

SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 12, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Howard McCormick with Donald Schneider, Ronald Berges and Christy Beckman present. Vickie Sandlin, Julesburg Advocate, John Fryar, Lori Ehmke, Heather Foley and Darin Tobin joined the meeting.

Schneider moved to approve the agenda with the addition of executive session with the attorney, new county road, access agreement and Resolution. Berges second, carried.

Schneider moved to approve the November 12, 2024 payables as presented. Berges second, carried.

Schneider moved to approve the October 30, 2024 minutes as amended. Berges second, carried.

Schnieder told the Board that he will speak to Kelly and get a resolution so that a county road can be put in to allow better truck access for the new Feed Mill and another business.

Discussion was held on the access agreement for the Italian Caves so Jay Goddard can have access. There will have to be an easement made.

Natasha Thode, Human Services, joined the meeting. Schneider moved to approve the November 12, 2024 agenda as presented. Berges second, carried. Schneider moved to approve the October 22, 2024 minutes as presented. Berges second, carried. The Board reviewed the September financial report. Berges moved to approve the MOU between Sedgwick County Human Services and Prowers County. Schneider second, carried. Schnieder moved to approve Kim Zion's resignation. Her last day will be the 20<sup>th</sup> of November. Berges second, carried. Thode told the Board she will get together with Heather to set up advertising for the open receptionist job. Thode left the meeting.

The Treasurer's October Financial Report was reviewed.

Senator Byron Pelton joined the meeting. Pelton asked the Board if there were any needs from this area that need attention and let the Board know that he has been working hard representing the smaller counties with legislation and voting on agriculture bills. McCormick asked Pelton about Ear ID tags and Pelton told him he is working with Farm Bureau and USDA. The Board asked about Perkins Canal. Pelton told them the state is waiting for the plan from Nebraska before they can take action or know how to respond. Pelton said it is difficult with the eminent domain with a compact that has no expiration date but he assured the Board that he will do his best to represent for our communities. Schneider told Pelton that we are still trying to get on the National Registry for the Italian Caves which should help force it to go a different direction. Lori Ehmke asked Pelton to vote no to taking payments for taxes. Pelton agreed that it would not be a good idea. Pelton then thanked Commissioners Schneider and McCormick for the good work they have done with their years of service in Sedgwick County. Pelton left the meeting.

Tasha Harris, Ambulance and Machel Newth, SCHC and Aiden Hettler, SCHC CEO joined the meeting. (Hettler joined via telephone). McCormick told the Board and guests

that there are some serious issues with the ambulance service as it stands and gave examples of things that are happening currently. McCormick has been one of only a small few who have been answering the pages and up to this point, he has done this out of obligation for his county while being also employed by the county government. McCormick noted that he will not be doing this after December. He is basically putting in a six week notice but did point out that there are changes that need to be made. Harris presented a letter from Dr. Regier pointing out the need for change as well and referenced that Dr. Erickson will be submitting a letter as well. Hetler agreed with the concerns and told the Board that they all need to work together to get the issues taken care of and offered a couple of suggestions as in EMS funding and working with the Governors office. When Harris was asked what the solution is, she is working on changing the current volunteer status to a full-time work situation. Harris looked into hiring a service but the issue is the volume. Right now there is too much volume for volunteers but not enough volume for an ambulance service. Harris will put together a plan and present it to the Board before the budget hearings. Harris and Newth left the meeting.

It is November 12, 2024 and the time is 9:36 a.m.. For the record, I am the Chairman, as required by the Open Meetings Law; Also present at the executive session are the following persons: Donald Schneider, Howard McCormick, Ronald Berges and Kelly Lowery, Attorney. For a conference with the County Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b); The time is now 10:00 a.m. and the executive session has been concluded. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record. Hearing none, the next agenda item is...

Schneider moved to approve adding IMLA agreement in the amount of \$283 to help with the Hanna Litigation. Berges second, carried.


Schneider moved to approve Resolution #2024-013 CPACE. Berges second, carried. Lori Ehmke brought up discussion as she received an email concerning CPACE in another county. The Board would like to have the attorney look into this more as it was not presented with all of the facts the first time. The Board re-voted on Resolution #2024-013 and took a roll call vote: Schneider – no, Berges – No, McCormick – No. Motion died. This will be re-visited after the attorney looks into it.

McCormick said they will all be taking their budgets with them and will get them to Dan prior to the Budget hearings in December.

McCormick then thanked Clerk Beckman for all of the work that she has done in their years of service.

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

  
Howard McCormick, Chairman

  
Christy M. Beckman, Clerk to the Board