

1. The Coffey County Commission Chambers opened at 8:00 a.m. Monday, April 23, 2001, to individually review correspondence. Chairman Gene Merry called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with members Tim Sipe, Fred Rowley, Jr., Johnnie Sleezer and Larry Crotts present. Also present were County Clerk Vernon Birk, County Attorney Doug Witteman and Administrative Coordinator Mary Bloomer. WCNOC Representative Jeannene Ryan and The Coffey County Republican Editor Mark Petterson were present for part of the meeting.

2. Sipe moved to approve the minutes of April 16, 2001 as corrected, seconded by Sleezer. Motion carried. Corrections were: Monday, April 16, 2001, paragraph 8, second sentence, replace 'they' with "Waddell & Reed" after program; add "at a discounted rate" at end of sentence.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Move to authorize the County Clerk to solicit bids for a riding lawn mower.

B. Move to authorize and direct the Chairman to sign the Group Application Certification Supplement Report for Blue Cross Blue Shield Comprehensive Dental Plan with the orthodontic rider, with the plan effective date of May 1, 2001.

C. Upon the recommendation of the County Engineer, move to authorize and direct the Chairman to sign the Coffey County Payroll Notices as follows: Rosalie Hegg, New Hire, S.T. Temp., as Laborer, at a classification of M-I-a(-) and an hourly wage of \$6.97, and Mike Thomas, New Hire, S.T. Temp., as Laborer, at a classification of M-I-a(-) and an hourly wage of \$6.97, both effective Tuesday, April 24, 2001.

D. Upon the recommendation of the County Health Administrator, move to authorize and direct the Chairman to sign the Coffey County Payroll Notice for Sharon Sharon, as Receptionist/Secretary/Manager for Sanitarian at a classification of C-II-a and an hourly wage of \$8.00. This notice is to change employee status from U.T. Temp to Full Time Regular employee status.

E. Move to authorize the County Clerk to sign the Annual Township Reports for Avon, Burlington, Key West, LeRoy, Lincoln, Neosho, Pleasant, Pottawatomie, Rock Creek, and Spring Creek Townships.

3 a. Sleezer moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted, seconded by Sipe. Motion carried.

4. Sipe moved to authorize and direct the Chairman to sign the memorandum to all Coffey County Employees regarding the Supervision Questionnaire, seconded by Crotts. Motion carried.

- 5.** Merry moved, upon the recommendation of Bill Bauer, Information Systems Administrator, and the approval of the County Attorney, to approve the Photography Agreement with the Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing, Travel & Tourism Development Division, to allow photographs contained on the Coffey County website to be used on the KDOC&H tourism web site and to authorize and direct the Chairman to sign the same, seconded by Sipe. Motion carried.
- 6.** Sleezer moved, upon the recommendation of the Sheriff, to authorize and direct the Chairman to sign the revised Table of Organization for the Sheriff Department and the Coffey County Payroll Notice for Joseph M. Bicknell, as New Hire Deputy, at a classification of LE-III-b(-), and an hourly wage of \$11.92, effective Tuesday, April 24, 2001, seconded by Sipe. Motion carried.
- 7.** Todd Bemis, Noxious Weed Director, met with the Board to discuss chemical cost share for Sericea Lespedeza. Bemis said Coffey County is 4<sup>th</sup> in the State for having the largest acres of Sericea Lespedeza.
- 7 a.** Sipe moved, upon the recommendation of the Noxious Weed Director and the approval of the County Attorney, to establish the customer cost share for the chemicals Remedy and Escort (which are commonly used to control Sericea Lespedeza) at 50% of the County's total cost and to establish the customer cost share for all other chemicals at 75% of the County's total cost and to require all cost share customers to sign an agreement acknowledging that cost share purchased chemicals shall only be used in Coffey County, seconded by Rowley. Motion carried.
- 8.** Merry moved to authorize the Noxious Weed Director to advertise for two summer part-time employees, seconded by Rowley. Motion carried.
- 9.** The Board discussed the distribution of grant funds to the Rural Water Districts in Coffey County. Some Districts have been depositing the money for future projects which caused the Board to develop a new policy whereby the appropriated funds would be put in reserve for use toward Rural Water District completed projects. This policy has also been used for Coffey County Watershed projects. The Administrative Coordinator was directed to draft a letter regarding the same for next weeks review.
- 10.** Kenny Roney, Coffey County Undersheriff, and Tom Johnson, Multi-jurisdictional Drug Task Force, met with the Board to present a grant application for Drug Task Force funding for a four county area including Coffey, Greenwood, Osage and Woodson counties. Johnson said the Task Force has been in operation for one year and has accomplished a great deal in drug enforcement.
- 10 a.** Following discussion, Merry moved, upon the recommendation of Sheriff Randy Rogers and Deputy Johnson, to authorize and direct the Chairman to sign the application for state assistance for the multi-jurisdictional task force for the period of July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002, seconded by Crofts. Motion carried.

