

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. Dwight A. Kruse opened the meeting at 8:10 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Shane Spangler led the meeting with a prayer.

COVID-19

Commissioner Kruse reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement between Kansas Division of Emergency Management and Brown County. The MOA is used to set out the parties’ mutual understanding as to the use of funds provided by SPARK. Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl to sign the MOA. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

The September 30, 2020, month-end claims were approved as follows:

001 General	\$158,877.07
103 Road & Bridge	20,511.77
123 Historical Society	4,375.00
125 Employee Benefit	85,316.45
127 Election	128.48
129 Extension	8,500.00
131 Mental Health	5,850.00
133 Developmental Services	2,254.33
141 Conservation	6,875.00
143 Appraiser	967.72
145 Ambulance	21,250.00
147 Noxious Weed	1,093.70
155 Diversion	1,122.65
160 911 SB50	15,281.09
165 ACC	1,422.44
167 JJCR	4,393.63
168 Reinvestment Grant	72.49
201 Services for Elderly	3,558.98
211 Solid Waste	50,304.78
909 Payroll	186.64
TOTAL	\$392,342.22

PAYROLL

The September 23, 2020, payroll was approved as follows:

General	\$71,655.07
Road & Bridge	14,793.11
Election	1,845.77
Technology	457.13
Appraiser	7,243.71
Noxious Weed	861.75
ACC	10,774.88
JJA Core	10,344.15
Reinvestment Grant	3,258.01
Services for Elderly	2,471.00
Solid Waste	6,222.46
Special MVT	3,310.00
Employee Ben FICA	7,875.53
Employee Ben KPERS	9,778.59
State Unemploy/Work Comp	-213.55
Insurance	-12,450.28
TOTAL	\$138,227.33

KWORCC

Motion by Keith Olsen to appoint Richard Lehmkuhl as voting delegate and Dwight Kruse as alternate to KWORCC. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Motion by Keith Olsen to approve the September 21, 2020, minutes. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

ENGINE BRAKING

The commission revisited engine braking within the county. Commissioner Olsen and Kruse stated that most cities already have a sign at city limits. Commissioner Lehmkuhl discussed placing signs about ½ mile out of Hiawatha City limits. Lehmkuhl wants to talk to more residents from both sides and revisit the matter on Monday.

HIAWATHA CHAMBER

Ciara Nioce, Hiawatha Chamber, requested use of the Courthouse stairs for the crowning of Halloween Queen on October 31st. Motion by Keith Olsen to allow use of the Courthouse stairs. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Motion carried.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl to sign the MOU between Brown County Commissioners and North Brown County Ministerial Association. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Motion carried.
The MOU outlines the ownership and use of equipment and solution purchased for the use of Gencie disinfection sprayer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Brown County Clerk, Melissa Gormley, requested an executive session. Motion by Keith Olsen for a 5 minute executive session on non-elected personnel with the three Commissioners and County Clerk, Melissa Gormley present to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel with executive session necessary to protect privacy interests. Seconded by Richard Lehmkuhl. Closed 8:39 a.m. Opened 8:44 a.m. No binding action was taken.

ESP

Jeff Flathman, President, Duke Snider, Project Manager, and Brad Rahe, Business Developer, updated the commissioners on the Sheriff’s Office/Jail. Two different options were reviewed. The first proposal includes replacing the existing HVAC Units came to a cost of \$298,858. The second proposal which includes replacing the units came to a cost of \$300,388. Sheriff Merchant spoke about the safety of employees in the building. He also voiced his concern about rebuilding the units vs. replacing the units. Merchant discussed the commercial laundry units. The units are 11 years old, and need replaced. Flathman discussed the options available for the laundry units.

NEK AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Karen Wilson, NEK AAA, Executive Director, gave an update on projects they have been working on. Wilson stated they received a \$25,000 grant for Meals on Wheels. NEKAAA is providing shelf stable meals for the elderly. They have served 8,116 meals to county residents.

NEK HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Kristine Romine, NEK Health Department COO, introduced Robyn Downard, RN. Downard is currently training for the position of Brown County Health Nurse.
Romine stated they have been contacted by a resident saying a stranger knocked on their door asking them to ride with them to get tested for COVID. Romine said the Health Department would never do that and if someone knocks on a resident’s door requesting them to go get tested, they should contact local law enforcement.

SHERIFF OFFICE/JAIL

Motion by Richard Lehmkhul to accept the recommendation of Scope 1 for \$298,858. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Funds will come from the Bond and Interest account.

Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl to adjourn. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, October 5, 2020.

ATTEST:

APPROVED BY:

MELISSA GORMLEY,
COUNTY CLERK

DWIGHT A. KRUSE, CHAIRMAN

KEITH OLSEN, MEMBER

RICHARD L. LEHMKUHL, MEMBER