

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES FOR AUGUST 23, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Kiowa County Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Richard Scott on August 23, 2011. Commissioner Scott opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Those attending were:

Richard Scott, Commissioner
William E. Koehler, Commissioner
Donald Oswald, Commissioner
Debra C. Lening, County Clerk
Peggy Dunlap, Administrator

The Commissioners will have a Special Meeting September 6, 2011 for a Public Hearing and adoption of the Model Traffic Code at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes from the August 11, 2011 Regular Meeting was presented. Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to approve the minutes as corrected (the paragraph stating the next meeting date should be August 23, 2011 instead of July 28, 2011). All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The vouchers were reviewed. Six vouchers were questioned. Vouchers were approved and signed.

The Commissioners signed the contract for the scrap metal bid with Dony McPherson as approved last meeting.

The Contract with Colorado Hazard Control was signed for continued asbestos abatement on the Murdock Buildings project.

There was continued discussion on the proposed contract with Westphal Energy for office space at the Bransgrove Building.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Scott, to accept the resignation from Renay Crain as Public Health Nurse Director effective September 16th, 2011, thanking her for her years of dedicated service. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

After much discussion, the County is setting up a special account under Public Health for the Health Fair account.

The TV tower issues were discussed. The licensing is all in good standing and is current. There was continued discussion regarding upgrading to digital on the tower equipment. More information needs to be obtained before making any decisions.

Courthouse hours were discussed. Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, that the County Courthouse hours should be the same year around, five days a week: 8:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 4:30. These hours will start again September 6th. There will be no more Friday's off for Courthouse employees. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Jeanne Sorensen entered the meeting as a visitor.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to approve and sign the Kiowa County Ordinance 2011-5 amending Ordinance 2008-2 regarding the Kiowa County Model Traffic Code. All Commissioners voted affirmative. The Ordinance will be published August 26th and September 2. A Public Hearing will be held on September 6th.

There was discussion regarding the Jackson Lease and the \$15,000 that is the annual contribution to KCEDF.

There was discussion regarding the rail lines. There will be a meeting Monday, August 29th at Crowley County regarding the rail line. The Commissioners would like some information from the elevators as to how many bushels of grain went out of the County using the rail line.

The Sheriff's Department JAG Grant ends the end of September. Sheriff Frazee met with the Commissioners regarding the JAG Grant. He stated that the officer covered by the JAG Grant will be needed on the road, which had been previously discussed with the Commissioners. More officers are needed on the road because of aggressive driving. His office is still looking for more grants, but they do not want any of the grants that have to have a match from the County.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to recess the Regular Meeting at 10:00 a.m. for the Board of Equalization. All Commissioners voted affirmative. Assessor Penny Weirich stated that she had received no complaints or questions. With no public in attendance, Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to close the Board of Equalization. All Commissioners voted affirmative. The Regular Meeting resumed at 10:05 a.m.

Area Extension Agent Bruce Fickenscher met with the Commissioners to present the 2nd Quarter Quarterly Report and the Impact Report for CSU Extension.

Prairie Pines Assisted Living (PPAL) swimming pool issues were discussed. They are still looking for an insurance company to insure only the pool. Until this matter is resolved, the pool will continue to be closed to the public.

County employees will be working the BBQ on Friday at the Fair. Saturday's BBQ will be worked by FFA alumni.

PPAL Administrator Denise Riley and Assistant Administrator Crystal Mozisek met with the Commissioners regarding an employee matter. Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes, Title 24, Article 6, Section 402 at subsection VIII (4)(f)(I) to go into executive session with regarding Personnel Matters. All Commissioners voted affirmative. The meeting went into executive session at 10:50 a.m.

The Commissioners came out of executive session and resumed the Regular Meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Denise Riley is requesting a letter from the Commissioners to allow her to cancel her AFLAC policy. Due to the fact that Open Enrollment was in July, the Commissioners will need to talk to the AFLAC representative before making any decisions. This will be discussed later.

Commissioner Oswald reported on SEBREA. SEBREA is asking for more from each county. The County now donates \$500. Oswald also reported on SAGE Services. The hot shot truck is having problems. They are selling the truck instead of trying to repair it.

