

SEDGWICK COUNTY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 27, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Howard McCormick with Donald Schneider, Ronald Berges and Christy Beckman present. The Treasurer, Assessor, Extension, Communication, Finance, Road & Bridge and Rhonda Graham joined the meeting via zoom.

Schneider moved to approve the agenda with the addition of Verizon Connect contract update and hospital board meeting report. Berges second, carried.

Schneider moved to approve the June 27, 2024 payables and payroll. McCormick second, carried.

Berges moved to approve the June 18, 2024 minutes as presented. Schneider second, carried.

Schneider reported that the Verizon Connect will be billing for a buyout and equipment will be replace in order to get on a government contract which will show a savings after the initial cost in about 10 months.

Berges reported on the hospital board meeting by saying this was the first month to finish financially in the black. Collections are catching up and numerous grants have been applied for.

Heather Foley, Finance, joined the meeting. Foley presented the Board with documentation and a quote for a new 3<sup>rd</sup> party DOT drug testing company WPIC located in Scottsbluff, NE. Foley told the Board that our current drug testing company, DISA, has been despondent and difficult to work with. DISA is currently not operating within the FMCSA 49 CFR Regulations and attempts to correct the issues have been met with little to no support, lack of action and a continued failure to communicate. The Board reviewed the quote and Schneider approved contracting with WPIC. Berges second, carried.

Foley then discussed with the Board the need for approval with the Bank for ACH transfers. Schneider moved to approve ACH transfers with Points West Community Bank for employee benefits such as, County Health Pool, CCOERA, MASA, American Fidelity, American Family and Orchard Trust. Berges second, carried. Foley left the meeting.

Schneider moved to approve giving McCormick approval authority for the transfer of funds from County General to Ambulance to cover the deficit pending the final amount. Berges second, carried.

Berges told the Board he attended an interview for the part-time mowing position and Road & Bridge. Schneider moved to hire Duane Davidson as the R&B PT mower to start at \$17.17 per hour. Davidson does not have a CDL. Berges second, carried.

Josilyn Lutze and Linda Langelo, Extension Office, joined the meeting. Lutze presented the Board with progress report including all of the 4-H activites and meetings that she has been attending and what is coming up.

Linda Langelo updated the Board on the IRA Tree Grant and asked them for any input on trees that could be replaced within the county limits. Langelo thanked the Board for the \$300 donation to the Junk Jaunt and asked if she would be able to open the fairgrounds for 3 days in October for outside vendors to have a location in our county to sell goods. The Board was fine with that but Tracy Kizer would need to be contacted to see if it will be available. The guests left the meeting.

Jamie Smith and Kevin Lybrand, PC Telcom, joined the meeting. The guests gave the Board an update on the broadband project and said there would be 360 households benefiting from the fiber update. This is a \$270,000 project and \$130,000 will be from the Marquardt Foundation. The county will be using some COVID Funds and in-kind funds will be from permits for this project. The fiber project will be covering 160 miles. The guests left the meeting.

Teresa Sweigert, Viaero, joined the meeting. Sweigert presented the Board with plans for the Viaero Equipment removal and replacement. The current equipment is being removed by an FCC Mandate and discussion was held on the placement of the equipment. Sweigert did not have an exact time frame but will keep in communication with the Board. Sweigert left the meeting.

Schneider moved to adjourn the meeting. Berges second, carried.

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Howard McCormick, Chairman

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Christy M. Beckman, Clerk to the Board