

SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMISSIONER
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JUNE 29, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Donald Schneider with Howard McCormick, Ronald Berges and Christy Beckman present. Assessors Office, R&B Office, Extension Office, Finance Office and Communication Center Office joined the meeting via zoom.

McCormick moved to approve the agenda with the addition of building permit fee schedule, Ovid Main Street and Performance Custom Feed under new business and Marquardt foundation under reports. Berges second, carried.

McCormick moved to approve the June 29, 2023 vouchers and June 29, 2023 payroll as presented. Berges second, carried.

McCormick moved to approve the June 20, 2023 minutes as presented. Berges second, carried.

McCormick moved to approve the June 13, 2023 minutes as amended. Schneider second, carried.

Schneider reported that there will be a meeting on July 11th with the Marquart Foundation concerning the grant for the fiber project with PC Telcom.

Discussion was held on changing the special use permit fees for right of ways possibly from linear foot to cubic foot. A decision will be made after more research is done.

McCormick told the Board that Michelle Bernabo has not shown up for work for the last couple of weeks and is out of PTO. McCormick moved to terminate Michelle Bernabo from the part time position at the Welcome Center. Schneider second, carried.

Berges told the Board that he was approached by the Town of Ovid Mayor, Frankie Hernandez, about the county possibly helping with repairs for Ovid's Main Street. Discussion from the Board included talk about offering to help with that road when the county was working on County Rd 29, but the Town of Ovid turning that down. The Town is responsible for most of that street.

Berges told the Board that he spoke to Ben Regier, Custom Performance Feeds, who is wanting to build a feed mill on some property he owns but would like to have the county build a road going to it for trucks to be able to access. Discussion was held on who's property the road would be on and the conclusion is that the first part would be on town property and Mr. Regier should talk to the town first.

Kim Zion, Courthouse Security and Bridget Britton, Communication Center, joined the meeting. The guests presented the Board with a lock down procedure. McCormick moved to approve the lockdown procedure. Berges second, carried. Zion and Britton will send it out to the employees. The guests left the meeting.

Valerie Hibbert, NCRLF, joined the meeting. Hibbert introduced herself and gave the Board a summary of what she and the Northeastern Revolving Loan Fund does. Hibbert said the NCRLF is a non profit which provides small business loans to 6 northeastern counties and 35 businesses in Sedgwick County have been awarded loans in the amount

of over one million dollars over the years. Hibbert is looking for one million dollars in business assistance and in order to achieve that must have the application signed by all six counties. The fund is financed federally so the application is just a formality for Sedgwick County but will allow access to the businesses in our community. Berges moved to approve the signing of the NCRLF application. McCormick second, carried. Hibbert left the meeting.

Frankie Hernandez, Economic Development, joined the meeting. Hernandez asked the Board if they would write the letter of intent as was discussed in a prior meeting. The Board told Hernandez that they were concerned that the Motorola Broadband project would be trying to get funding from the same local foundations as the PC Telcom Broadband project that the Commissioners are working on. Discussion was held and Hernandez expressed his concerns that the Board is not willing to work with Economic Development due to past issues. The Board told Hernandez that they are only concerned that these projects will be competing against each other and that it will not benefit the constituents in the end. The Board is not opposed to writing a letter if it could be more specific. The Board asked Hernandez to construct the letter he is wanting them to approve, and they will review it. Hernandez left the meeting.

Dan Pederson, Accountant, joined the meeting. Pederson gave the Board the annual Local Highway Finance Report for review. McCormick moved to approve the 2022 Sedgwick County Local Highway Finance Report. Berges second, carried. Pederson then gave the Board the 2022 financial summary and discussion was held on some of the details. Pederson left the meeting.

McCormick brought up discussion about previous tax that was due for the county owned Italian Caves. McCormick moved to pay the previous tax for the Italian Caves property in the amount of \$20.26. Berges second, carried.

Sue Carter, Welcome Center, joined the meeting via zoom. The Board told Carter that she can now advertise for the open part time position at the Welcome Center.

McCormick moved to adjourn the meeting. Berges second, carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Donald Schneider, Chairman

Christy M. Beckman, Clerk to the Board