

**JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 TUESDAY**

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair), Justin Wickum, and Joette Woods (via phone/serving as Election Judge)

**COURTHOUSE BOILER**

The Courthouse boiler is being installed in the Commissioners office after many months of waiting. The water line to the faucet outside will be reconnected as well.

**SHERIFF DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Nick Erickson had some concerns to visit with the Commissioners about, primarily that the doors on the jail cells were not closing right due to the continued deterioration of the foundation of the county jail. The Commissioners have seen the issue and it is fixed for now. A call to Alert Security was made to have cameras installed in the areas of the jail that are hard to see. The decision was made to look into cameras for the attorney's office as well.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Road Foreman Dave Ghekerie was in to update the Commissioners on Road Department issues. The CAT grader that has transmission issues has been delivered to the dealership for repairs. John Deere was in town to work on the other grader they are having problems with. Black Jack Road was closed over the weekend, and will be re-evaluated today.

**2024 PRIMARY ELECTION**

The Primary Election is underway at the Senior Center and Joplin Hall. The courthouse was also available for a poll place.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 WEDNESDAY**

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair), Justin Wickum, and Joette Woods (via phone).

**PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS**

The results from the Primary Election are in and Sharlys Davis won the for the County Treasurer position. Commissioner Woods made a motion to appoint Sharlys Davis to the Treasurer's Office effective immediately, completing the end of the previous term vacated by the previous Treasurer, Denise Wanken, through December 31, 2024. She will then begin her elected term on January 1, 2025. Commissioner Wickum seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carries with all in favor.

**NEW EMS CONSOLE**

The Commissioners, Clerk and Recorder, and County Attorney signed the official document purchasing the new EMS console.

**RESIDENT CONCERNS**

Kyle Rudolph, was in to ask about the O'Brien/CR 2200 Rd E, which is completely washed out. He would like it fixed as he uses it for farming along with Mays. Upon investigation, it turns out the area in question is not a County Road. The Commissioners explained to him they are allowed to fix the road.

Dale Fossen was in to visit with the Commissioners about the Joplin Sewer Project and asked about who has the responsibility when something goes wrong. The water lines have been hit and it is frustrating to the residents.

Greg May called the Commissioners to talk about a road. He is wondering if instead of a private road it could be picked up again. He also inquired about the possibility of re-issuing a check that the County sent that has been lost in the mail. The Commissioners agreed to do so, the Claims Specialist re-issued the check and Greg will come by to pick it up.

**JOPLIN WATER BOARD**

The Commissioners contacted Corey Fraser about the Joplin Water Board Association, to figure out how the board is structured.

**SENIOR CENTER**

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center Director, was in to update the Commissioners on the buses she has received from grant funding. She continues work on grants for the Senior Center.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

County Attorney Robert Padmos was in to inform the Commissioners on an incident outside the Sheriff Office.

**UPDATING COUNTY MAPS**

The Commissioners and County Attorney called Cicon and Associates about surveying Joplin roads and right-of-ways so the maps are updated. This will be further investigated.

**COMPENSATION COMMITTEE**

Compensation Committee meeting called to order by Chairman Larry Hendrickson at 1:31 pm. Brittney Tempel called in and Chris Mattson was present. Chris Mattson made a motion to table the Compensation committee until the budget numbers were in. Brittney Tempel seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. Commissioner Woods made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Preliminary budget meeting called to order at 2:05 pm. by Chairman Hendrickson. In attendance were: Kathy Armstrong, Commissioner Woods, Sharlys Davis, Jesse Fulbright, and Commissioner Hendrickson. Commissioner Woods made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

**CLAIMS**

Claims Specialist Monica Serrato presented claims for the Commissioners to review and approve. Upon review, Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT**

County Superintendent Kathy Armstrong was in to update the Commissioners on her budget and the schools she has been approving for OPI.

**WEED/911**

Jim Ghekerie, Weed/911, was in to update the Commissioners about prices on weed spray. The state bid rate is \$100 cheaper than the governmental rate. He picked up the paperwork that needs submitted for the console we are ordering for EMS.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 TUESDAY**

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair) and Justin Wickum. Joette Woods is in Washington DC for the week for CLI training.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Road Foreman Dave Ghekerie was in to update the Commissioners on what the road crew has been doing. The crew is spraying ditches and blading in areas that still contain moisture. Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve an approach permit for South Joplin Rd. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**SENIOR CENTER**

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center Director, had the Commissioners review the Aging Title VI (nondiscrimination) plan for 2024. Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve the plan. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the plan. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**PAYROLL**

Payroll Specialist Jordan Miller presented payroll to the Commissioners for them to review and approve. Upon review, Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve payroll. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

LHC Construction stopped in to let the Commissioners know they are bidding a project in Liberty County. The Joplin Sewer Project has had some issues with residents' homes, including back-ups and water damage. The construction company will connect with the residents affected.

