

Commissioner Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Jerry Sedlacek, Kevin Stuber, Justin Clark, Kathi Vining (Deputy Clerk), and Brett Heim left at 10:05 a.m.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

- Jerry moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting and the agenda. Kevin seconded. Motion passed.

County Counselor Bret Heim:

- Will review John Atkin's flood plan and make necessary corrections.
- Had no further updates to share.

Sheriff Jake Morrison:

- Justin discussed end-of-year transfers; Michelle stated the transfer would be to special equipment but mentioned a cash shortfall for year-end transfers.
- Jerry inquired if the \$10,000 from the election fund would help; Michelle stated it would not and emphasized the need to monitor the general fund.
- Discussion held regarding donation requests and general fund spending.
- Jerry suggested fundraising efforts for the needed equipment. Justin noted that fundraising alone cannot be relied upon.
- Annette mentioned increased funding for dispatch should cover its costs, but she is concerned about staff burnout and overtime expenses.
- Jake reported that only four inmates could be returned, as the rest are women or psychiatric inmates.
- Discussion held regarding a reserve program; Jake will research how other counties implement it.
- Cost of vests estimated at \$1,280–\$1,400; Jerry asked about warranty, which Jake confirmed is five years.

Emergency Management – John Atkin:

- Brett will make flood plan changes; hearing set for April 10th.
- Newspaper publication planned for the hearing.
- Discussion held on light bars for personal vehicles; John noted a state statute and county authority.
- Employees must have sirens if they have light bars and must follow all traffic laws.
- John will draft a resolution, and Brett will check with the county's insurance provider.
- Emergency Management office relocated from upstairs to the basement.

Community Corrections and Juvenile Detention – Troy Smith:

- Presented the adult and juvenile comprehensive plan.
- Allocations: \$605,000 for adult services, \$418,000 for juvenile services.
- Services will transition to Allen County in 2026.
- Justin moved to approve the comprehensive plan and sign it. Kevin seconded. Motion passed.

Executive Session:

- Justin moved to recess into executive session at 9:45 a.m. to discuss non-elected personnel until 10:00 a.m. with David, Brett, and commissioners. Motion passed.

Road and Bridge – Gary Ward:

- Received a bill for radios that are no longer used. Current communication is via cell phones.
- Looking into purchasing walkie-talkies.
- Proposed purchase of a 2024 Chevy Silverado 3500 crew cab flatbed for \$56,305.00.
- Discussion on warranty and equipment replacement.
- Kevin moved to approve the purchase of the new truck. Jerry seconded. Motion passed.
- Justin moved to write a hand check for the truck purchase. Kevin seconded. Motion passed.
- Discussion held on vacation leave policies, to be revisited during the upcoming handbook meeting.

Facilities – Jarrod McVey:

- Boiler inspection passed.
- Awaiting scheduling for elevator repairs.
- Requested approval for a new custodian hire.
- Justin moved to enter executive session at 10:55 a.m. to discuss a trade secret with Jarrod and the commissioners until 11:05 a.m. Motion passed.

Additional Discussions:

- Atmos contacted regarding removal of an unused gas meter at 107 N. Lincoln and conversion to propane.
- Commissioners discussed live-streaming meetings; concerns raised about staffing, budget constraints, and security risks. Decided to revisit the matter next year.

Tourism:

- Kevin reported the tourism staff resigned and they are seeking a new director.
- Kevin moved to approve \$400.00 for event or program advertising to be paid out of the tourism fund. Jerry seconded. Motion passed.
- Kevin moved to approve \$920.69 to Vanessa from One Delightful Life for a blog post to be paid out of the tourism fund. Jerry seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer – Michelle Zimmerman:

- Discussed year-end transfers.
- SEK Aging allocation payments reviewed; Kevin will inquire about the benefit to the community.
- Auditor date moved to May 7th–8th.

Year-End Transfers:

- Interest: Jerry moved to transfer \$277,174.37 to the General Fund. Kevin seconded. Motion passed.
- Motor Vehicle: Jerry moved to transfer \$26,383.55 to the General Fund. Kevin seconded. Motion passed.
- Rural Fire: \$25,000 to Special Equipment.
- Ambulance: \$24,145.01 to Special Ambulance.
- Sheriff's Office: \$9,504.56 to Equipment Reserve.

Resolution 25-06:

- Michelle requested approval to move all Road and Bridge transfers (\$400,000) to Special Machinery and Special Highway funds.
- Justin moved to approve year-end 2024 transfers. Kevin seconded. Motion passed.
- Jerry moved to approve and sign Resolution 25-06. Kevin seconded. Motion passed.

Transfer Station – David Waddell:

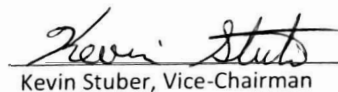
- Noted increased shingle dumping at the landfill.
- Will establish proper paperwork for commercial dumping versus individual citizen use.
- Requested a larger oil tank for used oil disposal.

Voucher Approval:

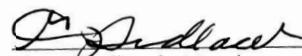
- Justin moved to approve vouchers in the amount of \$97,244.79. Kevin seconded. Motion passed.

Adjournment:

- Kevin moved to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. Jerry seconded. Motion passed.


Justin Clark, Chairman
Kevin Stuber, Vice-Chairman

Attest: 
Amanda DeWitt, County Clerk


Jerry Sedlacek, Member