- 11.** Jon Hotaling presented his weekly report for the week of April 16<sup>th</sup> to April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2001.
- 12.** Item No. 95-3; Hotaling checked in with Larry Hendricks, County Counselor, on the progress of the Country Critters foreclosure. Hotaling said all creditors should be signed off by the end of the month. Hotaling informed the prospect interested in the building.
- 13.** Item No. 95-4; Hotaling showed the AMPRO building and equipment to the prospect. Hotaling mailed out invitations to bid and additional information to previously identified prospects and 22 diecast operations in Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska. Hotaling requested a key to the building and sent a copy of the electric bill and rent amounts due to the management. Hotaling also told the management that the County will most likely change the locks after 4-27-01. Hotaling told John Zuern the County will have one more pickup at AMPRO on 4-26-01. Hotaling advised the Board that arrangements will need to be made to take care of the mowing around the building, and the building and contents will need to be added to the County's insurance coverage effective May 1, 2001.
- 14.** Item No. 95-8; Hotaling completed the Tri-County Calendar of Events for the Spring and Summer and mailed out copies to Allen and Woodson counties. Hotaling postponed the Tri-County meeting scheduled for 4-17-01 due to a conflict with another meeting.
- 15.** Item No. 95-24; Hotaling attended the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Kansas Center for Community Economic Development (KCCED) Conference held in Manhattan. The addresses presented by Kent Glasscock, Speaker of the House; Dr. Ernesto Sirolli, CEO of the Sirolli Institute; Ted Lee Eubanks, President of Fermata, Inc.; and Gary Sherrer, Lieutenant Governor, were all motivational and educational presentations. Hotaling toured the Kansas Entrepreneurial Center and the Columbia Theater in Wamego. Hotaling attended workshops on "From Civic Values to the Civic Economy – Know How for the Committed Leader," "Sprouting New Growth: Incubators for Rural Communities," "Entrepreneurship as a Rural Development Strategy," "Linking Explores and Entrepreneurs," "Who's "Prospering in Prosperous Times," "Cluster Development: Is It the Answer for Rural Kansas," "Rural Entrepreneurs" and gathered informational materials from Resource Expo featuring state, federal, university, and private organizations and businesses.
- 16.** Hotaling received "Leader of the Year Award" from the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at a luncheon prior to the start of the KCCED Conference.
- 17.** Hotaling attended the Community Network Development Seminar presented by Dan Martin of Integrated Systems Group and Jerry Brown of Salina Software Systems, Inc., held at the Coffey County Hospital on 4-17-01. Information was presented on how

broadband fiber optic cable and faster internet connectivity can be used to attract lone eagles, high flyers, gazelle companies, and micro-businesses to Coffey County.

**18.** Item No. 96-5; Andrew is continuing work on the spec building. The concrete floor has been poured. Water and sewer lines have been hooked up. Work on the lighting and electrical is to start this week.

**19.** Item No. 98-1; Hotaling took the news releases to the radio station and the newspaper on County Government Week. Hotaling also placed ads with both to promote the event. Hotaling ordered refreshments and provided a copy of the County Government Proclamation to the newspaper for publication. Hotaling also provided a news release to both the radio station and the newspaper on the Elected Officials Breakfast to be held at the Coffey County Hospital on 4-24-01.

**20.** Hotaling met with Harland Priddle and Chuck Kreiser of the Kansas Wildscape Foundation to finalize plans for the Governor's Classic City Lakes Fishing Tournament. Hotaling will meet with Leonard Jirak to finalize the tournament permits and order the fish tags.

**21.** Counselors from two of the Coffey County School Districts have identified high school students interested in the Coffey County Flight Training Scholarship. Decisions should be finalized in a couple of weeks.

**22.** Hotaling provided the Board with a copy of the online quiz (and answers) for National County Government Week.

**23.** The Chairman entertained a motion to open a pre-disciplinary hearing.

**23 a.** Sleezer moved, at approximately 11:07 a.m., to open a pre-disciplinary hearing for Jerry Bass, seconded by Rowley. Motion carried. When asked, Bass did not request the hearing be held in Executive Session.

