

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 9, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Kiowa County Commissioners was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chairman Richard Scott on October 9, 2014. Oswald opened the meeting with prayer and Pledge of Allegiance. Those attending were:

Richard Scott, Commissioner
William E. Koehler, Commissioner
Donald Oswald, Commissioner
Debra C. Lening, County Clerk
Peggy Dunlap, Administrator

Cindy McCloud and William Wilcox were present as visitors.

Minutes from the September 25, 2014 Regular Meeting was presented. Koehler made a motion, seconded by Oswald, to approve the Minutes as presented. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The agenda was reviewed. Additions were made, to wit: Old Business: #10 – Lincoln County Free Trade Zone Status; #11 – Fair Board Update. Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to approve the agenda with additions. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The vouchers were reviewed. One voucher was denied. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Scott, to approved and sign all but one of the vouchers. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Dorothy and George Ellicott and Doris Lessenden met with the Commissioners regarding transit van issues. George Ellicott was the spokesperson for the three. There were seven items discussed, to wit: 1. Dismissal of transit van coordinator; 2. Maintaining an assistant or helper to aid passengers en route and to appointments; 3. Medical trips to Denver; 4. Excursions for senior citizens; 5. Shopping while waiting on other appointments; 6. Financing; 7. Advisory board for the transit van. The Commissioners stated they could not discuss the dismissal of the coordinator as it was done in executive session. They also stated that the policies are not set in stone at this time and they have discussed appointing a transit van advisory board. There is a board for the CSBG grant now, but not for the transit van operation. The commissioners invite the concerned citizens to join them in a work session to work on the transit van policy. The transit van is over \$20,000 in the hole currently so some changes are needed.

Tammie Clark and Jo Lynn Idler with Prowers County Public Health and Environment, Keith Seimsen with SE Environmental Health, and DSS Director Dennis Pearson met with the Commissioners for a Board of Health meeting. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to recess the Regular Meeting to go into a Board of Health meeting at 10:00 a.m. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Commissioners came out of the Board of Health meeting and resumed the Regular Meeting at 10:36 a.m.

J.C. (Joe) Carrica and Connie Brase with Southeast Mental Health Group (SHG) met with the Commissioners to discuss a couple of items. The transportation grant from the Daniels Fund runs out in June. This involves a driver to transport people who are in a crisis with either mental health or substance abuse. They have done a few transports for Kiowa County but some have been too risky to transport so the Sheriff's department has had to be utilized. More evaluations are being done in our area and the number of transports has spiked recently. They are requesting that Kiowa County and Baca County consider budgeting \$1,000 annually to help off-set expenses for this program based on historic volume. The other four counties will be asked for substantially more as they use the transport more than these two smaller counties. Carrica also stated he had been contacted by Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Behavior Health with a new idea to provide services in the jails for mental health and drug and alcohol treatment. This program has been going on for seven years but no one has applied for funds in these 6 counties. There is \$207,000 available for this area with no match. The fiscal agent would be Otero County. Carrica would like a letter of support from the Commissioners for this service.

Doris Lessenden met with the Commissioners regarding transit van issues. She thanked them for the years of the transit van usage. She is in need of service more now. She is advocating for people like her and the necessity of a helper/rider because she needs assistance when using the transit van. Lessenden is also concerned about who might be hired as the new coordinator and how important that selection will be.

The first Southeast Commissioners' meeting with Keith Goodwin will be October 31st from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in La Junta at the courthouse Room 107.

TV tower update regarding the generator was discussed. They are still working on getting pricing from Electra-Pro.

There was discussion regarding shopping excursions on the transit van. Dunlap said she needs direction from the Commissioners. For now, if there are two or more medical appointments, then shopping and meals can be done between appointments. The van is to return to Eads immediately after the last appointment. The Commissioners will have a work session on October 14th at 9:00 a.m.

The railroad update was discussed.

