

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES FOR JANUARY 26, 2012

The Regular Meeting of the Kiowa County Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Richard Scott on January 26, 2012. Oswald 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

Jeanne Sorensen entered the meeting as a visitor.

Allen Wade Watts met with the Commissioners to discuss loaders. He discussed the hours on the loader that is in need of replacement and the hours on other equipment. The loader would cost approximately \$15,000 plus labor to replace the motor, but there are other issues with the loader. Watts discussed two loaders that Rick Reed from John Deere has discussed with him. Things are getting behind since they are down the loader. All three districts plus the landfill use the loader. He also discussed the Mack truck that was repaired and delivered back. They also discussed a belly dump trailer that needs major repairs. Watts also reported that two Road & Bridge drivers have still not passed their CDL tests. He will give them until the end of March to get their licenses.

Minutes from the January 10, 2012 Regular Meeting was presented. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to approve the minutes as presented. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The vouchers were reviewed. Vouchers were approved and signed.

CSU Extension Agent Bruce Fickenscher met with the Commissioners to present the CSU Quarterly Report. Also present were CSU Extension's SEA Agronomist Wilma Trujillo and Area Director Jennifer Wells. The mobile slaughter plant was discussed. Composting was discussed. Fickenscher reported that the Farm/Ranch Water Symposium will be February 2, 2012 in Rocky Ford at 8:00 a.m. Trujillo reported on activities for last year visiting farms in the area regarding applying nitrogen to farm ground. 11% to 12% nitrogen is the standard to raise the protein in the grain. She also discussed canola and stated that Colorado was behind in producing canola. This would be another option for the famers instead of planting corn and would be a better crop during the drought. It requires less water and will behave the same as wheat. It does, however, require some irrigation and is not typically well suited for dry land farming.

Carole Spady presented the Day Care aging reports for Little Sprouts. There was discussion regarding some maintenance issues. They have several educational activities being done at Day Care. Her staff is taking certification classes, as required.

District Forester Donna Davis and Fire Management Officer Brenda Wasielewski with the Colorado State Forest Service met with the Commissioners to discuss wild fire response funds (WERF) on the plains. They are there to assist the local jurisdictions, not to take over the operation.

All grants are to come through the Administrator's office, since this office will be tracking the grants. They should all be approved through the Commissioners prior to applying for the grant. A reminder will be sent out to all departments. A policy will be written regarding grants.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to send another letter to Vital Statistics Ronald S. Hyman, State Registrar and Director, to request again that the vital statistics be moved to the Eads Town Clerk's office. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Phil and Sam Patel, owners of the local motel, met with the Commissioners to discuss debt forgiveness on taxes for the motel. There are several issues with the motel and things are not going well. They are attempting to find new managers. The Patels live in Oklahoma, but will start coming out monthly to observe the management of the facility. They are trying to get the business back in good standing. If they can find someone to take it over, they will walk away from it. The Commissioners stated that they are not in a financial position to forgive the taxes. The Patels are requesting at least part of the debt be forgiven. Due to bad management, the facility is in disrepair and has numerous issues. They know with good management that it can make money. The Commissioners will discuss the matter with the County Treasurer and the County Attorney, but still have to say no to tax forgiveness at this time.

There was continued discussion regarding the Public Health Agency issues. There was discussion regarding the storage area not being utilized. The Commissioners discussed maybe talking to Mental Health to see if they would like to use that area. Utilities, maintenance upgrades, lawn care and the car port issues were discussed.

Sheriff Forrest Frazee and Director of Emergency Management Chris Sorensen met with the Commissioners. Sorensen submitted his resignation as DEM with Kiowa County to take a job with the State. Sheriff Frazee stated he is absolved of responsibility for Homeland Security. Sorensen wrote up an Emergency Management Projects and Tasks list to give the Commissioners an idea of what his office is involved in. Funding for his position has been approximately 50% County and 50% grant contributions. The grant is based on the Federal fiscal year. The Commissioners will have a work session with Sorensen on Monday, January 30th to see how

to move forward and make plans to replace Sorensen. The Commissioners told Sorensen they were deeply appreciative of all he has done for the County and his accomplishments.

The Commissioners are audio recording minutes at this time (on a trial basis). Tapes will be stored in the Commissioners' office and will be maintained for 90 days.

There was discussion regarding Prairie Pines Assisted Living (PPAL) and charging for funerals and birthday celebrations. They will discuss this matter with the PPAL Board.

Scott made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to recess the Regular Meeting at 1:45 p.m. for interviews. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Regular Meeting resumed at 2:00 p.m.

Eads Mayor Cardon Berry met with the Commissioners to discuss annexation of Kiowa Creek Estates on the south side Lowell Street. It has all been surveyed, so that expense would not be necessary. Koehler recommended annexing clear to the landfill road which is County Road 40. They will investigate further for feasibility.

The Hospital agreement and financials were reviewed.

The TV tower progress was reviewed.

Due to problems in the past, Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to deny the Sheriff's department from changing oil at the County Shop. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Commissioners would like a written quarterly report from Fire Chief Jay Haase.

There was discussion regarding the County tire storage shed. Realizing the County tire storage shed is an old house, repairs are likely needed to keep items stored in best possible condition and safe. Future needs may be to replace the building perhaps nearer the Eads Shop.

The restrooms at the Community Building at the Fair Grounds need to be more ADA compliant. This matter will be addressed with the Fair Board.

The John Deere "ping" report on the new equipment was reviewed.

There will be a meeting February 13, 2012 at 1:00 at the Ag Complex in Lakewood, Colorado regarding the Towner Line Railroad.

February 6th, 2012 there will be a meeting regarding the Murdock Buildings Project in Limon for matching funds. If the matching funds do not come in, there are questions as to how the project will move forward. This will be discussed at the meeting. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to sign the Certificate of Substantial Completion for work done at the Murdock Buildings. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to recess the Regular Meeting at 3:00 p.m. for interviews. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Regular Meeting resumed at 4:38 p.m.

Koehler made the motion, seconded by Scott, to hire Shelly Myers for the Public Health Agency office assistant. Koehler and Scott voted aye, Oswald abstained; motion carried.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to sign the Intergovernmental Master Contract for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) contract for 5 years. All Commissioners voted affirmative. This is a 5 year master contract with CDPHE which provides all the contract language that the state requires for any contract that they have with any local entity. Then when they have an individual program contract they can send a minimal document for signature, such as EPR or the local PH funding contract.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to sign the Southeast Regional Public Health Planner's Independent Contractor Agreement for Kris Stokke effective January 1, 2012 through July 31, 2012. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to sign a letter to V&S Railway and other dignitaries to oppose salvaging the railroad. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to hire Walt Immer for the part time janitor position. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Sheriff's report for January was signed and filed.

The Veterans report was reviewed.

The Treasurer's Semi Annual Report was approved and signed.

The next Regular Meeting will be held February 14, 2012.

Due to other appointments and the late hour, Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to recess the Regular Meeting at 5:05 p.m. to resume Monday, January 30, 2012 for the purpose of completing the remaining business on the agenda. All Commissioners voted affirmative.