

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, January 19, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chair Jeff Masterson called the Butler County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were Commissioner Marc Murphy, Commissioner Dan Woydziak, Commissioner Mike Wheeler, County Administrator Will Johnson, and Executive Assistant Anna Wealand.

INVOCATION

Ryan Adkison, Finance Director, presented the invocation.

(00:01:19)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Murphy motioned to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2021, Butler County Commission meeting as presented. Commissioner Wheeler seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

(00:01:46)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

(00:01:55)

ITEM #1 – RFP DIGITAL ORTHO PHOTOS

Pamela Dunham, GIS/Mapping Director, approached the Board for permission to send out a request for proposal (RFP) to procure updated county-wide urban digital ortho photos. Previous expenditures for ortho photos for previous years are as follows:

2000 - \$200,000
2006 - \$60,000
2009 - \$70,000
2013 - \$52750

Full county photography at one (1) foot and urban areas at six (6) inches. GIS utilizes the imagery as a base map for all county map layers. The images enable GIS to define parcels, street centerlines, land use, hydrology and a variety of other ground features more accurately.

As new geographic features are entered into the GIS database, they cannot be registered accurately without current photography to serve as a basis for adjustment to ground truth. Aerial photography plays an important role in positional quality control for geographic data capture. Aerials and the information derived from them are used by a number of county departments such as: Appraiser, E911, Planning & Zoning, EMS, Sheriff deputies and detectives, SWAT teams, Public Works, and Emergency Management, as well as public customers such as fee appraisers, surveyors, engineers, fire departments, city police, fire, EMS and a large number of individual constituents. In order to proactively keep up with the very dynamic GIS environment, and deliver timely and accurate information to be utilized for day-to-day operations, as well as emergency response needs, it is necessary for Butler County to continue to invest in maintaining current photography.

Butler County GIS budgeted \$60,000 for digital ortho photo procurement in line item 01-19-6501-00 in the amount of \$15,000 in 2018, \$15,000 in 2019, \$15,000 in 2020 and \$15,000 in 2021. The State of Kansas is flying the entire state over the next two years at one (1) foot. This project would be for the urban areas only at six (6) inch resolution in an approximate amount of \$30,000. The contract will be approved by Legal Counsel prior to acceptance by Butler County.

Commissioner Woydziak inquired as to the necessity for such photography for the GIS department to purchase this photography and not simply utilize other platforms such as Google maps. Mrs. Dunham stated the photography is crucial to her department, as well as others, as this photography is much more accurate and aids in obtaining accurate measurements of many items including fields, homes, out buildings, etcetera. Mrs. Dunham expressed her desire to send out a RFP or sole-vendor the photography. Administrator Johnson stated opening this project up to competition for competitive pricing is not a bad thing. Discussion regarding color matching and photo quality ensued. Commissioner Woydziak said he would like the County to try to negotiate with the vendor and have GIS return with the bid received in an effort to maintain the same vendor and the quality of the GIS site.

Commissioner Woydziak motioned to allow the GIS/Mapping Director and County Administrator to negotiate with the sole provider for the digital ortho photography and present the bid received to the Board at a later date. Commissioner Murphy seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

(00:10:55)

ITEM #2 – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SHIRT ORDER – BID AWARD

Darryl Lutz, Public Works Director, came before the Board for the consideration of approving the award of bid for the annual purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) uniform shirts for the Department of Public Works. The Public Works Department has an approved program for providing clothing or clothing reimbursement for field employees. As part of this policy, the County purchases five (5) summer shirts and five (5) winter shirts for each field employee. Each seasonal type shirt will have the same style and color. The shirts include a County logo on the left chest area and the employee's first name on the right chest area. Also included in the shirt order are safety shirts that comply with current federal safety standards for high visibility safety wear. Shirt bids are solicited from Butler County vendors that either reside in Butler County or have a place of business in Butler County. The Board of County Commissioners authorized the Department of Public Works to solicit sealed bids in December 2020. Bids were received and opened by the County Commission on Tuesday, January 11, 2021.

Bids were solicited from two (2) vendors which were Wells Design Inc. and Graphic Concepts, both from El Dorado. Wells Design Inc. is the only vendor that responded and offered a total bid of \$8,076.00. Wells Design Inc. has always offered the lowest bid in the past. The unit cost of the shirts were similar to last year's, with some items having the same price as last year and some of the items having as much as a 5.8% increase from last year. It is recommended that the annual PPE uniform shirt order be awarded to Wells Design Inc. The unit prices are considered reasonable. Clothing and personal protection items are budgeted for each year in the road and bridge fund, the landfill fund and the weed department budget. Staff is following Butler County's purchasing policy.

