

KIT CARSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**MINUTES
NOVEMBER 27, 2013**

8:00 A.M. REVIEW PAYABLES
8:30 A.M. ADMIN SIDE ITEMS
9:30 A.M. READ MINUTES
10:00 A.M. DAVID LITTERAL – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONTRACT
10:30 A.M. REVIEW CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL
11:00 A.M. ROD MURRAY – PERSONNEL HEARING
11:30 A.M. TOM RIDNOUR – VEHICLE TRADE REQUEST
12:00 P.M. MEETING ADJOURNED WHEN BUSINESS IS COMPLETE

NEW ITEMS:

- Job Openings
- Purchase order for Family Planning

SIGNATURES:

- o New Hire – Admin Office

OLD ITEMS:

- Payroll Resolution
- Carousel Park bid
- Panels for probation – update
- District 2 bid approval for Loader

FYI:

NOTES:

- In December – get bids for slag

Meeting called to order by Chairman Dave Hornung. Those present were Dave Hornung, Dave Gwyn, Gary Koop, Paula Weeks, and Della Calhoon.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLES

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed accounts payables. Motion to approve expenditures for all funds was made by Dave Gwyn, seconded by Gary Koop, motion carried by unanimous vote of Dave Hornung.

PURCHASE ORDER – FAMILY PLANNING

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed purchase orders for Family Planning for two boxes of Depo-Provera in the amount of \$950.38. Motion to approve purchase in the amount of \$950.38 was made by Dave Gwyn, seconded by Gary Koop. Dave Hornung voted no.

PURCHASE ORDERS – HUMAN SERVICES

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed a purchase order for two laptop computers for Kindra and one for Nikki. Motion to approve purchase order for a Toshiba Computer for Kindra in the amount of \$619.98 paid out of Public Health and for Nikki Halde in

the amount of \$559.99 which will be paid out of Human Services was made by Dave Gwyn, seconded by Gary Koop, motion carried by unanimous vote of Dave Hornung.

NEW HIRE – ERIN GRINNAN

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed an orange sheet for the hiring of Erin Grinnan to work in the County Admin office. Salary will begin at \$12.06 for an annual salary of \$25,086.49 for full time with benefits. The wage will be evaluated after the trial period is completed.

Motion to approve the new hire of Erin Grinnan was made by Gary Koop, seconded by Dave Gwyn, motion carried by unanimous vote of Dave Hornung.

SUBDIVISION EXEMPTION – RYAN NIEBUR

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed a Subdivision Exemption for Ryan Niebur for a 21.12 acre track located in the SE ¼ 5-8-43. This tract of land will be for a runway & hanger that will house chemical and fertilizer storage. This was reviewed by the Kit Carson County Planning Commission on Nov. 26, 2013 and was approved.

Motion to approve the subdivision exemption for Ryan Niebur was made by Gary Koop, seconded by Dave Gwyn, motion carried by Dave Hornung.

SUBDIVISION EXEMPTION – DON AND LINDA DUERST

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed a Subdivision Exemption for Don and Linda Duerst for a 21.21 acre tract for a single family residence located in the NE ¼ 36-8-44. This was reviewed by the Kit Carson County Planning Commission on Nov. 26, 2013 and was approved.

Motion to approve the subdivision exemption for Don and Linda Duerst was made by Gary Koop, seconded by Dave Gwyn, motion carried by Dave Hornung.

SUBDIVISION EXEMPTION – JERRY MCARTHUR – MV EQUIPMENT

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed a Subdivision Exemption for Jerry McArthur for a 14.93 acre tract in the NE ¼ 8-9-44. This tract of land will be for Farm Shop-Storage and Equipment storage with windbreak. This was reviewed by the Kit Carson County Planning Commission on Nov. 26, 2013 and approved.

Motion to approve the subdivision exemption for Jerry McArthur was made by Gary Koop, seconded by Dave Gwyn, motion carried by Dave Hornung.

TERRY HUBBELL – STRIPEING OF COUNTY ROAD

Terry Hubbell called and discussed painting strips for a county road. Terry stated that for spraying of traffic lines unless would need to have a study done. Terry also reviewed different suggestions. Terry will get a name of a private company that may be able to do the study and painting of the road.

WADE GATELEY – CONTRACT

Wade presented a contract for the next year for the position of County Attorney. The Board of County Commissioners reviewed that they are going to advertise this position on an as need bases. This notice will be published in the paper and will be reviewed in December 2013. Discussion was held in regards to travel time and mileage. Hourly rate and travel time may be

half of the hourly rate. The Board of County Commissioners will review advertising of this position.

