

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

August 7, 2023

The Jewell County Commissioners met August 7, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners Brent Beck, Keith Roe, and Ed Duskie were present. Carla J. Waugh, County Clerk, was present for the meeting.

Doug Garman visited in regard to a bridge on the south side of section 12 of Vicksburg township. It is the only access to his property, and it is unsafe. Doug received permission last year to travel through a neighbor's pasture to get to his property and the landowner was thinking it was a one-time deal so they may have to come up with another option. He said they can't use the bridge with heavy equipment. The Commissioners and Joel Elkins discussed possible solutions.

Joel Elkins, General Superintendent, said they are hauling asphalt to Y Road on the north side of Lovewell Lake. The road will be closed part of the week.

Angel Cushing provided information about the 30X30 Land Preservation program. She asked that the Jewell County Commissioners consider passing a resolution opposing the Federal Government's "30X30" Land Preservation Goal. She had resolutions from other counties opposing the land grab. Others present for the discussion were Beth Salmans, Carolyn Simms, Jane Pahls, Richelle Russell, and Danielle Russell.

Shannon Meier, Ambulance Director, reviewed the monthly billing and activity reports for July. He said that he submitted a grant application to Dane G. Hansen to purchase two Ferno cots but was approved and received a grant in the amount of \$52,213 for one Ferno cot. Shannon had a quote to purchase two Ferno cots. (One cot will be purchased with grant funds and one cot with county funds.) Keith Roe moved, and Brent Beck seconded to purchase two Ferno cots with installation from Ferno for a total of \$106, 277.60. Motion passed unanimously.

Don Jacobs, Sheriff said Leo Rogers started the Law Enforcement Training Academy this week. Don is working with the City of Mankato on the law enforcement contract.

Kyra Lampe, JCCDA, provided an update. She reported that Jewell County joined Network Kansas' Entrepreneurship (E-) Community Partnership as of July 1st. She discussed the Blue Cross Blue Shield Pathways projects that were funded. Kyra also discussed the promoting and planning of the Big Kansas Road Trip along with the Mankato Chamber of Commerce. She said the JCCDA applied for a Tourism Marketing Grant through Dane Hansen and Kansas Tourism to market/attract tourism all throughout Jewell County. Kyra reviewed grant opportunities through the Patterson Family Foundation: Thriving Rural Grant.

Alex Pierce, County Attorney, discussed Attorney General opinions 92-158 and 94-159 pertaining to the county attorney may set office hours during which that office will be open to the public in his or her discretion and the county attorney is not bound by the county's personnel policies and procedures. She discussed alternatives which mitigate unavailability during employee emergencies, including a work from home policy. Attorney Pierce discussed books being closed to the public and the necessity of civil matters being handled by outside counsel.

Chris Petet, Custodian, discussed a door for the extension office.

Keith Roe moved, and Brent Beck seconded to approve abatement number 2552. Motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the July 31, 2023, County Commissioners meeting were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Ed Duskie, Member

Brent Beck, Chairman

Carla J. Waugh, County Clerk

Keith Roe, Vice-Chairman