

## **Labette County Board of Commissioners June 8, 2020**

### **Convene**

Chairman Lonie R. Addis called the regular session of the Labette County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. on June 8, 2020 at the Commission Room. Attendance: Lonie R. Addis, Present: T. Douglas Allen, Present, Fred E. Vail, Present.

### **Others Present for the Meeting**

County Counselor Brian K. Johnson, and County Clerk Gena Landis.

### **Media Present**

Ray Nolting from the Parsons Sun, Rena Russell from the Labette Avenue.

### **Governor's Veto of HB2702**

"During the COVID-19 pandemic our local governments have risen to the challenge of providing services to citizens when COVID-19 threatens the normal operations of businesses and government agencies alike. I am keenly aware of the challenges facing Kansas taxpayers, especially those facing unemployment or decreased income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has also required our local governments to do more with less. Local governments rely heavily on property taxes to fund essential programs and services, but by allowing property tax payments to be made as late as August 10, 2020, with no penalties or interest, House Bill 2702 would potentially deprive local governments of essential funding at a time it is needed the most. Local governments cannot meet increased demand for police, fire, emergency medical, and other services if a primary funding source for local governments is withdrawn. Additionally, HB2702 places significant administrative burdens on local governments when local officials should be focused on addressing the threats and challenges of COVID-19 in their communities.

I have long supported responsible property tax relief, but the provisions of HB2702 cause more problems than they solve. Now is not the time to create more problems and burdens for local governments.

Therefore, under Article 2, Section 14(a) of the Constitution, I hereby veto House Bill 2702."

### **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner T. Douglas Allen made a motion to approve the minutes of May 29, 2020 as submitted. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Labette Health Hospital Revenue Bond Document Signing**

Commissioner T. Douglas Allen made a motion to authorize the chairman's signature on document 8038-G, Information Return for Tax-Exempt Governmental Bonds. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Grant 20-CV-037 CDBG-CV Contract Signing**

Parsons Economic Development Director Jim Zaleski, and Community Development Director Laura Moore discussed details of the CDBG-CV grant process for local businesses to receive funding.

Commissioner T. Douglas Allen made a motion to authorize the Chairman's signature on Grant Agreement 20-CV-037, between Labette County and the State of Kansas for the administration and disbursement of the block grant fund that was awarded to Labette County. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

Commissioner T. Douglas Allen made a motion to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Kansas Department of Commerce Designation of Depository Direct Deposit form. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

Commissioner T. Douglas Allen made a motion to approve the signing of the Authorized signature form for Grant No. 20-CV-037. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

Commissioner T. Douglas Allen made a motion to approve the signing of the Authorized signature form for Grant No. 99-ML-003. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Recess**

Commissioners recessed their meeting to reconvene at 10:15 a.m.

### **Accounts Payable**

Chairman Lonie R. Addis made a motion to approve the following checks: Accounts Payable check numbers 21164 through 21264 in the amount of \$194,549.39. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **911 Dispatch Equipment**

Dispatch Director Brandy Grassl requested to purchase equipment for City of Parsons Dispatch. Commissioner Fred E. Vail made a motion to authorize the purchase of two Telex Audio Interface Devices, 1 Mikro Tik Switch, and miscellaneous parts and labor, in the amount of \$5,043.55 for the Parsons Dispatch Center from Rayfield Communications in Springfield, MO. Lonie R. Addis seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (No), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Executive Session**

Chairman Fred E. Vail made a motion to go into executive session for non-elected personnel. T. Douglas Allen seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes). Others present were County Counselor Brian K. Johnson, County Clerk Gena Landis, for a period of ten minutes to reconvene at 10:55 a.m.

### **Hiring Freeze Modification**

Commissioner T. Douglas Allen made a motion to modify the current hiring freeze, and allow 911 Dispatch to hire one employee, Treasurer to hire one employee, and Public Works to hire two employees. Fred E. Vail seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Lonie R. Addis (Yes), T. Douglas Allen (Yes), Fred E. Vail (Yes).

### **Work Session**

Commissioners recessed into a work session at 11:25 a.m. The regular session reconvened at 12:11 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 12:11 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. Monday, June 15, 2020.

Attest

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County Clerk, Gena Landis

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Chairman, Lonie R. Addis