

SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMISSIONER
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 22, 2020

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Donald Schneider with Mark Turner, Rob Crowder and Christy Beckman in office. Howard McCormick, Bridget Britton and Vickie Sandlin, joined the meeting via Zoom.

Schneider moved to approve the agenda. McCormick second, carried. McCormick moved to approve the minutes. Turner second, carried.

Schneider moved to approve the December 22, 2020 vouchers as presented. McCormick second, carried.

The minutes of the December 15, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Schneider moved to approve the minutes as presented. McCormick second, carried.

Bridget Britton and Rob Crowder presented the Board with a contract and resolution with Call Works which will replace the current Motorola contract and cut the cost in half. Schneider moved to approve Resolution #2020-040. Turner second, carried. Britton will need 3 copies of the resolution.

Michelle Kirk presented the Board with her quarterly UPS report. Discussion was held on the amount of clients that there have been since she took over the program. Kirk submitted an invoice for the extra clients. Kirk left the meeting.

Turner reported that he was in contact with Andrea Calhoon, Yuma County administrator. Calhoon told Turner that they are struggling with keeping up with equipment, etc. And is looking for someone else to dispatch for their county and asked if Sedgwick County would have the capabilities to dispatch for Yuma County. Britton needs some time to process this but will contact Calhoon for discussion. Britton asked to be on the next agenda for further discussion.

Schneider reported on the COVID Task Force Meeting. There were 115 vaccines that came in and are going to be getting 200 more from Moderna next week. We are staying on red for two weeks then hopefully will be moving to orange. McCormick clarified that if an employee tests positive but has no symptoms at all, they can return to work IF they wear their mask and are able to maintain a six foot distance. They are required to go straight home after work and quarantine for those 10 days. The Health department said to follow the guidelines of quarantining 10 days from the date of the positive test. After that 10 days, you are off quarantine.

Discussion was held on the new round of cares money for business relief. Beckman will apply for that today and get the county in the portal. Crowder reported that the positivity rate has been going down in the county and that there will be testing tomorrow, Wednesday, at the Sedgwick Fire Hall from 7 am to 8:30 am then the fairgrounds from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm.

Schneider moved to approve Building Permit #617. Turner second, carried.

Tasha Thode and Megan Orth, Human Services, joined the meeting. Schneider moved to approve the Dec 22, 2020 agenda. Turner second, carried. Turner moved to approve the November 17, 2020 minutes as presented. Schneider second, carried. Thode's payroll vouchers were approved. Turner moved to approve the CDHS Certificated of Compliance 2021 for County Personnel and Merit System. Schneider second, carried. Schneider

moved to approve the Child Support/Welfare legal service contracts. Turner second, carried. Discussion was held on a cost allocation plan. There is a meeting on January 21st and Thode would like the Board and Dan Pederson to join that meeting. Thode introduced Orth to the Board. The guests left the meeting.

Crowder told the Board that the annual operating plan will be coming out in the near future and asked if the Board had any changes they would like to make. Crowder presented the Board with the EMPG projections and needs to get that signed. Crowder then told the Board that he has a couple of grants coming available. One of them could possibly fund a larger generator for the courthouse. Crowder's special projects grant still has funds as well and it is a 50/50 grant and is asking the Board for any suggestions. The Health Care Coalition is open through January and Crowder would like permission to get Paprs and PPE for the ambulance. Discussion was held on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. We are still D-3 in drought and it looks like that will not be changing anytime soon. Crowder presented the Board with GETS (Emergency Telecommunications Service Cards) in the case of a Government Emergency it gives the Commissioners Priority telecommunication service. Crowder left the meeting.

Eva Contreras, Assessor, joined the meeting. Kelly Lowery, Attorney, joined the meeting by zoom. Discussion was held on when Karon Johnson's last day and setting up a time for her to pick up her belongings. Lowery then told Contreras that with the personnel policy changes being put into place for the new year, the hiring process will need to be followed which means Contreras will need to start over and get an ad in the paper for one week and contact the original applicants and will have one of the Board members plus one elected official or department head in the process of interviews and recommendations. Contreras said that the original process already happened before the new policy is in place and that she has not signed the new personnel policy. Lowery told Contreras that even if she doesn't agree with the policy manual, it will go into effect January 1st. Lowery told Contreras that Schneider will be recusing himself from this process due to his involvement with the Lower South Platte Water District. Contreras presented the Board with documentation from Pueblo County's District Attorney concerning Commissioners control over elected officials. The Board forwarded it to Lowery for review. Lowery replied to Contreras and the Board and the statute that is quoted is true, that the Commissioners do not have control over the hiring and firing of the Sheriff's deputies but that the statute that is referenced in the document is referring to only the Sheriff's employee's but there is no statute that refers to other elected officials employee's and that the Board has financial responsibility over all employees. Contreras will contact her attorney and will not go forward with the Board and attorneys process until she gets further information. Contreras let the Board know that the county does have to pay for the attorney she chooses, however, Lowery told her that the attorney has to be approved and the county money paying for that attorney does come out of her budget. Contreras left the meeting.

Dan Pederson, Accountant, joined the meeting. Pederson presented the Board with the 2021 Certification of Levies and Revenue for review. Schneider moved to approve the 2021 Certification of levies and revenue. Turner second, carried. Pederson asked to be on the next meeting to go over the pre-final budget. Pederson left the meeting.

Turner moved to adjourn the meeting. McCormick second, carried.