

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

January 29, 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: Reverend .Daniel Knight, Bible Baptist Church, Coffeyville, KS.

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 McManus to approve invoices in the amount of \$13,935.59 Prepays, \$48,239.00 Encumbered Prepays, \$9,931.00 ARP Funds, \$83,256.96 Encumbered end-of-month and \$136,453 end-of-month as presented by the County Clerk's Office. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bever.*

*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 16, 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*

HUMAN RESOURCES – REPORT ON EMPLOYEES W2 FORMS:

Human Resources Director Ben Brubaker reported to the Board that the corrected employee W2 Forms are being mailed from the vendor. Chairman Cordray expressed his concern over the deadline for the forms to be distributed to the employees is the 31st day of January. The forms are late being distributed due to an error caused by the Bamboo software system.

PUBLIC WORKS:

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

1. Reported there has been no response from the Kansas Historical Society in reference to Bridge 913 on County Road 1800 over Pumpkin Creek.
2. Requested approval to solicit bids for two (2) three-quarter ton pickups. The request was approved by the Board.

PUBLIC WORKS – (Continued):

3. Presented a Road Work Notice on a culvert being replaced north of Liberty on CR 5125 beginning February 5th and completion date of March 29, 2024.
4. Discussion on road conditions and rock being hauled.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH CANEY BETWEEN FIRE DEPARTMENTS– INCREASE IN MONTGOMERY RURAL FIRE FOR CHIEFS AND PAYMENT TO FIREMAN INCREASED PER RUN:

District Fire Chief Rick Whitson presented a Mutual Aid Agreement between Montgomery County Rural Fire District and Caney Fire Department. The Agreement was approved and the following action was taken:

ACTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement between Montgomery County Rural Fire District and Caney Fire Department and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of Montgomery County. Motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus.

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

RES. NO. 24-013

Mr. Whitson also presented a proposal for 2024 fire runs by Montgomery County Rural Fire to be increased to \$17.50 per run with no bonus at the end of the year. The bonus is figured on the number of runs each fireman attends. An increase to \$250.00 per month for each of the seven (7) fire chiefs was also requested. The request was tabled by the Commission for one (1) week.

EBMS EMPLOYEE INSURANCE QUARTERLY REPORT – MICAH BOULANGER AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY HR DIRECTOR BEN BRUBAKER:

Mr. Micah Boulanger of Micah Chance Healthcare Consulting and Healthcare Consultant for Montgomery County, met with the Board to present the quarterly report on health insurance claims and comparisons with total expenses for these benefits. HR Director Ben Brubaker also was present for the presentation. Several questions were asked by the Board regarding the report and they were answered and explained by Mr. Boulanger. The renewal for the Plan is April 1st but no action was taken at this time. There will be a workshop following the regular meeting today.

OTHER COUNTY BUSINESS:

1. Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) –

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN RURAL OPPORTUNITY ZONE STUDENT LOAN
REPAYMENT PROGRAM**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, KANSAS,

Section 1. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,223, the Board of County Commissioners expressed its intent to participate in the Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) student loan repayment program.

Section 2. Montgomery County has been designated a Rural Opportunity Zone pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,222.

Section 3. Montgomery County Commissioners hereby obligate Montgomery County to participate in the ROZ student loan repayment program as provided by K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,223 for a period of five years, which shall be irrevocable.

Section 4. Montgomery County agrees to pay in equal shares with the State of Kansas the outstanding student loan balance of any resident individual for five years, if the resident individual meets the terms of qualification provided by the State of Kansas in K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 74-50,223, and the appropriate rules and regulations. The number of qualified resident individuals receiving such payments will be subject to the availability of funds.

Section 5. Montgomery County intends to enter into partnerships with Cities, Employers, and Foundations for the direct sponsorship of Rural Opportunity Zone Applicants. Sponsored Applicants must meet all qualifications of the ROZ program. All sponsorships will be subject to ROZ student loan repayment rules and regulations.

OTHER COUNTY BUSINESS (Continued):

RURAL OPPORTUNITY ZONE (Continued):

Section 6. The maximum student loan balance for each qualified resident individual to be repaid jointly by Montgomery County and the State of Kansas shall be \$15,000 over a term of five years.
Section 7. Montgomery County shall allocate \$15,000 a year for the purpose of matching payments from the State of Kansas to qualified resident individuals. Montgomery County shall revise its ROZ budget on an annual basis and shall inform the State of Kansas of any changes to the annual allocation. Montgomery County shall submit their obligation in full to the Department of Commerce before the first day of October each year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be published once in the official county newspaper and shall be in effect from and after its date of publication.

