

Kiowa County BOCC Meeting Minutes April 11, 2023

The Regular meeting of the Kiowa County Commissioners was called to order on April 11, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Donald Oswald. Commissioner Lening opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Donald Oswald, Chairman

Howard "Butch" Robertson, Commissioner (entered at 9:25 a.m. due to personal issues)

Mike Lening, Commissioner

Delisa Weeks, County Clerk

Tina Adamson, County Administrator

Minutes: Lening moved, and Robertson seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Vouchers: Robertson moved, and Lening seconded the motion to approve the vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Oswald moved, and Robertson seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Landfill/Recycling Updates: Administrator Adamson did confirm the plastic protein tubs that the ranchers are using are recyclable.

Administrator Adamson is suggesting that the landfill remain open on windy days since the county now has the roll offs. Adamson is contacting Landfill Manager, Jeff Scranton to discuss this further. Scranton entered the meeting to discuss keeping the landfill open longer hours since the county now has the roll offs. Scranton agreed that could be done.

Housing Update: The Cactus Corner project is having both water and sewer issues.

Road & Bridge: Road Foremen Allen Watts and Rick Spady entered the meeting at 9:55 a.m. to discuss the fuel tank estimates. Watts said they are looking at 16 weeks before they will get started. After lengthy discussion, Lening moved to order 2 fuel tanks, one for Eads and one for Sheridan Lake. However, included in the motion Lening requested Administrator Adamson to check with Hill Petroleum and Agfinity and get a price quote from them on fuel tanks. If these two businesses have not responded by the 18th of April, the County would then agree to purchase 2 fuel tanks from Hoidale. Oswald seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Road Foreman Spady would like to update the 1993 backhoe. The backhoe is starting to have some issues. The BOCC recommended Spady to contact some different businesses and get bids for a newer backhoe.

Lening said he had received a phone call from a resident regarding the limitations of gravel. Discussion ensued. Lening moved to discontinue the maximum 5 loads of gravel per household policy. Robertson

seconded the motion. Lening voted yes, Robertson-yes and Oswald - No. Motion carried. It will be left at the discretion of the two Kiowa County Road Foremen as to how many loads will be allowed to be sold to a household based on staff and gravel availability. The policy of giving free loads of gravel to county residents has not been reinstated.

Road Foremen, Spady then brought up as to whose responsibility it is when with the road grader is being used as fire equipment. Spady had assisted with a recent fire with hay bales and there were flames on both sides of him as he was attempting to move the bales further in the ditch area. The road grader got stuck but Spady was able to back it up and get away from the flames. Spady told the volunteer fire fighters he was not risking his life or the grader. The BOCC agreed he did the correct thing by removing the grader and himself from harm's way. After further discussion it was agreed the Road Foremen will have discretion as to how much assistance they and the equipment are able to provide during a fire.

Watts and Spady exited the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Letter of Concern: Michael Splitter sent an email to the BOCC in regard to a possible tower site that will be set adjacent to his new home. Discussion ensued with no action taken.

Natasha Kiler with Invenergy entered the meeting at 11:00 a.m. to discuss the setbacks the County has listed with the Planning and Zoning Board. Kiler explained with these kinds of setbacks, this would affect 52% of Invenergy's project. She asked if the BOCC would consider adjusting the setbacks. The BOCC will further discuss the setbacks for wind and solar with the Planning and Zoning Board.

P & Z Update: Steve Cunningham, Energy Consultant with Clearway entered the meeting and explained some of his concerns he has with the current setbacks for transmission and wind turbines. He asked the BOCC to review more of these concerns with the planning and zoning board. Commissioner Lening then asked Cunningham if his team would review and recommend as to how far the setbacks should be for towns and houses in the rural areas of our county. Cunningham said he would take it back to Clearway and review the recommendations. He will contact the BOCC in the near future.

Lening moved, and Robertson seconded the motion to recess for lunch at 12:30 p.m. Motion carried.

The regular meeting reconvened 1:35p.m.

Courthouse Maintenance Foreman, Nick Johnson entered the meeting at 1:35 p.m. to discuss the scheduled event that is happening on the 15th of April. Johnson wanted clarification as to what his department's responsibility is. He explained how he or his employee has to be on call every weekend to run or operate the equipment the county uses for the arena area. Discussion ensued. The BOCC agreed to have Administrator Adamson advertise for a Fairgrounds Maintenance Person. This person will be responsible for taking care of the fairgrounds/arena. There have been several events scheduled at the fairgrounds this coming summer. Johnson exited the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Reports and Meeting were reviewed and signed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Asbestos Removal Estimates: The asbestos removal bid from ADEPT was approved by a motion made from Lening with Oswald seconding the motion. Motion carried. To complete the asbestos removal will be approximately \$13,207.00. The Courthouse basement will be blocked off and will have to be closed

one or two days for the abatement process to be completed. The offices that will be affected are the County Library, Emergency Management, Extension Office and the Veteran's Office. If something else changes in regard to the closure the Administrative Office will post notifications.

Arns Building Permit: Lening moved, and Robertson seconded the motion to approve the 20 X 15 addition at 326 State Hwy. 96. Motion Carried.

Deep Space Exploration Building Permit: After viewing the permit application located at 519 & 30 T19 R51. Robertson moved, and Oswald seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Peck Building Permit: Oswald moved and Lening seconded the motion to approve the building permit for residential solar. Motion carried.

Oswald moved and Robertson seconded the motion to sign the **Child Fatality Prevention Act** which is a statewide, multi-agency effort to prevent child deaths. Motion carried.

The next regular Commissioner's meeting will be held on April 27, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

With no further items to be discussed, Oswald moved and Lening seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 p.m. Motion carried.