

## COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

February 28, 2022

The Jewell County Commissioners met, February 28, 2022, at 8:30a.m. Commissioners Steve Greene, Brent Beck and Keith Roe were present. Carla J. Waugh, County Clerk was present for the meeting.

The following were present for office head meeting; Shannon Meier, Ambulance Director; Chris Petet, Custodian; Alexandria Carabajal, County Attorney; Cindy Becker, Health Administrator; and Kevin Peroutek, Noxious Weed Director, Emergency Preparedness Director and 911 Coordinator. Those absent; Amanda Davis, Register of Deeds; Nora Rhoades, Post Rock Extension District Director; Anna Porter, County Appraiser; Travis Garst, Solid Waste Director; Brenda Eakins, Treasurer; Don Jacobs, Sheriff; and Joel Elkins, General Superintendent.

Shannon Meier said they have started on the floor on their building project. He said EMS shifted COVID-19 testing back to Health Department.

Cindy Becker reported that this week they had seven positive COVID-19 cases. She said testing is down. Cindy had the grant application completed and needs the Commissioners' approval. She said the State Health Department said that the contact tracing in the schools needs to start back up.

Kevin Peroutek reported for the Weed Department – Bill Burgess has returned to working part-time. Bill and Kevin attended training. Kevin will attend the Annual Noxious Weed conference in Topeka this week. Kevin reported for EMP – He said he attended the disaster table top exercise in Salina. Kevin has been fielding ARPA requests. He said that some have inquired about getting a decision before April 1<sup>st</sup>. He will provide a presentation to the boy scouts tonight for working toward their Eagle Scout badge.

Carla Waugh said they have been reorganizing the office.

Alex Carabajal reported that they have worked with ten traffic tickets, four investigations, one child in need of care, and six criminal cases. Alex and the Commissioners discussed issues with the services provided by Pawnee Mental Health Services.

Keith Roe said that the North Central Regional Planning Commission is searching for executive director. Keith is on the search committee.

Brent Beck asked if any department heads discussed the proposed 2% increase for hourly employees discussed with their employees.

Steve Greene said he attended the Juvenile Detention Center Board meeting, Pawnee Mental Health Services meeting, and the Hospital Board meeting. He said the Commissioners are going to the Multi-County meeting today hosted by Smith County. Steve also asked Alex about a tax sale.

The Commissioners reviewed Cindy Becker's completed grant application. Steve Greene moved to sign the Aid to Local grant application to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Brent Beck seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Brenda Eakins, Treasurer, provided a list of delinquent taxes for Alex and Commissioners to review. Alex said it can take up to 18 months for the actual tax sale with legal notices and statutory waiting periods. Steve Greene moved to proceed with a tax sale. Keith Roe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Joel Elkins, General Superintendent, discussed maintenance projects. He said he had a new employee start today.

The minutes of the February 22, 2022, County Commissioners meeting were approved.

Keith Roe moved, and Brent Beck seconded to approve abatement number 2489. Motion passed unanimously.

Kevin Peroutek, Emergency Preparedness Director and 911 Coordinator, discussed ARPA grant applications. Kevin said he has a meeting in March with the Fire Chiefs and Emergency Responders.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The Commissioners and County Clerk attended the Multi-County meeting hosted by Smith County. Counties in attendance were Jewell, Mitchell, Osborne, and Smith. Ashley Maxwell, Smith County Clerk, provided a report on the fees paid by each county for the LEPA program. It was suggested to increase the fees twenty percent to cover the deficit. Anna Porter, County Appraiser, discussed valuation notices that are being mailed soon. Dennis Odom, Team Lab, gave a presentation for Base One liquid base stabilizer. The next meeting will be hosted by Jewell County on May 23, 2022.

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Keith Roe, Member

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Steve Greene, Chairman

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Carla J. Waugh, County Clerk

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Brent Beck, Vice-Chairman