

The Board of Brown County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Chairman Dwight A. Kruse, Keith Olsen, and Richard L. Lehmkuhl. Also present was Brown County Clerk, Melissa Gormley. County Attorney, Kevin Hill was present for a portion of the meeting via Zoom. Dwight Kruse opened the meeting at 8:10 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Richard Lehmkuhl led the meeting with a prayer.

PAYROLL

The December 16, 2020, payroll was approved as follows:

General	\$71,011.06
Road & Bridge	12,927.50
Election	4,116.57
Technology	321.31
Appraiser	4,748.26
Noxious Weed	1,541.19
ACC	12,245.99
JJA Core	13,187.61
Reinvestment Grant	3,093.40
Services for Elderly	2,317.00
Solid Waste	6,897.01
Special MVT	5,334.41
Employee Ben FICA	8,044.29
Employee Ben KPERS	9,906.42
State Unemploy/Work Comp	-211.60
Insurance	-9,494.93
93TOTAL	\$145,985.49

MINUTES

Minutes by Keith Olsen to approve the minutes of December 14, 2020. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

BROWN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The commission reviewed the minutes of BCHS. It was announced that Delores Waite is resigning from the treasurer’s position.

BROWN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The commission revisited the request for funding for contract tracers at the Brown County Health Department for the first quarter of 2021. It was decided to leave it up to the new commission.

LEPC

Motion by Keith Olsen to approve the LEPC committee. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Richard Lehmkuhl requested a 50 minute executive session. Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl for a 50 minute Executive Session on non-elected personnel with the three Commissioners, Brown County Attorney Kevin Hill, Judge Hecke, Judge Johnson-McNish, John Defore, members of the JJA Board of Directors, Vickie Hubin, Peggy Houston, Chris Denner, present to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel with executive session necessary to protect privacy interests. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Closed at 8:30 a.m. Opened 9:20 a.m. No binding action was taken.

SPARK FUNDING

Brown County Emergency Manager, Don Pounds, reviewed applications for SPARK funding. Pounds presented Memorandum of Understandings for NEK-CAP \$2,000.00, I Do Hair \$750.00, Chapel Oaks \$2,091.00, Paper Eaters \$750.00, Personal Care \$2,000.00, Beaux Cheveux \$750.00, Medical Wellness \$750.00 Genealogical Society \$750.00, Brown County Historical Society \$750.00, Eric McPeak OD \$750.00, Little Hands \$10,000.00, Freedom Hospice \$10,000.00, AFLAC \$750.00. Robinson Fire Department \$10,000.00. Ten handheld cordless sprayers at \$6,999.00 to be distributed to the cities in Brown County and 100 touch free hand sanitizer stations and approximately 132 cases of hand sanitizer cartridges.

Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl to accept the recommendations from the SPARK committee. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Motion carried.

Virginia Freese, SPARK committee person, spoke to the commission concerning the deadline for these entities to return their paperwork.

Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl to accept the MOU’s. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kruse asked if the Robinson Fire Department needed a MOU or if they already had one. Commissioner Lehmkuhl will contact Pounds.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Keith Olsen requested a 10 minute executive session. Motion by Keith Olsen for a 10 minute Executive Session on non-elected personnel with the three Commissioners present to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel with executive session necessary to protect privacy interests. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Closed at 10:02 a.m. Opened 10:12 a.m. No binding action was taken.

ESP

The commissioners reviewed the Investment Grade Audit.

Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl to pay \$2,793.00 for the audit. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Motion carried.

COVID-19

Commissioner Kruse presented a press release: Starting Tuesday, December 22, 2020, drive thru testing will be available at the Horton National Guard Armory located at 444 East 15th Street in Horton. Testing will be closed December 24th, 25th and

January 1st. Appointments can be made at GoGetTested.com/Kansas, though no appointment is required.

COVID-19

Jessica Gigstad, was present via zoom to discuss her concerns over the mask mandate and gathering limit. She asked the commission to rescind the mask order. Gigstad stated that masking should be left up to the individual, it shouldn't be the responsibility of the commission or the health department.

COVID-19

Christie Woods, Brown County Resident, was present via zoom to discuss the mask mandate with the commission. Woods discussed what it was like for her son to wear a mask. She also discussed what she was seeing with students in her school. Woods stated that masks are unsanitary.

MASK MANDATE DISCUSSION

The commission stated the mask mandate will be discussed at the meeting on December 28, 2020. The commission will allow public comment from both sides of the issue, with each side getting 10 minutes.

EMPLOYEE BONUS

The commission discussed an employee bonus. Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl for an employee bonus of \$1,000.00 for full time and \$500.00 for part time. Motion died to lack of motion.
Motion by Keith Olsen for \$500.00 bonus to full time, non-elected personnel and \$250.00 to part time employees. Seconded by Dwight Kruse. Motion carried. Commissioner Lehmkuhl voted nay.

Motion by Keith Olsen to adjourn. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, December 28, 2020.

ATTEST:

APPROVED BY:

MELISSA GORMLEY, COUNTY CLERK

DWIGHT A. KRUSE, CHAIRMAN

KEITH OLSEN, MEMBER

RICHARD L. LEHMKUHL, MEMBER