

Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting

September 19, 2022

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Mike Baughn called the REGULAR Commissioners Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Thomas County Historical Courthouse on Monday, September 19, 2022; followed by the flag salute (Pledge of Allegiance) with Commissioner Brad Flipse, County Clerk Keesa Mariman, County Attorney Chris Rohr, Emergency Management Director David Becker, Landfill Director Travis Williby, Maintenance Director Josh Faber, Treasurer Layn Bruggeman, Michelle Morris, Phyllis Janousek, Becky Dempewolf, Bill Miller, Undersheriff Ray Schweitzer, Road and Bridge Supervisor Clair Schrock, Appraiser Bruce Webb, Assistant EMS Director Alan David, and Colby Free Press reporter Sloane Ennings.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: No announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Bill Miller asked County Attorney Chris Rohr what he is going to do about the Open Meetings Act regarding Township boards. County Attorney Chris Rohr stated he has reached out with the Attorney General's office for advice. Chairman Mike Baughn stated that he is going to move forward as Public Comment is for comments not questions.

Phyllis Janousek stated that the person who owns the property next to hers that has recently been an issue has now began harassing her in public and it scared her granddaughter.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/REVISIONS: Commissioner Brad Flipse made a motion to approve the agenda as amended to add Bid Opening for Health Department Sign and KLPG Packet; the motion was seconded by Chairman Mike Baughn, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

EMS INSULATION BID OPENING: There was one bid received from Woofter Construction and Irrigation in the amount of \$54,445.00. Commission asked Maintenance Director Josh Faber to take a look that the specs are met and make a recommendation to the Commission later in the meeting.

ELECTRONIC SIGN BID OPENING: There was one bid received from Commercial Sign in the amount of \$68,150.00 with a second option with a wider base in the amount of \$73,000. Assistant Health Administrator Kendra Glassman stated they would like the wider base as they plan to add some small landscaping around it to make it look nice about mid-way through the Office Complex parking lot. After much discussion, Commissioner Brad Flipse stated that he would like to review the bid with the department and defer the approval until they can meet with the department in person at the next meeting.

ENERGY CONTRACT/BUILDING INFO: Thomas County currently purchases our natural gas separately through WoodRiver Energy and then pay Midwest Energy for the transportation of it. A new change in the agreement on how WoodRiver does their billing will take affect after October 1st. Commissioner Brad Flipse made a motion to authorize Chairman Mike Baughn to sign the affidavit and for the County Clerk to fill out the rest of the info; the motion was seconded by Chairman Mike Baughn with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

PROBATIONARY PERIOD PROMOTION: Landfill Supervisor Travis Williby explained that Steven Albers has finished his six-month probationary period and he is requesting that Commission approve a 50 cent per hour promotion. Commissioner Brad Flipse made a motion to approve a promotion for Steven Albers from \$15 per hour to \$15.50 effective 9/23/2022; the motion was seconded by Chairman Mike Baughn, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

APPRAISER VEHICLE TRADE/IPAD FOR FIELD USE: Appraiser Bruce Webb stated that they take copies of over 12,000 documents each year, and would like to purchase an iPad to become more productive with taking photos and putting it into their software. Chairman Mike Baughn made motion to give them authority to make that purchase and for it to come out to the Tech Fund; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Appraiser Bruce Webb stated they would like to trade off the Appraiser's pickup and the blazer to get something a bit easier to get in and out of like a smaller SUV. He is asking commission how to move forward. Commission advised Appraiser Webb to put out some bid specs for new and used prices to put towards a smaller SUV. Appraiser Webb asked Commission if they had any questions regarding the compliance report they received from PVD. No questions were asked, and Chairman Mike Baughn congratulated him on a great report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL: Appraiser Bruce Webb stated he would like to meet with the Commission in Executive Session on Non-Elected Personnel-Appraiser Employee Matters. Chairman Mike Baughn made a motion to go into Executive Session for 15 minutes beginning at 9:31 a.m. and will return at 9:46 a.m.; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

OPEN SESSION: With no binding action taken, Chairman Mike Baughn made a motion to return to Open Session at 9:41 a.m.; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

The Commission stood at recess beginning at 9:43 a.m. The Commission will now meet as the County Board of Health.

COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH: Chairman Mike Baughn explained that the purpose to meet as the County Board of health is to begin acting on KSA-65-159 about a property North of Colby. The Board of Health is going to order the property at 5245 N Range Ave., Colby, Kansas a nuisance. The County Board of Health is ordering that the property be cleaned up no later than September 30th, 2022 to comply and if it is not cleaned up, a charge will be incurred at \$100 per day thereafter. Chairman Mike Baughn made a motion to order the property at 5245 N Range Ave. to be cleaned up by September 30th, 2022 and for a \$100 per day fee be applied thereafter if not compliant; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously. County Attorney Chris Rohr has drafted a letter and will have the Sheriff's office serve the property owner so that there is no question as to the order being served. Attorney Rohr explained that he has been on this property three times and taken photos himself, received photos from Sheriff Tom Nickols, and from the public. Attorney Rohr will go out and take more photos to document if there has been

progress completed. Phyllis Janousek asked what she should do if they are accosted by the individual of the property. Attorney Rohr stated they could speak with law enforcement. Commissioner Brad Flipse made a motion to adjourn as the County Board of Health; the motion was seconded by Chairman Mike Baughn, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR SESSION: Chairman Mike Baughn made a motion to confirm the County Board of Health order; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AUG 15 & 18 MINUTES: Commissioner Brad Flipse made a motion to approve the August 15 and 18 Minutes; the motion was seconded by Chairman Mike Baughn, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AP: Commissioner Brad Flipse made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Payment Registers as follows: Courthouse General in the amount of \$79,090.31 (as reviewed by both County Attorney Chris Rohr and Commissioner Brad Flipse); the motion was seconded by Chairman Mike Baughn, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

EMS INSULATION: Maintenance Director Josh Faber made a recommendation to move forward with the EMS Insulation bid. Chairman Mike Baughn made a motion to approve the bid for EMS Insulation from Woofter Construction and irrigation in the amount of \$54,445.00; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

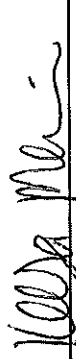
MISC: Commission received a notice to vote for the Board of Directors of Midwest Energy. They haven't done that in previous years. Chairman Mike Baughn made a motion to not take any action again this year; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Brad Flipse, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

KLPG PACKET: Chairman Mike Baughn attended the KLPK Meeting last Thursday and Friday and gave an update about the group and how it is composed of 53 Western KS counties to work with legislatures that act as our lobbyists to effect positive outcomes for western KS. They had a serious discussion about the Open Borders effecting Kansas and how the Fentanyl issue is getting worse. Another issue is that we are facing a recession as inflation continues to go up.


ADJOURNMENT: *With no further business Brad Flipse made a motion to adjourn at 10:00 a.m.; the motion was seconded by Chairman Mike Baughn, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.*

ATTEST:





Keesa Mariman, County Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THOMAS COUNTY


Mike Baughn, Chairman

Dated: 10-10-2022

Brad Flipse, Member


Brian Luedke, Member