 |
| Noxious Weed | 1,824.00 |
| ACC | 7,094.65 |
| JJA Core | 6,794.34 |
| Reinvestment Grant | 1,802.68 |
| Services for Elderly | 2,812.25 |
| Solid Waste | 4,236.00 |
| Special MVT | 2,990.90 |
| Employee Ben FICA | 8,107.09 |
| Employee Ben KPERS | 10,213.64 |
| State Unemploy/Work Comp | -336.74 |
| Insurance | -3,104.37 |
| TOTAL | \$142,795.49 |

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Brown County Sheriff, John Merchant, requested a 15 minute executive session. Motion by Keith Olsen for a 15 minute executive session on non-elected personnel with the three Commissioners and Brown County Sheriff, John Merchant, present to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel with executive session necessary to protect privacy interests. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Closed 8:11 a.m. Opened 8:26 a.m. No binding action was taken.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Brown County Emergency Management Coordinator, Don Pounds, updated the commission on the courses of action for the COVID 19 in Brown County. Pounds suggested the commission approve the COVID 19 Public Health Emergency Resolution. The resolution would allow 60 days rather than 7 days to work through the COVID 19.

SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY

Lori Gray, Services for the Elderly Director, discussed her concerns with keeping her office open during this time. The clients and the drivers for the Services for the Elderly fall into the high risk category for COVID 19. Gray reached out to the local hospital and the suggestion was to stop services until the end of March. Gray will contact the Area Agency on Aging and determine if there will be any available taxi services to the elderly in the county.

IT DEPARTMENT

Sandy Carter, IT Department Director, requested permission to start a Brown County Facebook page to have a social media platform to update the public on matters concerning the COVID 19 situation. Carter also let the commission know she has been working on a course of action should employees have to work from home.

COVID 19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RESOLUTION PROCLAMATION

Motion by Keith Olsen to approve the COVID 19 Public Health Emergency Resolution Proclamation effective March 16, 2020. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

TREASURER

Brown County Treasurer, Cheryl Lippold, updated the commission on the quarterly activities in her office. Lippold also presented the balances of the county accounts for the commission’s review.

APPRAISER

Brown County Appraiser, Steve Markharm, discussed the hearings his office is required to conduct and the deadlines. Markham is going to attempt to do as many as possible via phone. Markham also discussed putting off hiring a replacement for an opening in his office until a later date.

CUSTODIAN

Dave Schuetz, Head Custodian, discussed the electrical findings to allow electrical access around courthouse square. Schuetz indicated the vanity in the women’s bathroom on second floor needs replaced. Schuetz estimated the cost for the vanity replacement to be about \$1,000.

CUSTODIAN

Dave Schuetz, Head Custodian, presented the estimates for the sewer line repairs. The estimates were as follows: Eagle Sundown Services with an estimate of \$3,550; RB Plumbing & Carpentry with an estimate of \$3,119.50; and Waldinger Corporation with an estimate of \$5,488.00. Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl to approve Eagle Sundown Services bid of \$3,550.00. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Brown County Attorney, Kevin Hill, requested a five minute executive session via phone conference. Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl for a five minute Executive Session on Attorney Client Privilege to discuss legal matters with legal counsel, to protect the Boards privilege and communication with an attorney with County Attorney, Kevin Hill, County Clerk, Melissa Gormley, and the three commissioners present. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Closed 9:30 a.m. Opened 8:35 a.m. No binding action was taken.

RESOLUTION 2020-07

Motion by Keith Olsen to approve Resolution 2020-07, a resolution addressing delinquent ad valorem taxes of former Horton Hospital Property. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

NEKES

Logan Bausch and Martha Smith, North East Kansas Environmental Services, updated the Commission on the 2019 Brown County NEK Environmental Activities.

HIDC

Tim Lentz, Horton Industrial Development Committee Director, gave an update on the activities of the HIDC.

MINUTES

Motion by Keith Olsen to approve the March 9, 2020, minutes. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

COUNTY CLERK

Brown County Clerk, Melissa Gormley, announced the Road & Bridge meeting scheduled for March 17, 2020, at the Fisher Center, has been cancelled. Gormley also indicated the Northeast Kansas County Highway Officials meeting in Jackson County scheduled for March 26, 2020, has also been cancelled.

SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY

Lori Gray, Services for the Elderly Director, discussed her conversation with the Area Agency on Aging. Motion by Keith Olsen to close the Senior Center through March 31, 2020, and suspend taxi services for one week. The commission will revisit the taxi situation next Monday. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl to adjourn. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, March 23, 2020.

ATTEST:

APPROVED BY:

MELISSA GORMLEY, COUNTY CLERK

DWIGHT A. KRUSE, CHAIRMAN

KEITH OLSEN, MEMBER

RICHARD L. LEHMKUHL, MEMBER