

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 18, 2023

The County Commissioners met in a regular session on December 18, 2023, in the County Commissioners' room. Present were Commissioners Kurt Ifland, Dale Pickel and Jim Gwennap. Also, present was Ashley Maxwell, Clerk and John George.

John George visited with the commissioners about the possibility of them writing a letter to the Federal Communications Commission to request the local channels come out of Kansas rather than Nebraska. This request would affect the customers of DirectTV and Dish Network. The understanding from the documentation provided by George is that if the request is granted, it would affect all customers in the county.

Mitch Fritz joined the meeting.

John George left the meeting.

At 8:30 a.m. Ifland called the meeting to order and Gwennap opened with prayer.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the 12/11/2023 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the 12/18/2023 agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners approved payroll #26 for \$130,036.05.

The commissioners and Fritz discussed the following:

1. Ifland stated he had a request for the tree grinder near K Rd.
2. Ifland discussed 150 Rd between B Rd and C Rd. Ifland stated there was a patch job done in this area and it was good, but with the moisture it may need to be re-rocked.
3. Ifland discussed J Rd between Hwy 9 and 220 Rd. There are several holes that need additional material.
4. Ifland discussed L Rd between Hwy 9 and 220 Rd. Ifland stated there is not a crown in the road, so the water just stands in the middle of the road.
5. Fritz reported the new road drag was delivered on Saturday and will be put into operation this week.
6. The commissioners encouraged Fritz to encourage the employees to work overtime this week with the moisture that was received last week.
7. The commissioners expressed there should not be windrows left at the edge of the roadways.
8. Gwennap discussed 60 Rd between K Rd to Hwy 8. Gwennap stated there was intervention there that shouldn't have happened. Gwennap also stated there is heavy weight traveling this roadway. Gwennap stated that it appears that the base has not been established and there is a lack of crown. The commissioners expressed to Fritz that he needs to work it and utilize materials that he feels is best.
9. Gwennap asked about equipment. Fritz stated he has 1 in Concordia, but it will not affect progress this week. Fritz stated they are working on the water truck too.
10. Fritz shared with the commissioners an invoice from Frontier in regard to a phone line that was clipped by a blade man. Fritz stated he has contacted the phone company on numerous occasions to relocate the line. The commissioners are in favor of not paying the invoice at this time.

Initials DP JG KI

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 18, 2023

Dave Tucker joined the meeting.

11. Fritz will bring up applications for the secretary position next week.

Fritz left the meeting.

Tucker discussed the following:

1. Tucker thanked the commissioners for the Christmas bonus.
2. Ifland stated they discussed the road into the landfill with Fritz and he didn't have an answer to why the blade man pulled the shoulders when he did. Tucker stated they were working on the road when he came to town today (12/18/2023).
3. Tucker shared the annual solid waste meeting will be held tomorrow (12/19/2023) at 6:00 p.m. in the commissioners room and the commissioners are invited.
4. Tucker stated the annual E-Waste meeting in in Osborne on Wednesday (12/20/2023) at noon in Osborne. The commissioners are invited to attend that as well.
5. Tucker stated he was contacted by City of Concordia transfer station about possibly dumping waste in our landfill. At this time, we will not be accepting waste from other locations.
6. Gwennap asked whether Tucker had any equipment down. Tucker stated all his equipment is operational currently.

Tucker left the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the request from John George and draft a letter to be sent to the Federal Communications Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Ifland shared that the clerk's office received the physical security regulation grant monies requested previously. The grant amount requested was \$7,491.16 and it is a 90/10 grant with the 90% reimbursement match up to \$6,742.04.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to accept the bid from INAAAlert for a security camera for the election storage room for \$1,494.97. Motion carried unanimously.

Maxwell shared the KWORCC walk through of the Noxious Weed building and Road & Bridge building. There were a few deficiencies that need corrected. Maxwell will share the report with the two departments.

The commissioners reviewed the law enforcement contracts between the sheriff's office and the City of Lebanon and the City of Kensington.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to accept the agreement with the City of Kensington for \$200.00 per month. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to accept the agreement with the City of Lebanon for \$120.00 per month. Motion carried unanimously.

Tabitha Owen joined the meeting via telephone.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 9:38 a.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluation. Motion carried unanimously. Also in the session was Tabitha Owen via telephone and Ashley Maxwell. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 9:48 a.m.

