

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, KANSAS  
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

March 13, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners, three members and the County Clerk present, met regular session at 9:00 AM.

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Bever.

**INVOCATION:** Commissioner Bever.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner McManus.

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**AGENDA APPROVAL:**

**ACTION:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Cordray to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus - Yes  
Commissioner Cordray- Yes*

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**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICES:**

**ACTION:** *A motion was made by Commissioner McManus to approve invoices in the amount of \$69,264.22 and \$273,622.49 as present by the County Clerk's Office. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus - Yes  
Commissioner Cordray- Yes*

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**ACTION:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Cordray to approve the minutes of March 6, 2023 as presented by the County Clerk. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus - Yes  
Commissioner Cordray - Yes*

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**HISTORICAL SOCIETY – 2024 BUDGET REQUEST:**

Mr. Ray Rothgeb, representing Independence Historical Society, met with the Board to request an increase in the 2024 budget for the Historical Societies in Montgomery County. The request is to increase the budget from \$17,500 to \$30,000. Those attending the meeting with Mr. Rothgeb were: Mr. Mike Wood, Cherryvale and Ms. Carol Straton, Cherryvale Historical, Mr. Randy Hoffman Ms. Ashley Hobell and Mr. Drew Demo, Independence Historical and Mr. Matt Elrod.

The Board thanked Mr. Rothgeb for his presentation and information provided and will consider the request when the County budget is figured.

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**FINANCIAL OFFICER - OPIOID PROGRAM:**

Financial Officer Fred Gress met with the Board and presented a proposed memo of Understanding from the Youth Substance Prevention Task Force. Four County Mental Health has also been contacted but he is still waiting for a telephone call from them.

The Memorandum of Understanding between Montgomery County and Montgomery County Wellness Coalition – Youth Substance Prevention Task Force, for funding in the amount of \$24,000 was presented for the approval of the Board. The following action was taken:

**ACTION:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of Montgomery County the Memorandum of Understanding between Montgomery County and Montgomery County Wellness Coalition – Youth Substance Prevention Task Force will provide county funding in the amount of \$24,000.00 to promote prevention strategies related primarily to substance use among the youth population. This agreement will begin July 1, 2023 and end on June 30, 2024. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

**ROLL CALL VOTE -** Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus – Yes  
Commissioner Cordray - Yes

RES. NO. 23-045

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**GIS UPDATE:**

GIS Director Anne Miller presented an update on the Montgomery County web-site. Statistics on usage was provided. Ms. Miller requested permission for the two GIS employees to attend a GIS Conference in San Antonio, Texas the week of April 24<sup>th</sup> and all expenses are provided by grant funds. The request was approved.

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**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Public Works Coordinator Jim Wright and Assistant Coordinator Brandon Beurskens met with the Board to present the weekly written report. The following items were discussed:

1. Discussion on Cost Share Applications – Mr. Wright presented the roads to be considered: CR 1400 Relocation, CR 2800 Improvements and CR 4800 Improvements. The decision was to make application for CR 1400 Relocation with the County's funding at 40% of the cost. The following action was taken:

**ACTION:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to authorize the Public Works Coordinator to make application for the Cost Share funding through Kansas Department of Transportation for the relocation of County Road 1400 at a total estimated cost of \$920,000 and the County's share will be 40%, an estimated cost of \$360,000. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

**ROLL CALL VOTE -** Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus – Yes  
Commissioner Cordray - Yes

RES. NO. 23-046

2. Signatures required on the 2022 Noxious Weed Eradication report and Noxious Weed Management Plan –

**ACTION:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve the Board to sign the 2022 Noxious Weed Eradication Report and the 2023 Noxious Weed Management Plan. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

**ROLL CALL VOTE -** Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus – Yes  
Commissioner Cordray - Yes

RES. NO. 23-047

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**MONTGOMERY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT - GRANT APPLICATION:**

Montgomery County Health Department Director Carolyn Muller met with the Board and presented a grant application for a grant by the State of Kansas Department of Health and Environment in the amount of \$142,629.41. The following action was taken:

**ACTION:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve the grant application in the amount of \$142,629.41 from Kansas Department of Health and Environment and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of Montgomery County. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus – Yes  
Commissioner Cordray - Yes*

*RES. NO. 23-048*

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION – NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL:**

**ACTION:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to enter into Executive Session at 9:50 AM to return at 10:05 AM to discuss non-elected personnel (KSA 4319 b1) with the Board present. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus – Yes  
Commissioner Cordray - Yes*

Returned to session stating no decisions made and no action to be taken.

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**ARNOLD GROUP – PHIL HAYES -WAGE SCHEDULE DISCUSSION:**

Mr. Phil Hayes of the Arnold Group was present for discussion with the Board on the affect it will have on present employees if the minimum wage salary is set at \$15.00 and how it will impact present employees' salaries now in the lower \$15.00 range.

Commissioner Bever asked Mr. Hayes to provide how this will affect the \$15.00 salary bracket for the employees having been in our employment for a while and if the minimum wage is brought up to \$15.00 figuring in six (6) employees presently under the \$15.00.

There was further discussion on COLA percentages with the inflation and employee evaluations being conducted when increase are being considered. Mr. Hayes will get a report back to the Board with the information they requested.

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**Recessed at 11:05 AM to 11:10 AM– Returned at 11:10 AM.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – INTERVIEW:**

**ACTION:** *A motion was made by Commissioner McManus to recess to Executive Session at 11:20 AM to 12:10 PM for the purpose of interviewing an applicant for employment with Montgomery County with the Board present and applicant present. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus – Yes  
Commissioner Cordray - Yes*

Returned to session at 12:10 PM stating no decisions made and no action to be taken.

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**OTHER COUNTY BUSINESS:**

1. Flood Plain Lease Agreement - County Road 1600 –  
This will be presented at the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting for action to be taken.

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**ADJOURNMENT: 12:12 PM**

**ACTION:** *Motion by Commissioner McManus, seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner McManus - Yes  
Commissioner Brown – Yes  
Commissioner Bever - Yes*

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, KANSAS**

  
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**ROBERT BEVER, Chairman**

  
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**LARRY McMANUS, Member**

  
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**MIKE CORDRAY, Member**



**ATTEST:**

  
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**County Clerk**

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-045**

**DATED** at Independence, Montgomery County, Kansas this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023

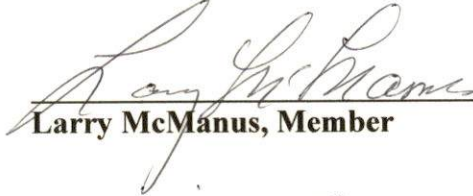
**WHEREAS:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of Montgomery County the Memorandum of Understanding between Montgomery County and Montgomery County Wellness Coalition – Youth Substance Prevention Task Force will provide county funding in the amount of \$24,000.00 to promote prevention strategies related primarily to substance use among the youth population. This agreement will begin July 1, 2023 and end on June 30, 2024.*

*Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus –Yes  
Commissioner Cordray- Yes*



**Robert Bever, Chairman**



**Larry McManus, Member**



**Mike Cordray, Member**



**ATTEST:**

  
**Charlotte Schmidt, County Clerk**

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-046**

**DATED** at Independence, Montgomery County, Kansas this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023

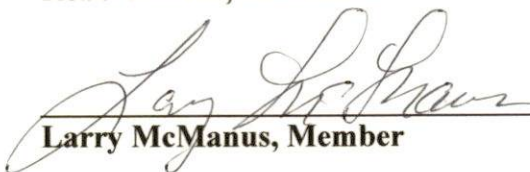
**WHEREAS:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to authorize the Public Works Coordinator to make application for the Cost Share funding through Kansas Department of Transportation for the relocation of County Road 1400 at a total estimated cost of \$920,000 and the County's share will be 40%, an estimated cost of \$360,000.*

*Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

ROLL CALL VOTE - *Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus - Yes  
Commissioner Cordray- Yes*



**Robert Bever, Chairman**



**Larry McManus, Member**



**Mike Cordray, Member**

**ATTEST:**

  
**Charlotte Schmidt, County Clerk**

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-047**

**DATED** at Independence, Montgomery County, Kansas this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023

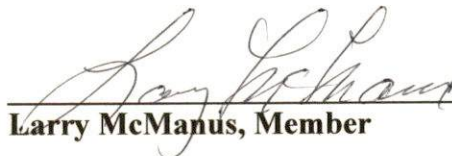
**WHEREAS:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve the Board to sign the 2022 Noxious Weed Eradication Report and the 2023 Noxious Weed Management Plan.*

*Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

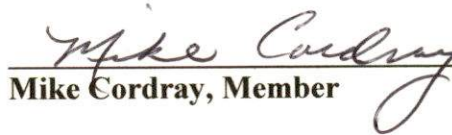
*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus - Yes  
Commissioner Cordray - Yes*



**Robert Bever, Chairman**




**Larry McManus, Member**



**Mike Cordray, Member**

**ATTEST:**



**Charlotte Schmidt, County Clerk**

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-048**

**DATED** at Independence, Montgomery County, Kansas this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023

**WHEREAS:** *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve the grant application in the amount of \$142,629.41 from Kansas Department of Health and Environment and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of Montgomery County.*

*Motion was seconded by Commissioner Cordray.*

*ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes  
Commissioner McManus - Yes  
Commissioner Cordray - Yes*

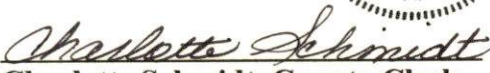
  
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**Robert Bever, Chairman**

  
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**Larry McManus, Member**

  
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**Mike Cordray, Member**



**ATTEST:**

  
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**Charlotte Schmidt, County Clerk**