DAVID LITTERAL – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

Dave met with the Board of County Commissioners and presented the 2014 Grant Application. Dave reviewed that there are several portions of this grant and gave a review. Dave submitted his monthly report. Dave stated that he will be attending the training conference and learn more of what is needed. Dave has reviewed what Darcy had in the files. Dave is reviewing the past months and seeing what is coming into the county such as the pipeline.

This grant is from October to September. The State was behind in getting documents out for the upcoming year. Dave would like to hold a Community Meeting that would have those that would be affected such as the schools, fire departments and if housing is available should a need arise and this meeting will need to be held before the end of February, 2014.

Motion to approve and sign grant application was made by Dave Gwyn, seconded by Gary Koop, motion carried by unanimous vote of Dave Hornung.

Dave has concerns in five areas as follows:

- 1) Hazmat: Dave reviewed that he had an individual with a chemical company asking about what training is available in the county. Dave reviewed the contents of a trailer in Flagler and found a sniffer that test for different gases that needs to be recalibrated. The trailer was purchased by homeland security money some years ago and housed in Flagler. Dave reviewed that 2 trailers and one truck were given to Kit Carson County to the hazmat crew of which Ted Foth is a part of. The Equipment has not been maintained and the training has not been updated. The State Patrol also has a hazmat team but Dave cannot find any MOU with the State Patrol. State Patrol will go to State Highway spills but not within a municipality. The trailers are 8x16 trailers with generators and a truck that is housed at the Burlington Fire Department.
- 2) Training - Dave suggested getting funding for training of a crew in Kit Carson County and have a team of 2 men at each end of the County. Dave recommends keeping the equipment and find funding for the training. Dave will check with some of the chemical companies to see if they would be able to provide training.
- 3) EOC program may need equipment such as an overhead projector and screen to give presentations. Other items that may need to be purchased are Vests and other items for an incident.
- 4) Siren in Vona does not have an automatic switch but must be manually flipped and is no longer working. May be able to find a grant to purchase a siren for the Town of Vona.
- 5) Stake holders meeting. (Fire, Hospital, EMS, Towns, Schools)

Tom Ridnour came into the meeting and discussion was held in regards to the State Patrol and that they assist with all Hazmat incidents when called and is a mutual aid but no agreement had been signed. State Hazmat is located out of Limon. State statute states the Sheriff is responsible to oversee any Hazardous incident. Tom stated that there has not been a formal written agreement but they could get one if needed.

Dave will go and look at the trailers and equipment and see if this equipment is in good condition and see if the equipment needs to be sent back.

Tom reviewed that response to an incident would be around an hour response.

ROD MURRAY – PERSONNEL HEARING

Rod met with the Board of County Commissioners and had a list of questions most directed to the Sheriff Ridnour and Paula Weeks. Rod thanked the Board of County Commissioners for hearing his concerns and questions leading up to his termination. Mr. Murray stated that he had questions he would like the Board of County Commissioners to hear the answers to also.

Mr. Murray stated that when he returned to work after his vacation he was informed that he would be moved back into the jail due to changes due to Obama care and only being a part-time employee. Rod stated that he had concerns working with officer Beck from past working conditions. Rod stated that he had several conversations with Paula Weeks County Administrator and that he informed her that he had his own insurance and this should not be a factor. Mr. Murray asked Paula how many part-time employees did the county have that were affected by Obama care.

Paula stated that the county has between 20 to 30 part-time employees of which most are employed at the annex.

Mr. Murray asked who had capped the hours at 16 and was informed by Sheriff Ridnour that he had made this decision. Mr. Murray stated that Paula had made several calls to CTSI getting information for him.

Mr. Murray stated that he talked with Sheriff Ridnour three or four days later. Mr. Murray then went to talk with Paula who was in the process of working with Katie Kirby and informed Mr. Murray that she did not have time to work with him at that time. Paula stated that she had to get information ready for the auditor before she could talk with him. Mr. Murray wanted to know how the 16 hours was determined. Paula stated that the Sheriff determined the 16 hours and that Officer Brill would be coming out of the jail and doing courthouse security.

Mr. Murray then asked how much budgetary savings the county received due to Obama Care with him moving into the jail. Tom stated that he needed Mr. Murray's help in the jail more than at the front door.

Mr. Murray then stated that he had talked to Lori Rudnik about the move and she then talked with the sheriff. Lori stated that the 16 hours is easier to log and this is why it was set at 16 hours.

Mr. Murray then reviewed several incidents that occurred and asked if officers were disciplined in the same manner. Mr. Murray reviewed that there was a dereliction of duties and that when Mr. Murray called for assistance in alpha pod Officer Beck did not respond and why he had not responded. Sheriff Ridnour stated that this was unaware of the situation.