Initials 29 JG KI

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 18, 2023
Owen left the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 9:52 a.m. for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 9:57 a.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

At 9:59 a.m. a motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to recess until 10:05 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Sandra Wick joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Ifland asked about whether the vegetation bulbs have been removed. Wick stated they have not been removed as of yet.
2. Wick asked the commissioners about the storage room across the hallway from the extension office. The Commissioners stated that dispatch is obtaining quotes/estimates for the relocation of dispatch. Wick asked for notice prior to relocation. The commissioners informed Wick that Tiffany Wiseman is still in the process of obtaining information, but an appropriate notice will be given if the project moves forward.
3. Gwennap asked about the progress of the foundation project in their office. Wick stated the foundation has been sealed and they are currently working on installing drywall.

Wick left the meeting.

Bruce Lehman joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 10:24 a.m. for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Bruce Lehman. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 10:54 a.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 10:54 a.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Bruce Lehman. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 11:04 a.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

Lehman left the meeting.

Tiffany Wiseman joined the meeting.

A motion was Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 11:09 a.m. for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Tiffany Wiseman. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 11:39 a.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

Wiseman discussed the following:

1. Wiseman shared that Enterpol did not go live on Saturday as planned. It is expected to go live by noon tomorrow (12/19/2023). Wiseman also shared that the sheriff's department is researching the law enforcement side of the Enterpol software.
2. Wiseman reminded the commissioners of the communications board meeting that will be held tomorrow (12/19/2023) at noon.

Initials DP JG KI

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 18, 2023

3. Wiseman stated that she may be taking time off at the end of the week to prevent a large amount of overtime.

Wiseman left the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 11:41 a.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Maxwell left the meeting. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 11:51 a.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

Kristy Stewart joined the meeting and informed the commissioners that the health department will take over the county's drug/alcohol testing requirements.

At 11:56 a.m. a motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to recess until 1:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

At 1:20 p.m. the meeting was called to resume.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 1:21 p.m. for 60 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Mitch Fritz. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 2:21 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 2:21 p.m. for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Mitch Fritz. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 2:51 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 2:51 p.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Mitch Fritz. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 3:01 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

Fritz left the meeting.

Kristy Stewart joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 3:07 p.m. for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Kristy Stewart. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 3:37 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 3:38 p.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Kristy Stewart. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 3:48 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

Initials DP JG KI

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 18, 2023

Keith Wangerin joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 4:00 p.m. for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Keith Wangerin. Pickel left the executive session from 4:20 p.m. to 4:25 p.m. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 4:30 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 4:30 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Keith Wangerin. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 4:45 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 4:50 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Also in the session was Keith Wangerin and Ashley Maxwell. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 5:05 p.m.

Tabitha Owen joined via telephone.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 5:05 p.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Also in the session was Keith Wangerin, Ashley Maxwell and Tabitha Owen via telephone. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 5:13 p.m.

Owen left the meeting.

Wangerin left the meeting.

Anna Porter joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 5:15 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Anna Porter. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 5:30 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 5:31 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Anna Porter. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 5:47 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 5:47 p.m. for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee evaluations. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Anna Porter. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 5:54 p.m.

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

Porter left the meeting.

The commissioners signed 1 solid waste abatement, 26 added tax statements and 6 personal

Initials DP JG KI

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 18, 2023

property/truck abatements.

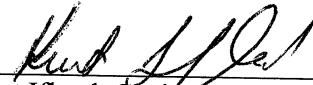
Maxwell shared with the commissioners a draft of the CVR plan. There are several areas in the draft for the commissioners to review to make the plan fit for Smith County. Maxwell asked the commissioners to take some time to read over the plan and further discussion will take place next week.

Maxwell shared with the commissioners training that will be held in the first four months of 2024 provided through grants funds. The Smith County Recruitment Team and Smith Center Economic Development has asked the commissioners to nominate individuals from the county for the training. The commissioners will name those individuals at a later meeting.

The commissioners discussed wages for county employees for 2024.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to give a 4% increase to all county employees, except the road & bridge department, and the road & bridge department will receive a 3% increase. Motion carried unanimously.

At 6:24 p.m. a motion was made Gwennap seconded by Pickel to adjourn the meeting as there was no further business. Motion carried unanimously.



Kurt Ifland, Chairman

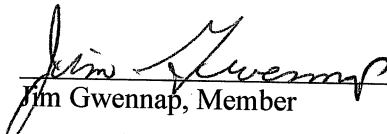


Dale E. Pickel, Member

Attest:



Ashley Maxwell, Clerk



Jim Gwennap, Member

These minutes are not official until signed by the county commissioners and attested to by the County Clerk.

Initials DP JG KI