**CLAIMS**

Claims Specialist Monica Serrato presented claims for the Commissioners to review and approve. Upon review, Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve claims. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

Public Health was in to have the Interlocal Agreement Formation for the Opioid Settlement in Region 2 approved. Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve the authority and administration of abatement. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 TUESDAY**

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (chair) and Joette Woods. Justin Wickum is in Lewistown for meetings for part of the day.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Dave Ghekerie, Road Foreman, was in to discuss the roads. A new elevator is going up across the tracks, and the gravel trucks hauling for it are destroying the roads.

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT**

The Commissioners reviewed the updated Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Chester. The amount for sharing law enforcement for the next two years has gone from 89K to 100K. Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement for the city to share law enforcement at the updated cost. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

The Interlocal Agreement also calls for the County Justice of the Peace to act as the City Judge with a contract stipend of \$1200/year. Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement for the local County Justice of the Peace to act as the city judge with the stipend of \$1200.00/year. Commissioner Hendrickson seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**WEED/911**

Jim Ghekiere, 911/Weed, was in to provide updates to the Commissioners.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

County Attorney Robert Padmos was in to provide updates to the Commissioners on some situations that County is dealing with as far as juveniles and budgets.

**COUNTY TREASURER**

Deputy Treasurer Taylor Marshall was in to discuss the entitlement money placement with the Commissioners. The Commissioners will put it in the general fund and transfer it out where needed.

**ELECTION QUESTIONS**

Clerk and Recorder/Election Administrator Davin Padmos was in to share a concern from a few citizens on election questions.

**COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

County Superintendent Kathy Armstrong was in to update the Commissioners on what she has been working on in her office.

**JUSTICE COURT**

Justice of the Peace Chris Case was in to provide updates to the Commissioners on his office.

**JOPLIN SEWER PROJECT**

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve a change order for RPA/Joplin Sewer Project. Commissioner Woods seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**ALCOHOL TAX MONEY**

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve alcohol tax money to going to the Bear Paw Recovery Outpatient program. Commissioner Woods seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

**MSU EXTENSION**

Jesse Fulbright, MSU Extension Agent, was in to update the Commissioners about 4-H, the Marias Fair, and his Extension Office.

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 TUESDAY**

The Board of Liberty County Commissioners met in regular session on the above stated date at 8:00 AM in their office at the Courthouse. Those present were Larry Hendrickson (Chair) and Joette Woods by phone and Justin Wickum in person.

**JOPLIN SEWER PROJECT FUNDS**

The Commissioners connected via phone to discuss the RPA priority alternative list should there be funding left over from the Joplin Sewer Project. The decision was made to reprioritize how the leftover funding should be used. The Commissioners will camera the existing lines, and replace a 6" main with an 8" main. The Clerk and Recorder requested \$40K to be left for auditing purposes.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Road Foreman Dave Ghekiere was in to update the Commissioners on the Lothair Road and the culvert work going on. Flat Coulee will be bladed this week along with Whitlash Road. The South blades will cover the lake roads. The mowing will continue as weather permits.

**MSU EXTENSION**

Jesse Fulbright and Julie Gagnon, MSU Extension Office, were in to discuss the lease agreement with the 4-H Council and County concerning the shooting /sports complex they would like to get up and running. The Commissioners will go through legal before signing any contract.

**LIBRARY**

Julie Erickson, Librarian, was in to visit with the Commissioners about budgets. Her concern was unfunded state mandates and the problem with rising utility costs. The Commissioners will take those things into consideration before setting final budgets.

**SENIOR CENTER**

Glenda Hanson, Senior Center Director, was in to let the Commissioners know that her fire suppression system was down and she has a call in to the company. They will be there this week to fix the problem.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Frank Tabbish stopped to visit about gravel crushing. Commissioner Wickum made a motion to approve the gravel crushing by LCH for 7500 yards. Commissioner Woods seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

Commissioner Wickum made a motion to pass Resolution 24-12 for The Agenda Action Items to be on Tuesdays and to be audibly recorded as such. Commissioner Woods seconded the motion. Hearing no public comment, the motion carried with all in favor.

<<insert Resolution>>

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Liberty County Commissioners was adjourned at 5:00 PM

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_