Commissioner Woydziak motioned to approve the purchase of PPE uniform shirts for the Department of Public Works from Wells Design, Inc., El Dorado, Kansas, in the sole bid amount of \$8,076.00. Commissioner Murphy seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

(00:13:02)

ITEM #3 – MAJOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PENDING EXPENDITURES

Darryl Lutz, Public Works Director, approached the Board to provide information related to expected major repair costs for a sewer line replacement project and an engine repair project for the Public Works Dept. The Department of Public Works is currently dealing with two (2) major repair projects. The first project is related to the force main line for Sewer District No. 12, located between the Antique Mall west of Augusta and the City of Augusta. For the last several months the County has experienced issues with flow in the force main and has had Albert Hogoboom Oil Field Trucking Inc. out several times to help clear the line. The line will no longer clear out and the problem has been isolated to a problem with the line in the crossing under the Whitewater River. The line has a solid blockage the County has not been able to clear with hydraulic jetting or with a mechanical cutter. County crews are currently attempting to pull the current carrier line out of the casing with the thought of installing a new carrier line. However, Crews fear that the casing is breached and that a new line will not be able to be pulled through. The current estimate to bore a new crossing with a new casing and carrier line is approximately \$50,000, not including the County's time and equipment.

Commissioner Woydziak asked if the line serves the Augusta Municipal Airport; Mr. Lutz replied that it does not as the Airport has on-site treatment. Commissioner Murphy inquired as to the age of the current crossing; Mr. Lutz stated the current crossing was placed in the late 1970s and is approximately forty years old. Administrator Johnson said the issue with the crossing is not age related and mused that something must have hit the line, bored through it, or was not installed correctly. Mr. Lutz stated a company installed a fiber optic line in the vicinity last fall and wondered if the line was unintentionally pierced. The pipe is four inches in diameter and 500 feet long. Mr. Lutz explained the casing must be two inches wider than the pipe threaded through the casing and should be made of steel. Commission Chair Masterson inquired if Crews were anticipating severing a fiber optic line; Mr. Lutz responded that a utility locate request had been submitted prior to the project. The Board discussed the unlikelihood of a utility having bored through the line as sewage would have continued to pass through. Mr. Lutz stated something solid is being encountered in the line and mused that something may have struck the line and crimped it. The current line crossing is just under the drip line of the south bridge. Commission Chair Masterson asked why the Board is being approached with this expenditure. Mr. Lutz stated the Board governs the sewer district and the expense will be major, requiring financing. Mr. Lutz said the repair will be approached as an emergency repair due to mounting expenses accruing due to emptying a tank several times a week. Commissioner Wheeler asked as to the length of the project; Mr. Lutz estimated the project would take about a week, once the project has been scheduled. Commission Chair Masterson questioned if the County would be able to fund the project internally; Administrator Johnson stated he believed so. Commission Chair Masterson asked if sewage rates would need to be raised to accommodate the repair; Mr. Lutz stated he is not certain but expressed a desire to not raise rates. Administrator Johnson said Staff will have a proposal for the Board by next week. Nowak Construction Co. Inc. will be contacted to perform

the work. The Board expressed their approval of Staff contacting Nowak and scheduling the work, with Staff to return to the Board next week with pricing information.

The second major repair issue is related to the engine on the County's road reclaimer. The head of a valve appears to have broken off, inflicting fairly major damage to the piston, cylinder and head. It is believed, based upon the damage, that there is likely metal debris that has scattered to other parts of the engine including the turbo. Staff is developing options with cost estimates for repairing the engine, to rebuilding the engine or to finding another engine to replace the damaged engine. The estimated cost for Berry Tractor to replace the engine is slightly over \$100,000. The financial consideration is uncertain at this time. Commissioner Woydziak inquired as to whether other estimates had been sought. Discussion ensued about various options and the benefits and pitfalls of each along with the monetary impacts. Mr. Lutz stated Public Works Staff has decided the reclaimer is not sufficiently utilized by the County to warrant continuing to keep such a valuable machine in the County's fleet. Mr. Lutz said Staff proposes selling the machine and leasing a reclaimer for projects as needed. Commissioner Woydziak stated he is in agreeance. Mr. Lutz noted he believes the machine, with a new engine installed, can be sold at a good value. Administrator Johnson noted the reclaimer was purchased for a project on River Valley Rd and it paid for itself during that project, with a high return on investment. The Board agreed replacing the engine and selling the machine to be a wise course of action. Mr. Lutz passed out to the Board an estimate he received for repairs to the reclaimer from Stauffer Diesel Inc. Discussion regarding the various options listed ensued.