FSA Director Dawna Weirich met with the Commissioners regarding the farm bill public meetings. Weirich asked if the Commissioners would consider renting the community building to the County Committee at a lesser amount for the large public meetings to educate land owners on the new farm bill. Koehler feels that \$100 is cheap. Weirich said these are taxpayers coming to this meeting and she would like the amount to be reduced to \$50 per meeting to cover the cleaning of the building. Scott stated he didn't see any difference between Extension education and FSA education and the Extension office is not charged. The Commissioners will discuss further and get back with Weirich.

Road and Bridge applications were discussed. Three Applications have been received so far. The deadline is coming up. Interviews will be done October 20th at 9:00 a.m. for Road and Bridge and Transit Coordinator.

Correctional Industries were discussed regarding equipment training. This may not be something the Commissioners want to pursue at this time, but they will continue to check into it.

DSS Director Dennis Pearson met with the Commissioners. The Addendum for the Memorandum of Understanding between the Colorado State Department of Human Services and the Board of County Commissioners for 2013-2014 that the Commissioners signed at the last meeting had the wrong page inserted. Pearson presented the correct form for signature. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to sign the correct Addendum for the Memorandum of Understanding between the Colorado State Department of Human Services and the Board of County Commissioners for 2013-2014 for the IV-E Waiver. All Commissioners voted affirmative. Transit van and Medicaid payments were discussed. Pearson will get more information on this matter regarding a pass card for riding the van. He will try to have the information before their transit van work session. The floor plan for the upstairs office space was discussed. Pearson still does not have bids for this area.

Larry and Carla Gifford, Dorothy Ellicott and Scott Nyman met with the Commissioners regarding transit issues. Larry Gifford asked the Commissioners why Carla was dismissed. Scott stated that the letter said she violated county policy and the other discussion took place in executive session so he would not discuss it any further. Carla Gifford stated she would like to address it since she was involved in the executive session. She asked where in the policy they were referring to. She gave them the transit van fliers with highlights. There was discussion regarding violation of personal use of county equipment. She would like to have the dismissal changed to resignation. Oswald made the motion to reconsider the dismissal. The motion died for lack of a second. Both Larry and Carla thanked the Commissioners for listening.

The Veterans Memorial update was discussed. Roland Sorensen entered the meeting for the discussion. The dinner is being planned. A bank account will be opened at the local bank for donations to be received. The solar lights have been installed. They are expecting approximately 200 people for the dedication. The dedication will be November 11th at 11:00 a.m. with a light meal to follow.

CDOT information received at a meeting was discussed.

Landfill updates were discussed. A survey will be sent out to rural areas regarding landfills. The State was glad to know the County was working on deficiencies. The usage of the Haswell landfill may be changed to a transfer station and transport the refuse to Eads. They also recommend a second person for the landfills. Training will be mandatory.

The Lincoln County Free Trade Zone status was discussed. The Commissioners want to know where they are currently at on this matter.

The fair board meeting was discussed. Koehler discussed the manager concept with them. The budget was discussed. Financial reports were reviewed. Their next meeting will be November 5th. There was discussion regarding handling cash and how to account for it all.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed.

The Clerk's report was reviewed and filed.

The Commissioners report was reviewed.

The Model Traffic report was reviewed.

No time-off request forms were reviewed.

The Altus Environmental contract was reviewed. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to sign the Service Agreement with Altus Environmental LLC for 2015. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Elise Crockett has become certified to do drug testing collections and would like to be considered. Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to contract with Elise Crockett to do the random drug testing collection for the County. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

After what they heard earlier in the day, Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to keep the Community Building fees at the regular fees of \$100 plus the \$300 deposit for the FSA meetings. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Eads senior citizens will be fixing the meal for the Veterans Memorial dedication. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to pay the senior citizens \$500 to prepare and serve the dinner. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The next Regular Meeting will be October 23rd.

With no further business, Oswald made the motion, seconded by Scott, to adjourn at 2:35 p.m. All Commissioners voted affirmative.