Mrs. Murray stated this incident involved his safety and should have been disciplined.

Attorney Wade Gateley stated that they could not discuss another officer since that officer was not present.

Mr. Murray then stated that pepper spray was brought into the jail and used to kill spiders in front of a pod and was this individual disciplined in any way. Another incident was when a taser which is one step under deadly force was pointed at another officer. Should this officer not have been written up for the incident? Mr. Murray then stated that there are not to be any weapons beyond this point in the intake area and that Sheriff Ridnour and Office Cooley did not remove their weapons nor did they lock them in the cabinets.

Mr. Murray stated that he and Paula Weeks have known each other over the years and have had several spirited conversations and instances had been discussed and had not been informed that people had been embarrassed. Paula was uncertain what Mr. Murray was referring to.

Mr. Murray asked Paula who was present at the termination meeting and was informed that those present were Sheriff Ridnour, Undersheriff Furrow, Mr. Murray and herself. Paula stated that at this meeting she did not appreciate the F word nor how Mr. Murray talked down to his supervisor.

Mr. Murray stated that he did not raise his voice nor did he swear at her.

Paula stated that preceding the termination Mr. Murray was disrespectful to the commissioners and that Mr. Murray would not talk in a respectful manner and would ignore people when he was spoken to. Mr. Murray stated that with his hearing aids that he does not always hear people.

Paula stated that she had discussed the issues with the Board of County Commissioners and what was going on and the conditions in the work environment and did not believe conditions with Mr. Murray would improve. The Board of County Commissioners stated that this termination would be up to the Elected Official which is Sheriff Ridnour.

Commissioner Dave Hornung reviewed that they have had numerous complaints from individuals and how they had been treated by Mr. Murray at the front door. Our citizens do not need to be presented with an attitude that he has presented. Dave asked Rod if it was true that he put on black latex gloves and offered to give citizens a colonic during security checks. Rod replied that he has done that, but only with people he knew and he knew that they were aware he was joking. Dave replied that the people waiting in line would not understand that. Rod replied that he had never been written up for his actions.

Tom reviewed that he had this discussion with Mr. Murray in the past and felt it was inappropriate.

Mr. Murray asked if his termination was recorded. Paula stated that the meeting was recorded. Mr. Murray stated that all this started with the fiasco about Obama Care.

Tom reviewed that the change was not only Obama care but was also budgetary issues.

There was discussion of who talked to whom by both Sheriff Ridnour and Mr. Murray and the reasons of why the termination was given.

Mr. Murray is requesting a complete copy of his files both in the HR department and the Sheriff Department as well as two copies of the recording done at the termination on Monday December 2, 2013. Paula stated that she and the Board of County Commissioners will be out to a conference and would not be able to get all the information until Friday December 6, 2013. Mr. Murray will be able to pick up the records in Paula Week's office then.

KATIE KIRBY – VICTIMS ADVOCATE

Katie presented where they are in the budget for 2013 and 2014. Katie stated that there was concerns on a case and when she presented her application and the possible concern of a case what would she have made her budget for. They asked what she would have asked for and may be receiving funds for office supplies.

The transmission is slipping on the Explorer which books for \$5900.00 and proposed a change in the vehicle for a cost of \$14,900.00. Katie and Sheriff Ridnour would like to trade in the Explorer for a used car which would get better fuel mileage. Vince's will allow \$7000.00 on a Malibu 18,000 miles and would be around \$21,900.00. The VALE grant has a remainder of county more money into this unit. Don McCloud did drive and said there were problems with the transmission. The Board of County Commissioners asked if she could use the county vehicle.

Tom reviewed that Katie responds at all hours and want her to have a dependable vehicle.

Katie is also looking at office furniture for a desk because her desk is falling apart. There is money in the grant for this. Katie has been shopping around for a desk.

Blue Sky forensic is conducting the interviews and will have several trips to attend these interviews. Katie gave a review of the case and what will be in the future for herself and her volunteers and what the DA will need. Katie believes this case will last at least a year.

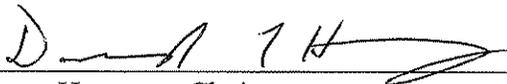
SHERIFF RIDNOUR – RESIGNATION AND ARREST

Deputy Foth has accepted a position in Jackson County and will be leaving next week. Andy reviewed that he has enjoyed working for Sheriff Ridnour.

Part time in Jail and Security and the inmates are asking for religious items. There is a minister north of Bethune who was the minister at CCA and is seeking possible part-time position with the Sheriff department.

Tom reviewed that they had arrested an individual who was wanted for murder in Arkansas. This individual came in with the pipeline and found him hiding in a house.

Meeting adjourned.



Dave Hornung, Chairman

12-11-13
Date