**24.** In attendance for the hearing were each of the Commissioners, Larry Hendricks, Special Council for Coffey County, the County Clerk, the Administrative Coordinator, the County Engineer, the Road Supervisor, Jerry Bass and Mark Petterson, Coffey County Republican Editor.

**25.** Hendricks presented evidence from the County, including court records from District Court and evidence from Hub Caspar, County Engineer, pertinent to the hearing.

**26.** Bass was given the opportunity to present evidence pertinent to the hearing. No evidence was presented.

**27.** Following limited discussion, the Chairman entertained a motion to close the hearing.

**27 a.** Sleezer moved, at approximately 11:20 a.m., to close the pre-disciplinary hearing, seconded by Sipe. Motion carried.

**27 b.** Merry moved, upon hearing the testimony presented to the County Commission and after reviewing the evidence, to immediately terminate the employment of Jerry Bass due to his conviction for criminal behavior and actual physical violence toward another. I direct the County Clerk to prepare his final payroll check to include accrued sick and vacation benefits according to the Coffey County Policy and Procedures Manual formula, effective April 23, 2001, at the close of business, which is 5:00 p.m. I further move that the written notice of discipline be prepared and given to Jerry Bass and all appropriate levels of the next higher supervisor. The notice shall include the charges against Bass and a general statement of the findings of this hearing, seconded by Sleezer. Motion carried.

**28.** Hub Caspar, Coffey County Engineer, presented his weekly report dated April 23, 2001. John Zuern, Administrative Assistant, and Robert Reed, Road Supervisor, were also present.

**29.** Item No. 93-01; Road Permit Report: Three Road Permits were issued during the past week.

**30.** Item No. 99-99; Zoning Permit/Applications Report: No Zoning Permits were issued during the past week.

**31.** Zoning:

1. The Preliminary Plat for Teichgraeber Estates was approved at the April 18, 2001 Planning Board Meeting.
2. The owner of the building, which required a zoning variance and was destroyed, has agreed to move the new building North.

**32.** Item No. 2001-06; Microsurfacing – Project No. A2101-C: An addendum was being mailed out today on the request for bids.

**33.** Sipe moved to authorize and direct the Chairman to sign the proposed Lake Region Authority Budget for FY 2002 (7-1-01 through 6-30-02), seconded by Crotts. Motion carried.

**34.** Caspar presented the Board with information regarding debris from the storm clean up.

**35.** The Board approved a request for the County Engineer to advertise for an equipment operator.

36. The Board asked Caspar to get together with Hotaling to discuss Road and Bridge crews mowing 4-5 acres on the east side at the Ampro building.

37. The Board briefly discussed health insurance and indicated they will not advertise for bids this year for health insurance. The plan year ends June 30<sup>th</sup> and early reports from our Blue Cross Blue Shield representative indicate a probable increase in premium. The Administrative Coordinator was directed to negotiate with Blue Cross Blue Shield regarding several options.

38. The County Clerk reported Sheller Inc., Emporia, will be starting installation of the sprinkler system on Wednesday, April 25, 2001.

39. Birk also reported three trees need to be taken out on the south east corner of the courthouse grounds. The Board's direction was to contact a vendor within the County to do the work.

40. Commissioners Merry, Sipe, Rowley, and Crofts will be touring the park area at Melvern Lake on Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

41. Some of the Commissioners will be attending an elected officials breakfast at the Coffey County Hospital Tuesday morning.

42. Deborah Kennamore, Coffey County Museum Director, invited the Commissioners to a loan exhibit of miniature soldiers furnished to the museum by Perry Houston and Wesley Harris. The exhibit will arrive April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2001 and will be on display through mid August, 2001.

43. Chairman Merry reported he is continuing to work on the land acquisition project at old Strawn Cemetery.

44. Commissioner Merry will also be attending the 3I show at Garden City, Kansas to help with the Kansas Cavalry Booth on Thursday and Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

45. Sipe moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:16 p.m. until 8:30 a.m. Thursday, April 26, 2001, to sign warrants and vouchers and to attend to other County business that may arise, seconded by Slezzer. Motion carried.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

### Response Optional

1. Sid Meeker – Football advertisement scam
2. KDOCH – Notice of Workshops

### Response Not Required

3. City of Burlington – Minutes – April 4, 2001
4. The Coffey County Republican – Thank you
5. Fourth Judicial District – FY2002 Comprehensive Plan
6. Fourth Judicial District – Newsletter
7. KAC – 2001 Legislative Bulletin, Vol. 16, April 20, 2001
8. Richard Jackson – Accounting of funds
9. Whitney Damron – Newspaper Article – The Kansas City Star  
Minutes, April 23, 2001

Signed:

Attest:

Chairman

County Clerk