BOARD OF McPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA
October 28, 2024

Meetings held on the 1st floor in the Commission Meeting Room at County Building, 122 W. Marlin

9:00 a.m. The following items will be discussed as time permits -

A. Approval of Agenda
B. Approval of Minutes
C. Approval of Checks and Claims & Payroll
D. Approval of Adds and Abates
E. Personnel
F. Reimbursement Marion County Rural Water District #4
G. Proclamation Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans
H. Letter of Support for MCDS Application for Funding
I. General Correspondence

9:00 a.m. Public Input

9:10 a.m. Scott Lloyd -

ARPA Update

9:25 a.m. Fuqua Construction -

County Building Project Discussion

9:40 a.m. Michele Cullen, CKC -

TA Grant for Sunflower Santa Fe Trail Project - Canton, KS

10:00 a.m. Community Corrections - Executive Session (Non-elected Personnel)

10:10 a.m. Kevin Erickson, Public Works Superintendent -

A. Non-elected Personnel
B. Discussion on repairs needed to brine building

MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
October 28, 2024

October 28, 2024
9:00 a.m. Regular Meeting
All Present

Chairman Becker opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the agenda for October 28, 2024 as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

During Public Input at 9:00 a.m., Sheriff Montagne updated Commissioners on recent arrest numbers and current jail counts, as well as department activities.

Also, during Public Input, Hollie Melroy, County Clerk, updated Commissioners on current early voting numbers for the upcoming November 5, 2024 election.

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve the minutes for October 21, 2024 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:05 a.m., Scott Lloyd, Lloyd Group LLC, who was contracted by the County to provide CPA services regarding McPherson County ARPA Funds, joined the meeting to update Commissioners on the status of the funds relative to the allocation deadline which ends December 31, 2024. Mr. Lloyd presented a review of the process of the spending of the funds, areas for which ARPA funds are allowed to be used, compliance requirements, as well as the allocation/reallocation, conversion, and payroll reimbursement of funds. He noted that the remaining unencumbered award amounts to $2,799,395.52. He also discussed the final step remaining regarding integrated internal control that will need Commission approval. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to reallocate contracts encumbered in ARPA funds to capital outlay funds including the following projects: Harris L3 Communications Towers at $894,813.15; the custom tower for the Windom Tower site at $515,370.00; and the custom tower for the Windom Building Upgrade at $11,420.00, all totaling $1,421,603.15. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:15 a.m., Max Fuqua, Fuqua Construction, joined the meeting to discuss the County Building remodel/improvement project. He reviewed the progress from the beginning preliminary discussions, meetings, and development of the final preliminary plan, as well as the continued process to date, of completing a construction plan and selecting bids from sub-contractors and vendors. Mr. Fuqua then asked the Commissioners for approval of the final improvement project agreement for a total amount of $6,676,000.00, which includes all completed preliminary work through the project's final completion, with the intent of finishing the project within one year, in an unoccupied building, with the start date to be determined by the County. Following discussion, Commissioner O'Dell noted that this decision has been well thought-out over a long period of time with many important considerations. He listed several benefits that the project would provide to McPherson County citizens, County departments and staff, as well as Courts, including convenience and safety, friendlier open environment, additional work and storage space, efficiency in transactions, allowing all court related functions to be located at the Courthouse, and provide on-site security to both the County Building and the Courthouse. Commissioner O'Dell then made a motion to approve the County Building improvement/remodel project as presented, and for the Chairman to sign the contract with Fuqua Construction for the total amount of $6,676,000.00, utilizing both County reserves and ARPA funds. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:28 a.m. Michele Cullen, Central Kansas Conservancy (CKC) President and Sharon Long CKC Board Member/Grant Writer joined the meeting to announce that the agency has been awarded a KDOT Project Programming 2024 TA Grant of $811,857.00, with no local match responsibility, for work on approximately 2.11 miles of trail on the Sunflower Trail, specifically in the Canton, KS area. Following a review of the planned project Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to sign the acceptance document as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:37 a.m., Kevin Erickson, Public Works Superintendent, joined the meeting with two (2) items:

A. A request to approve a Personnel Change Notice (PCN) to hire Keith Neufeld as a Part-time Seasonal Mower Operator (12A), effective October 29, 2024, to fill a vacancy. Commissioner Kueser made a motion for the Chairman to sign the PCN as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**
B. A request for repairs to the brine building which sustained storm damage. Following discussion and a review of bids, Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the bid for repairs from Keim Metal Buildings for an amount not to exceed $6,200.00 as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve accounts payable, witness checks, juror checks, encumbrances, and a void & reissue of checks for October 28, 2024, and payroll for pay period ending October 26, 2024 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner Kueser made a motion for the approval of documentation of equipment and maintenance expenses, as well as the authorization of payment in the amount of $43,843.66 to the Marion County Rural Water District #4 for hook-ups located in McPherson County. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.** This reimbursement completes the County's $55,410.00 allocation to Marion County RWD #4 and will be paid using County funds.

Chairman Becker introduced a Proclamation for Operation Green Light which declares County support for McPherson County Residents who have served our country and this community in the Armed Forces, effective October 2024 through November 11, 2024 (Veteran's Day). Chairman Becker read the proclamation aloud. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to sign the document as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Chairman Becker introduced a letter of support to Multi Community Diversified Services, Inc.'s application to KDOT for Section 5311 funding for fiscal year 2026, for operating funds utilized to transport the general public along with clients with special needs, as well as support of their grant application to KDOT for operating and capital funds for fiscal year 2026 in the 5310 program which provides medical transportation services to meet the needs of the elderly and anyone with disabilities. Commissioner Kueser made a motion for the Chairman to sign the letter as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:52 a.m., Rick Witte, County Administrator/Financial Manager requested fifteen (15) minutes of executive session, including himself and Tim Gadde, Director of Harvey/McPherson Counties Community Corrections for discussion of non-elected personnel. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to go into executive session as requested. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye. No action was taken in executive session.**

Following executive session, Mr. Gadde requested to resign from his position effective immediately. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to accept the resignation as requested as well as to include the County paying Mr. Gadde's health insurance through the month of November and a 4-week severance package that would be paid through the State of Kansas Fees and Services Fund. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion, regarding the ARPA Funds Benefit Conversion (reallocation) discussed earlier by Mr. Lloyd, stating that the $2,799,395.52 be allocated toward the County Building Project. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:14 a.m., Commissioner Kueser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Minutes prepared by Abbey Heidebrecht

Keith Becker

Keith Becker, Chairman

David O'Dell, Vice Chairman

Thomas L. Kueser, Commissioner

Hollie D. Melroy, County Clerk