Anita Brown, Rachel Bletzacker, and Erin Morgan met with the Commissioners regarding Day Care issues. Anita stated that she was the spokesperson for concerned parents and grandparents of children in the Day Care. They are wondering why the Commissioners are considering privatizing the Day Care. Commissioner Scott stated that it would be good to have a private business to have another viable business in the County instead of having the County continue running it. Their idea is NOT to close Day Care, just to find a person that would like to run it as a private business. If there is no interest, the County will continue running it, with some possible changes being implemented. The ladies brought letters from concerned parents for the Commissioners to review. Commissioner Scott reiterated that they see this as an *opportunity* instead of a *threat* to the Day Care. Again, if there is no interest, the County will continue to run it.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes, Title 24, Article 6, Section 402 at subsection VIII (4)(f)(I) to go into executive session with the County Attorney regarding legal council and to discuss Personnel Matters. All Commissioners voted affirmative. The meeting went into executive session at 12:00 p.m.

The Commissioners came out of executive session and resumed the Regular Meeting at 12:15 p.m.

John Marrin, President of LCC met with the Commissioners regarding updates for the college. The enrollment for this semester is flat. They were hoping it would be up this semester. Classes started yesterday, August 22nd. He would like to set up town meetings here in Kiowa County to find out what the needs are that are not currently being met in the communities. He would like a meeting in Eads and one in Sheridan Lake later in the fall.

James Doyle, the new interim Superintendent at Sand Creek, met with the Commissioners to introduce himself and to give them some updates. He will be out at the site for at least four months and maybe permanently.

The Sheriff's report was signed and filed.

The Veterans report was reviewed.

Pat Roper met with the Commissioners regarding the Museum and the Historic Society. There is still a question regarding the existence of the Historic Society and some lots that are involved. More information will be needed.

The Certificate of Valuation was presented from the Assessor Penny Weirich. She brought in some information to explain the valuation.

Lacy Webster sent a letter of interest in being a member of the Library Board. Koehler made the motion, seconded by Scott, to appoint Lacy Webster to the Library Board to fill the vacancy. Koehler and Scott voted aye; Oswald abstained, due to conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Scott, to approve Landfill Manager Dwight Lessenden's time off for September 3rd. All Commissioners voted affirmative. The landfill will be closed September 3rd and 4th.

CCI would like a photo of any historical value to be sent to be displayed in their hallway.

Financials and Minutes for the Weisbrod Memorial Hospital were reviewed.

Judge Stan Brinkley, 15th Judicial District Administrator Karen Stanley, Court Clerk Robyn Dunham, Sheriff Frazee, Officer Jon Renteria, and Emergency Manager Chris Sorensen met with the Commissioners to discuss the courthouse security grant. The grant period will close October 14th. The County needs to put in for

the courthouse security grant. They started a list of priorities to be listed on the grant application. Video conferencing was discussed. Security training was discussed. The evacuation plan was also discussed.

Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes, Title 24, Article 6, Section 402 at subsection VIII (4)(f)(I) to go into executive session with the County Attorney regarding legal council and to discuss Personnel Matters. All Commissioners voted affirmative. The meeting went into executive session at 2:30 p.m.

The Commissioners came out of executive session and resumed the Regular Meeting at 2:40 p.m. Koehler made the motion, seconded by Scott, to send the Resolution of Support for the Lamar/Front Range Transmission Project to the PUC. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Commissioners talked to the AFLAC representative regarding Denise Riley's request. This is a pre-tax plan and it is an IRS ruling that you can not drop a plan out of the Open Enrollment sign up period. The pre-tax agreement was signed by the employee and the policy must be kept a full year after signing up for the plan. If a company allows an employee to withdraw the policy before the Open Enrollment sign up period, there could be an audit from IRS. Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to give notice to Denise Riley that withdrawal from the AFLAC plan is denied because of the IRS ruling on pre-tax plans. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

There was discussion regarding the work load in the Clerk's Office due to the Oil & Gas research activities. Clerk Lening requested that Pat Roper's hours be increased and that her benefits be reinstated. Scott made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to authorize Lening to increase Pat Roper's hours with benefits, as needed until the end of the year. Her hours will be re-evaluated with the new budget depending on the work load and the ongoing research activities. All Commissioners voted affirmative. Roper's benefits will be reinstated immediately with this new pay period. It was agreed that when the research activities are no longer an issue, Roper's hours will be reduced and benefits will again be removed.

The next Regular Meeting will be September 13, 2011.

With no further business, Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to adjourn at 3:45 p.m. All Commissioners voted affirmative.