

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, May 5, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chairman Marc Murphy called the Butler County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were Commissioner Jeff Masterson, Commissioner Ed Myers, Commissioner Mike Wheeler, Commissioner Dan Woydziak, County Administrator Will Johnson, and Clerk Recorder Chelsea Noel.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Masterson presented the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Masterson provided the following sentence: “Mr. Boettcher’s residence was built in 1981 and the traditional pipe and gravel was installed, the original septic system began to fail in 2015, March of 2018 when the new septic system was installed and November of 2018 when the first indication of a sewer problem occurred.”

Commissioner Myers provided the following sentence: “County staff presented a prospective Emergency Order of Local Health Officer, which was discussed briefly.”

Commissioner Masterson motioned to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2020, Butler County Commission meeting with the above amendments. Commissioner Myers seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

(00:02:34)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

(00:02:44)

ITEM #1 – WORK SESSION – COVID-19 UPDATE

Keri Korthals, Emergency Management Director, came before the Board to discuss the phases of re-opening the State, as ordered by Governor Kelly. Phase One provides for a mass gathering limit no greater than ten people and will last for two weeks. Ms. Korthals stated the Governor would release a new Executive Order for each phase and there will be health/safety requirements before the State enters into each new phase. Ms. Korthals noted entering phase two would be evaluated and discussed no earlier than May 18th. Commissioner Wheeler inquired about the number of hospitalizations in Butler County. Ms. Korthals stated Butler County has three hospitalizations so far with no new hospitalizations this week. Ms. Korthals stated the Board has the option to institute a local disaster declaration and felt it would be in the County’s best interest to renew the Local Health Order on May 18th for another sixty days to help citizens with FEMA assistance. Commissioner Masterson feels the whole situation has been approached somewhat inconsistently and stated Butler County needs to be careful with how they are policing the Executive Order. Administrator Johnson stated Butler County does not have enough manpower to police compliance of the Executive Order. Ms. Korthals stated hair salons, barbershops and nail salons would be allowed to re-open in phase two, but people will still need to practice social distancing. Commissioner Woydziak discussed the hardships for self-employed workers who

still cannot return to work during phase one. Commissioner Myers stated he received a call from a pastor in his district who was disappointed that churches are last to re-open as part of the Governor's Order. Commissioner Masterson stated there is an exemption for churches as long as there is a separate entrance for coming and leaving and everyone must stay six feet apart. Commissioner Myers stated he also received a phone call from a constituent who owns a pig farm in Kansas and Nebraska. Commissioner Myers stated overall, COVID-19 has been very detrimental to these farmers and they are losing money by the day because the hogs now weigh too much upon delivery and do not make a profit on the re-sale market, and the slaughterhouses are all too full. Commissioner Myers also shared an e-mail he received from a physician who lives in his district. The e-mail described comparable events of past pandemics and stated that during those times, the Federal Government did not take away citizens' freedoms and liberties. The e-mail also stated it is not the writer's intention to take away from any deaths or losses but felt it is most important to keep Americans prosperous.

Jamie Downs, Health Department Director, came before the Board to give an update on the County's response to the COVID-19 issue. Mrs. Downs stated Butler County is still at fourteen cases and has begun to ramp up testing. Currently, Butler County's testing rate is 8.64/1000%~~(Commissioner Myers amended the minutes to strike "%")~~. The Health Department has completed three days of testing and around thirty tests thus far. The Honor Camp testing site will be able to test up to 200 people per day but the results will take 2-5 days, unlike the Health Department where results are back within one day. Mrs. Downs stated a person must exhibit at least one of the symptoms in order to be tested. Commissioner Masterson felt the State is lowering the bar for testing in order to see an increase in cases. Administrator Johnson stated overall, the numbers are on a downward trend. Commissioner Woydziak felt there has been somewhat of an over-reaction due to the main-stream media. No action was taken.

(00:49:46)

ITEM #2 – PROPOSED 2020-2024 CIP WORK SESSION

Ryan Adkison, Assistant County Administrator/Finance Director, came before the Board for discussion on the proposed 2020-2024 CIP. Each year, the BOCC reviews the proposed CIP over two work sessions before adoption. The Proposed 2020-2024 CIP totals \$69,569,325 or \$6,569,325 more than the prior year amount of \$ 63,291,145. Commissioner Woydziak inquired about the new fair grounds listed in the CIP. Commissioner Woydziak stated he would like to see a one-mill reduction this year in the overall budget. No action was taken.

(01:25:28)

VOUCHERS

Commissioner Myers asked questions of the vouchers.

Commissioner Masterson motioned to approve vouchers for May 5, 2020, in the amount of \$491,704.20. Commissioner Woydziak seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

(01:27:50)

ADDS & ABATES

Commissioner Woydziak motioned to approve Adds & Abates #2766 dated May 5, 2020; Adds in the amount of \$0.00 & Abates in the amount of \$209.40. Commissioner Masterson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

(01:28:05)

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

Commissioner Wheeler stated the inmate count at the jail is down below 160 but the revenue per day has remained around \$7,000.

NON-AGENDA ITEM

Darryl Lutz, Public Works Director, came before the Board for approval to purchase pipe culverts and materials for a project on SW 30th. Mr. Lutz stated staff is fixing a field entrance and they need to upgrade the pipe culverts at the same time of the project. The low bid was from J&J Drainage Products, Hutchinson, Kansas, in the amount of \$4,340 and materials for \$4,660.

Commissioner Masterson motioned to approve the purchase of pipe culverts and materials from J&J Drainage Products, Hutchinson, Kansas, for a total cost of \$9,000. Commissioner Woydziak seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Woydziak stated good progress has been made so far on the mill and overlay project on SW 150th Street.

Administrator Johnson stated Butler County is responsible for hosting Quad Counties in June but is waiting to pick a location until the Governor speaks on COVID-19 on May 18th.

The City of El Dorado will hold a public hearing on June 1 to discuss a tax increment-financing district.

Administrator Johnson stated he is unaware when the District Court will re-open.

Administrator Johnson stated all reservations at the 4H-Building have been cancelled through June 1st.

Mr. Lutz informed the Board that a B-29, "Doc", will be flying over the Wichita/Butler County area tomorrow giving a salute to all Wichita area hospitals health care workers. It will fly over the City of El Dorado around 10:55 a.m.

Judge Ward is now filling in on the Supreme Court in Topeka.

(01:47:50)

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Woydziak motioned to adjourn the meeting of the Board at 10:47 a.m. Commissioner Masterson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.