Adopted this 7th day of August 2019 by the Board of Montgomery County Commissioners, Montgomery County, Kansas.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Bever and seconded by Commissioner McManus.
ROLL CALL VOTE - Commissioner Bever - Yes
Commissioner McManus – Yes
Commissioner Cordray- Yes*

RES. NO. 24-014

2. After Prom Support –

ACTION: *A motion was made by Commissioner Cordray to approve funds for the seven (7) high schools in Montgomery County to be paid from the Special Alcohol Fund to help with the After Prom Parties for teenagers. Each school district must send a request to the Montgomery County Clerk’s Office to receive these funds. The schools are: Elk Valley (\$100.00), Independence High School (\$250.00); Coffeyville High School (\$250.00), Caney High School (\$250), Cherryvale High School (\$250.00), Fredonia Sr. High (\$50.00) and Neodesha High School (\$50.00).
Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bever.*

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

RES. NO. 24-15

ADJOURNMENT: 10:55AM

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


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

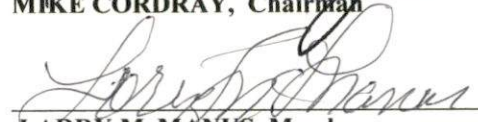
WORK SESSION – 11:00 AM

The Work Shop with HR and Micah Boulanger with the Board gathering information to work on the upcoming renewal of the employee’s insurance plan which renews with EBMS April 1, 2024. There were no decisions made at this work shop and will be further discussion at the February 5th regular Commission meeting.

The session closed at 12:55 PM.

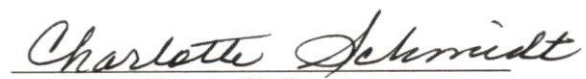
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, KANSAS


MIKE CORDRAY, Chairman


LARRY McMANUS, Member


ROBERT BEVER, Member

ATTEST:


County Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 24-013

DATED at Independence, Montgomery County, Kansas this 29th day of January, 2024.

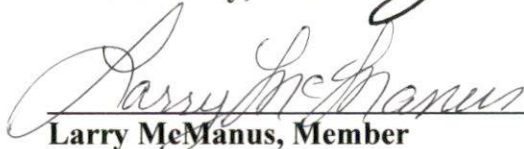
WHEREAS: *A motion was made by Commissioner Bever to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement between Montgomery County Rural Fire District and Caney Fire Department and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of Montgomery County.*

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 OF THE BOARD OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN RURAL OPPORTUNITY ZONE STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM CALENDAR YEAR 2024

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, KANSAS,

Section 1. Pursuant to K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 74-50,223, the Board of County Commissioners expressed its intent to participate in the Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) student loan repayment program.

Section 2. Montgomery County has been designated a Rural Opportunity Zone pursuant to K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 74-50,222. As of July 1, 2022, the County population was 30,996 as certified by the Kansas Department of Revenue.

Section 3. Montgomery County Commissioners hereby obligate Montgomery County to participate in the ROZ student loan repayment program as provided by K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 74-50,223 for a period of five years, which shall be irrevocable.

Section 4. Montgomery County agrees to pay in equal shares with the State of Kansas the outstanding student loan balance of any resident individual for five years if the resident individual meets the terms of qualification provided by the State of Kansas in K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 74-50,223, and the appropriate rules and regulations. The number of qualified resident individuals receiving such payments will be subject to the availability of funds.

Section 5. Montgomery County intends to enter into partnerships with Cities, Employers, and Foundations for the direct sponsorship of Rural Opportunity Zone Applicants. Sponsored Applicants must meet all qualifications of the ROZ program. All sponsorships will be subject to ROZ student loan repayment rules and regulations.

Section 6. The maximum student loan balance for each qualified resident individual to be repaid jointly by Montgomery County and the State of Kansas shall be \$ 15,000 over a term of five years.

Section 7. Montgomery County shall allocate \$ 15,000 a year for the purpose of matching payments from the State of Kansas to qualified resident individuals. Montgomery County shall revise its ROZ budget on an annual basis submitting a new Resolution to the State of Kansas by January 30th each year. Montgomery County shall submit their obligation in full to the Department of Commerce before the first day of October each year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be published once in the official county newspaper and shall be in effect from and after its date of publication.

Adopted this 29th day of January 2024, by the Board of Montgomery County Commissioners, Montgomery County, Kansas.



ATTEST: Charlotte Schmidt

Charlotte Scott Schmidt, Montgomery County Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, KANSAS

Robert E. Beyer
Larry McManus
Mike Cordray

RESOLUTION NO. 24-015

DATED at Independence, Montgomery County, Kansas this 29th day of January, 2024.

WHEREAS: A motion was made by Commissioner Cordray to approve funds for the seven (7) high schools in Montgomery County to be paid from the Special Alcohol Fund to help with the After Prom Parties for teenagers. Each school district must send a request to the Montgomery County Clerk's Office to receive these funds. The schools are: Elk Valley (\$100.00), Independence High School (\$250.00); Coffeyville High School (\$250.00), Caney High School (\$250), Cherryvale High School (\$250.00), Fredonia Sr. High (\$50.00) and Neodesha High School (\$50.00).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bever.

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

Mike Cordray
Mike Cordray, Chairman

Larry McManus
Larry McManus, Member

Robert E. Bever
Robert Bever, Member



ATTEST:

Charlotte Schmidt
Charlotte Schmidt, County Clerk