

Hamilton County Commissioners' Meeting
P.O. Box 1167
Syracuse, KS 67878
Meeting Place - Commissioner Room
Hamilton County Courthouse
December 16, 2014
8:30 a.m.

Keith A. Puckett, Chairman
John R. Simon, Vice-Chairman
Randall C. Braddock, Commissioner
Nikki Schwerdfeger, Commissioner
Rob Gale, Attorney
Angie Moser, County Clerk

Larry Ochs
Jason Ochs
Nick Thompson
Naomi Fox
Mark Davis

Commissioner Puckett called the Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with four Commissioners present.

AGENDA: Commissioner Braddock moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

PRIOR MINUTES: Commissioner Simon moved to approve the December 9, 2014 Commissioner Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Puckett seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: None.

Attorney Gale joined the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

CHRIS SQUIRE: Ms. Squire, Hamilton County Treasurer, discussed the following:

- 1) She received information from Mid-West Connect regarding a shipping software upgrade needed to ship larger packages. The software would enable staff to print labels directly from their computer, but she feels the monthly cost does not justify how many large packages we mail. It was decided to just take the larger packages directly to the Post Office to mail them.
- 2) Asked permission to close the Courthouse to the Public at noon on December 31, 2014 in order for her to close out the 2014 year end and run the necessary reports, and all day on Friday, January 2, 2015. The employees she spoke to were willing to take a personal or vacation day. Commissioner Braddock moved to close the Courthouse at noon on December 31, 2014 and also all day on Friday, January 2, 2015 and if employees choose to not work, they will take a personal or vacation day. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

BRYAN COFFEY: Mr. Coffey, Hamilton County Hospital Administrator, discussed the following:

- 1) Informed the two new Board Members, Naomi Fox and Carol Roberts, attended last night's Board Meeting.
- 2) His visit with True Bridge was successful, and they are fixing their errors in billing the Hospital's accounts receivables.
- 3) Private pay accounts receivable aging is high. Since May 1, 2014, \$451,000.00 of the aging is from Hamilton County residents. After 120 days, the accounts will be turned over to collection.
- 4) Going to a weekly run statement program to keep the cash flow up.
- 5) The cost reimbursement for Medicare patients has increased.
- 6) The Medicare cost settlement money was received this past Friday.
- 7) Presented the November, 2014 Statistics and Financial Statements. Also discussed any past due accounts payable. Some of them are due to the Statements being mailed more than a month after the statement date.

- 8) Health Leaders Media wrote a story about Hamilton County Hospital and Mr. Coffey bringing telemedicine to an underserved community.
- 9) Requested \$225,444.81 from the non-taxable Series A No-Fund warrants for capital purchases that have been paid from the Hospital's operating funds. Commissioner Simon moved to approve the issuance of \$225,444.81 in Series A No-Fund warrants. Commissioner Braddock seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.
- 10) Working on recruiting new providers.

SARAH OCHS: Ms. Ochs, Interim EMS Director, met with the Commission to discuss the current situation of the EMS Department. There are issues on some days of only having one person on call. Not all of the certified EMT's in the County are able to take call on a regular basis, and most of them prefer the night shift in order for them to work at their full time jobs. She has contacted a few people to see if they are interested in taking an EMT class. The Commission has been in contact with Joe House with the State EMS Board and will find out more information and report to Ms. Ochs. Also, the EMS accounts receivable billing is running smoothly.

5-YEAR PLAN: The 5-year plan was reviewed. Discussed putting a drop ceiling in the Jury Room and options of replacing the furniture.

ROAD PROJECT LIST: The Road Project List was reviewed.

ROAD COMMITTEE REPORT: Commissioner Braddock discussed pulling shoulders on some of the roads that are becoming too flat.

BASE ONE CHEMICAL: Discussed the purchasing the Base One Chemical that would benefit the roads with a harder base, dust control, and less required maintenance. Also discussed how the chemical will affect the caliche. Commissioner Simon will talk to some Road Employees and report back.

ADDITIONS & ABATEMENTS: After review, Commissioner Simon moved to approve Abatements No. 140086 through 140097. Commissioner Braddock seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2014-10: Discussed a Resolution regarding the proposed hotel project. Commissioner Braddock moved the adopt Resolution 2014-10 *A Resolution approving the issuance by the Governing Body of the City of Syracuse, Kansas of its taxable Industrial Revenue Bond to pay the cost of the acquisition, construction, furnishing and equipping of a Commercial Hotel Facility to be leased to Syracuse Hotel, LLC, which facility is located within unincorporated area of the County.* Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

WARRANTS: After review and discussion, Commissioner Braddock moved to approve the Warrants in the amount of \$22,389.94. Commissioner Schwerdfeger seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

HOSPITAL NO-FUND WARRANTS: Commissioner Braddock moved to approve No-Fund Warrants Series B in the amount of \$31,897.23 for operating funds. Commissioner Puckett seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONER REPORT: Commissioner Schwerdfeger informed there may be a public meeting regarding Ground Water Management District 3.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Puckett moved for a 10-minute executive session for matters pertaining to non-elected personnel with the Commissioners, the County Attorney, and the County Clerk present. Commissioner Braddock seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. The executive session began at 11:07 a.m. and the regular meeting resumed at 11:17 a.m. Commissioner Braddock moved for a 10-minute executive session for matters pertaining to non-elected personnel with the Commissioners, the County Attorney, and the County Clerk present. Commissioner Schwerdfeger seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. The executive session began at 11:19 a.m. and the regular meeting resumed at 11:29 a.m.

As there was no more business to come before the meeting, Commissioner Simon moved for adjournment. Commissioner Braddock seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

ATTEST:

County Clerk

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner