

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

January 16, 2024

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

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Cordray.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Bever.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner McManus.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

ACTION: *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever 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*

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICES:

ACTION: *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve invoices in the amount of \$289,554.53 and \$443,215.49 with \$17,938.89 for American Rescue Funding as presented by the County Clerk's Office. Motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus.*

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

ACTION: *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve the minutes of January 8, 2024 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*

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF – EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR SECURITY PURPOSES:

ACTION: *A motion was made by Commissioner Cordray to recess to Executive Session at 9:12 AM to return at 9:22 AM with the Board, Sheriff Ron Wade, Administrative Assistant Liz Schwatken and Patrol Lieutenant Jeremy Hunnsucker present to discuss security matters (KSA 75-4319 b13). Motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus.*

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

Returned to session at 9:22 AM with a motion by Commissioner McManus, seconded by Commissioner Cordray with Commissioner Bever voting "yes" to extend the session to 9:27 AM.

Returned to session at 9:27 AM stating no decisions made with discussion to follow.

Sheriff Wade presented a request for the Sheriff's Department to be allowed to purchase tactical equipment and will be paid from the VIN funds. The request was approved and the following action was taken:

ACTION: *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve the purchase of tactical equipment to be paid from the VIN funds in the Sheriff's Department. Motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus.*

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

RES. NO. 24-011

PUBLIC WORKS:

Public Works Coordinator Jim Wright met with the Board and presented the weekly written report. The following items were discussed:

1. Discussed response from the Kansas Historical Society in reference to Bridge 913 on County Road 1800 over Pumpkin Creek and presented an e-mail as the response from the Kansas Historical Society.
2. Cash receipt report for Road and Bridge.
3. Cash receipt for Noxious Weed for 2023.
4. Cash receipt report for Household Hazardous Waste for 2023.
5. Request work session to discuss the Public Works 5-year Bridge Plan. The work session will be at the closure of the regular meeting today.
6. Approved paint stripping as requested.

FINANCIAL OFFICER AND COUNTY APPRAISER – MARKET STUDY ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR 2024 BY COUNTY APPRAISER:

Montgomery County Appraiser Melody Kikkert presented the results of the Market Study Analysis for Montgomery County for the assessment year 2024. The study of the residential and commercial real estate market, and vacant land in Montgomery County indicated there was an overall inflationary trend of 6%. The Financial Officer and County Appraiser will be attending the Local Government Day Legislative Session in Topeka on January 22, 2024.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL:

ACTION: *A motion was made by Commissioner McManus to recess to Executive Session at 10:20 AM to return at 10:30 AM with the Board and HR Director Ben Brubaker present to discuss non-elected personnel, KSA 75-4319 (b1). Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bever.*

ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes

Commissioner McManus – Yes

Commissioner Cordray- Yes

Returned to session at 10:30 AM stating no decision made and no action to be taken.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY HEALTH – OPIOID FUNDING:

Montgomery County Health Director Brandie Kirk met with the Board to discuss the various needs for the funds being provided through the Opioid Settlement.

Discussion was on putting together a task force to determine the needs for the funds. The Board as Ms. Kirk to contact the departments and agencies that would be willing to participate on this task force and she will return to the Commission with a report on the establishing the task force.

HUMAN RESOURCES – PAY CARDS AND COUNTY EMPLOYEES HEALTH PLAN:

Human Resources Director Ben Brubaker met with the Board and reported on the issuance of “pay cards” to be use for those employees not using the direct deposit for their payrolls. Mr. Brubaker told the Board that it will six to eight weeks to implement the use of the cards and they will be for Public Works and Rural Fire at this time. The following action was taken to make a change in policy in the official employee’s handbook.

ACTION: *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to authorize the Human Resources to make the change in the Montgomery County Employee’s Handbook relating to payroll for employee’s no having direct deposit to their banks, to be issued pay cards for their payrolls. Motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus.*

ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes

Commissioner McManus – Yes

Commissioner Cordray- Yes

RES. NO. 24-012

FINANCIAL OFFICER – REPORT ON EBMS INSURANCE:

Montgomery County Financial Officer Fred Gress presented information on the insurance financial figures for claims paid for the health insurance . The information contained a breakdown by medical, dental and vision claims filed with EBMS group insurance. The information also included a cost per member. There will be further information on the employee health insurance in the next several weeks for coverage for the 2024/2024 insurance year.

OTHER COUNTY BUSINESS:

1. 2023 4TH Quarter Abatement Report –
2. County Clerk’s 2023 December Report –
3. Register of Deeds 2023 December Report –
4. Letter from Montgomery County Chronicle Publisher Rudy Taylor regarding the Official County Newspaper for 2024. The County Chronicle was the Official County Newspaper for 2023.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:30 AM

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

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

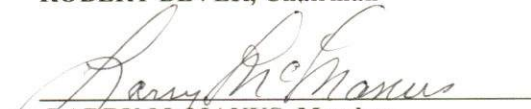
WORK SESSION: 11:31 AM


The Work Session began at 11:30 AM with Public Works Coordinator Jim Wright. Mr. Wright presented information on the 5-year Bridge Plan. Information was provided to the Board on the bridges in Montgomery County with discussion on repairs and financial information on repairs and replacement if needed.

Work Session closed at 12:25 PM

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


ROBERT BEVER, Chairman


LARRY McMANUS, Member


MIKE CORDRAY, Member

ATTEST:




County Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 24-011

DATED at Independence, Montgomery County, Kansas this 16th day of January, 2024.

WHEREAS: *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve the purchase of tactical equipment to be paid from the VIN funds in the Sheriff's Department.*

Motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus.

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



Mike Cordray, Chairman




Larry McManus, Member



Robert Bever, Member



ATTEST:



Charlotte Schmidt, County Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 24-012

DATED at Independence, Montgomery County, Kansas this 16th day of January, 2024.


WHEREAS: *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to authorize the Human Resources to make the change in the Montgomery County Employee's Handbook relating to payroll for employee's no having direct deposit to their banks, to be issued pay cards for their payrolls.*

Motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus.

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



Mike Cordray, Chairman



Larry McManus, Member



Robert Bever, Member

ATTEST:





Charlotte Schmidt, County Clerk