

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES FOR JULY 12, 2012

The Regular Meeting of the Kiowa County Commissioners was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chairman Richard Scott on July 12, 2012. Richard Scott opened the meeting with prayer and 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 at 9:25 a.m. as a visitor.

Minutes from the June 28, 2012 Regular Meeting was presented. Scott made a motion, seconded by Koehler, to approve the Minutes as presented. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The vouchers were reviewed. Vouchers were approved and signed.

The agenda was reviewed. Some items were added to old and new business. Scott made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to approve the agenda with the additions. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

A bid was received in the amount of \$1,890 from Kent Electric in Kit Carson for the generator installation for the Road and Bridge Shop in Eads. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Scott, to approve the bid. All Commissioners voted affirmative. The Commissioners will check with the other two Road and Bridge shops to see how they are handling power outages.

Questions regarding use of the covered pavilion at the fairgrounds were received. The Fair Board policy was reviewed. The information will be passed on to the parties asking about using it.

A letter was received from KCEDF regarding the bill for the annexation survey being performed in the amount of \$300. The Commissioners were under the impression that the bill was going to be shared and that the cost was going to be \$100. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Scott, to pay \$150 or half of the bill. Scott and Oswald voted aye; Koehler voted nay. Motion carried.

The Memorandum of Property Tax Notice of Valuation was received from the State regarding State Assessed Property. There is a deadline for protesting or contesting by July 20th.

The Commissioners were reminded about the Oil & Gas Safety Training Meeting July 21, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

The day care Crown Victoria vehicle is sitting unused. There was question as to whether or not Prairie Pines Assisted Living could use this vehicle to run errands around town when needed. After much discussion, Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to not allow PPAL use of this vehicle. They would prefer the vehicle be sold. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Fishing Is Fun Grant was approved for \$20,000 for the Shalberg Pond. The Road and Bridge crew will be used for in kind on some of the equipment work.

The Community Service Block Grant contract (CSBG) for the transit van needs to be signed for monthly reimbursements. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to sign the CSBG contract. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Scott made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to appoint Donald Oswald to the CSBG Partite Board. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Preparation for the 2013 Budgets need to begin in each department.

The Stum fire truck was discussed. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to purchase the fire truck from the Stum family for the Towner fire house, to be taken out of Capital Expenditures. All Commissioners voted affirmative. Oswald stated that he would appreciate citizens coming in to talk to the Commissioners prior to purchasing equipment so that it could be budgeted for. Scott stated this might bring up conversation regarding establishing fire districts around the county. They would still like the pros and cons to be submitted. This would enable them to get more grants for fire protection and better equipment.

The letter of assumption was discussed. This is in the hands of the attorney at this point.

Internet issues were discussed. The Commissioners want to make sure their email is secure. Jeanne Sorensen recommended that they get a "Gmail" account for their email as it has lots of security features. They will look at this possibility.

Gravel issues were briefly discussed.

The Treasurer's report and Quarterly report were reviewed.

The Clerk's report was reviewed.

Commissioner reports were reviewed and discussed.

Time-off request forms were reviewed and approved.

A Letter of Support for the Murdock Building Project was discussed. The Commissioners would like legislation enabling National Parks Service funds that were previously set aside for this purpose to be released for use on the Murdock project. These funds are the key to the Murdock Project. Without these funds, this project might not be able to move forward.

Administrator Dunlap would like to attend the ACCA Administrators Meeting in Burlington. This is for all County Administrators on the Eastern Plains. The Commissioners gave her approval to attend.

There was discussion regarding the Colorado Wireless Interoperability Network (CWIN) Intergovernmental Agreement regarding the Sheridan Lake Digital Trunked Radio (DTR) tower equipment. The back-up generator needs to be repaired and there is question as to which entity is responsible to pay for it and if it should be covered by insurance or not. In the original agreement, the County owns the tower but the State operates it and ownership will transfer back to the State in five years, which will be in 2014.

The meeting was recessed at 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Donald Oswald was absent from the afternoon session.

DSS Director Dennis Pearson met with the Commissioners. He presented the monthly budget report for DSS. He stated that Larimer County transferred \$80,000 in TANF funds to Kiowa County. He stated that with these funds and the close out funds, Kiowa County should be in fairly good condition. He also discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the TANF program. It is being extended instead of sending out a new MOU with Colorado Department of Human Services. The Commissioners asked Pearson if he would consider using the TANF client that needs to do 22 hours of activity work per week to consider cleaning the office space at the Bransgrove Building to help fulfill her 22 hours weekly. Pearson felt this would be very acceptable. He did say that they can set something up for a six month period and then extend it out if needed up to one year. This opens up the possibility of making these clients hireable, either with the County or another business putting them back in the work force.

Pearson also needed clarification on the County Picnic, which is scheduled for August 14th. This has been scheduled on Town Council night. The Commissioners decided they could start the picnic at 5:00 p.m. to allow councilmen to make it to their meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting was recessed at 1:30 p.m. for a funeral.

The Regular Meeting resumed at 3:00 p.m.

John Marrin, President of Lamar Community College (LCC), met with the Commissioners to update them on the economic impact statement for LCC. Regarding the Economic Growth Analysis, the total impact of LCC in the LCC Service Area, which covers Cheyenne, Kiowa, Prowers, and Baca Counties, amounts to \$32.471 million annually. The net income added generated by the college's operations totals \$4.517 million annually. The accumulated credits achieved by former LCC students over the past 30 years translate to \$27.748 million in added regional income each year due to the higher earnings of students and increased output of businesses. Regarding the Investment Analysis, for every dollar students invest in LCC, they receive a cumulative \$3.70 in higher future income (discounted) over the course of their working careers. Taxpayers see a rate of return of 6.3% on their investment in LCC. This statement was to try to determine the true value of, not only the college in terms of dollars and cents that are being spent in the area, but also in terms of what the value of the education is that people receive. Marrin pointed out that these figures are based on people that have actually stayed in this service area, not students that came in for their educations and left the area. He gave an example of students who took the nursing programs that have come back to our hospitals and nursing homes here in our area that are a true benefit to our communities. The college is also in the process of putting together the ICT Curriculum Roadmap – Pathway to Success, which is an online Microsoft learning program. This will allow people to get Microsoft certifications for Microsoft Office Suite to Microsoft Networking Systems, etc. This will enable a high school student from Eads that may not have the advanced computer labs or may not have the teacher that is able to teach the advanced courses that this student would be capable of taking through this online study. They will be able to use all of the Microsoft resources and offer this to all of the rural schools through out the State of Colorado. Marrin said they are really excited about this opportunity that will be available! This expands the capacity of all the rural schools and the instructional void of the faculties we don't have but need and this will allow these schools to do things they've never been able to do. This will allow these students to download the programs and use them without the schools having to purchase them. This could really help drive the economy in our rural areas. There will be more on this program later on. They will have Microsoft Office available this fall and then will evolve into the rest of the programs. Marrin stated again that this is a way that rural American can compete with the metropolitan areas, that a rural school can compete with the bigger schools.

The next Regular Meeting will be July 26th, 2012.

With no further business, Scott made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 p.m. Both Commissioners voted affirmative.