

## ELLSWORTH COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

### MINUTES

**October 22, 2018**

The Board of Ellsworth County Commissioners convened this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2018 at the Ellsworth County Courthouse.

#### ***Members Present:***

*Albert W. Oller, 1<sup>st</sup> District Commissioner*

*Kermit Rush, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Commissioner*

*Stephen S. Dlabal, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Commissioner*

#### **OPENING BUSINESS:**

Chairman Rush called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Dlabal moved to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Oller seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Oller moved to approve the Minutes for October 15, 2018. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Billy Kryger, Pastor of the Smoky Hill Baptist Church in Ellsworth, was in attendance but did not wish to address the Commissioners.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Anthony Hopkins, Mayor of Kanopolis City, requested a waiver from the landfill to discard of a dilapidated home in the City of Kanopolis. Commissioner Rush said he could use the \$1500 waiver policy for the City. Commissioners suggested that he talked to Teresa Shute, Landfill Supervisor.

#### **APPOINTMENT:**

Commissioner Dlabal made a motion to go into executive session for attorney client privileges with **Greg Hoffman, Attorney for Sherman, Hoffman & Hipp**, and County Attorney Paul Kasper to discuss a demand letter regarding property taxes from 9:05 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. Commissioner Oller seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. At 9:20 a.m. Commissioners returned to open session with no action taken.

**Murray Marston, Sheriff**, sought the advice of Commissioners on where he should place the custom bench Maico Inc. has donated to the Sheriff's Office. The Commissioners said he could place the bench wherever he thinks would be the most beneficial to citizens waiting outside of the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Marston informed Commissioners that proceeds from the frisbee golf tournament last weekend will be donated to the Sheriff's K-9 unit. He questioned where those funds should be placed to keep track of them. County Clerk believed a special fund would need to be set up for these funds, but she would confer with the County Auditor. "Turn Around, Don't Drown" signs are being offered free to mark

recurring flood hazard areas. Sheriff Marston requested permission to apply for the signs after he has collected the data on where the signs are needed in Ellsworth County. The Commissioners agreed that it would be a good idea and although no motion was made they gave him permission to apply for the signs.

**Andrew Bair, ECMC Administrator**, discussed the challenges the hospital is currently facing to have adequate staffing for the increase of patients. Mr. Bair is working on why people in the community go out of town, such as Salina, to receive the same services Ellsworth County Medical Center can provide in Ellsworth.

**Paul Kasper, Tim Korbe, Janice Sneath, Geneva Schneider, Marie Ranker, Nancy Hysong, Chris Roudybush, Jeremiah Brown and Murray Marston**, were in attendance for the meeting with **Brian Rose, a Representative for Aetna Health Insurance, and Jeremy Gilson & Eric Sexton with Gallagher, Inc.** Mr. Kasper asked how Aetna could offer such a huge savings over the premiums Blue Cross & Blue Shield were offering to the County employees. Mr. Gilson explained that with the State of Kansas we were in a large pool that did not reflect our own County's risk score. Our employees are doing what they need to do to keep expenses down and our new rates will reflect this. Mr. Rose assured the employees that wellness visits are still covered at 100%. Several employees inquired if they would be covered outside the State and so on. Mr. Rose said that we were quoted for an open access choice (PPO) instead of the HMO network some people had experienced in the past. Commissioner Oller made a motion to choose Aetna as the Ellsworth County Employee Health Insurance carrier. Commissioner Dlabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

On October 18, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. Commissioners held a special meeting with Jeremy Gilson and Eric Sexton of Gallagher and Company, and Brian Rose, a Representative for Aetna Health Insurance, to review the new insurance plans being offered through Aetna. Mr. Gilson informed Commissioners he was going to send out a survey to all insurance eligible employees. Gallagher & Company will use the volunteer survey results to adjust the plans to better suit our employees. Mr. Rose assured them there are no referrals required to see a specialist as long as the specialist is in network. Mr. Rose explained the transparency tool Aetna offers to discover the actual cost of services for employees prior to appointment or procedure. This tool can also be used by employees to choose the lower cost options to keep expenses down for our future premiums.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Rush adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

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Shelly D. Vopat, County Clerk