Commissioner Woydziak motioned to approve the purchase of a Stauffer Diesel rebuilt engine for the cost of \$38,500, plus a refundable \$12,000 core deposit, and an estimated \$8,000 to Berry Tractor to remove and replace the engine. Commissioner Murphy seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Woydziak asked Mr. Lutz for updates on the County's current projects. Mr. Lutz replied he does not have an update on the SW 150th St and SW Butler Rd roundabout project as of yet today but stated crews worked on the project yesterday and he expects crews should be able to lay asphalt this week. In regards to the bridge project on SW Haverhill Rd Mr. Lutz stated the base rock was laid last week and believes APAC is going to try to lay asphalt this week; if asphalt can be laid this week Mr. Lutz said he has a high level of confidence that the bridge will be open in the next week or two.

(00:43:31)

VOUCHERS

Commissioner Wheeler and Commission Chair Masterson asked questions of the vouchers. Administrator Johnson provided answers to their questions.

Commissioner Wheeler motioned to approve vouchers dated January 19, 2021, in the amount of \$499,908.45. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

(00:49:37)

ADDS & ABATES.

Commissioner Wheeler motioned to approve the Adds in the amount of \$0, and the Abates in the amount of \$1,930.98. Commission Chair Masterson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

(00:51:50)

OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD OF BUTLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Woydziak asked Commissioner Wheeler how the first meeting of the COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee went this morning. Commissioner Wheeler replied the meeting discussed entering Phase 2 and staffing levels. Commissioner Wheeler noted the representation of County entities present in the group is diverse. Administrator Johnson stated the County has received 600 doses of COVID-19 vaccinations. The Health Department is dispensing 400 of the vaccines and holding back 200 to ensure being able to provide second doses at the correct time. Administrator Johnson said he is encouraging the Health Department to purchase extra freezers to increase storage capacity, and he has also authorized the hiring of three temporary part time clerks to assist with data entry in the Health Department. Administrator Johnson discussed implementation ideas regarding COVID-19 vaccination clinics. The Vaccine Committee has identified the first three groups to be targeted for vaccination as: First Responders, K-12 staff, and individuals aged 65 and older. After those groups have been largely served other groups will be eligible to receive the vaccine. Vaccines will be limited to the number of doses available and will be by appointment only.

Darryl Lutz approached the Board to notify them of the date of the 2021 Annual Butler County Township Meeting. Public Works is targeting Tuesday, March 2nd, as the date for the meeting. The date is tentative. Mr. Lutz stated an in-person meeting is preferred over a digital meeting. Commissioner Woydziak asked if a digital version will be available for individuals to attend digitally and ask questions during the meeting. Discussion about various options ensued. Mr. Lutz stated this year's meeting is important as there are many newly elected township officials this year. Commissioner Woydziak stated a session reminding township officials that townships are operated by a board and not by one individual as he has had issues with that in townships in his district. Discussion about attendance options occurred.

Administrator Johnson provided answers for some of the voucher questions the Board had asked earlier.

Administrator Johnson reminded the Board that updated Fire District and Planning Commission lists need to be made and some vacancies exist. Administrator Johnson stated he will target February 9th as an action date to place the filling of those vacancies on the agenda. A work session will occur before then

An issue with Benton Township recently cropped up but Administrator Johnson stated the issue was resolved.

Administrator Johnson stated employee email addresses are being removed from the County's website due to issues the County has experienced with an issue called "Email Bombing."

Chris Davis' retirement reception will be held Friday for 2 PM to 4 PM in the Commission Room. Administrator Johnson said Mr. Davis has helped the Emergency Communications department greatly in his time with the County. Interim Emergency Communications Director

Jeremy Seglem is doing a fine job. Administrator Johnson said discussion regarding the Emergency Communications Director will occur in the near future.

Administrator Johnson will be out of the office Thursday and Friday.

(01:16:27)

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Woydziak motioned to adjourn the meeting of the Board at 10:16 a.m.

Commissioner Wheeler seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.