

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**Disclaimer-This document represents the "unofficial" minutes of the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners. At this point, it is a working document and does not become official until the Board approves the minutes at a subsequent meeting. It is to be used for informational purposes only.*

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session on Monday, February 25th at 1:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Richard Malm, Wayne Ledbetter, Lynn Luck and County Clerk Linda M Buttron. Assistant County Counselor Ryan Kriegshauser was present representing County Counselor Josh Ney.

Vouchers were reviewed and approved by the Assistant Counselor and the Board. Lynn moved that the minutes of February 11th be approved as presented. Richard seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Dustin Parks, Planning & Zoning Director met with the Board. Wayne moved that the Board sign the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) application letter. Richard seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. He also mentioned the letter received from the City of Meriden regarding an upcoming annexation.

Lisa Buerman, County Treasurer presented a bid received for a sealed bid property. Raymond Collier bid \$300 for Lot 752 Walnut Grove Lakeside Village. Richard moved that the bid be accepted. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Bill Noll, Public Works Director met with the Board. Bill reviewed the annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress report. The Board signed two right of way permits for TelCom Construction and Westar Energy. Two bids were received for chip, patch and seal oil. Bids were received from Ergon Asphalt Emulsions for \$2.26/gallon for both RS1H and SS1H and Vance Brothers bid \$1.93/gallon for RS1H and \$1.98 for SS1H. They also submitted an alternative bid for RH1 Plus for \$1.98/gallon. Bill stated that the County Counselor gave advice that the process for these types of bids can be just a bid process and is not required to be a sealed bid process. Richard moved that the bid of Vance Brothers be accepted. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Bill has been looking at realtor web sites to come up with an idea of what vacant land in the 62nd street west of K4 highway area is running. Prices are running from a low of \$2750/acre to \$11,000 per acre. Most are between \$5000 and \$7000. Bill discussed road complaints due to the weather. He indicated that there is no a tremendous amount that can be done however crews are gravelling today. Rock currently on the roads have been pushed sub surface due to the wet conditions of the roads.

Michael Ingenthron, Grantville spoke to the Board regarding a problem with the Union Pacific Railroad blocking crossings. Saturday morning a train came in and fueled the locomotive at the Allen Road crossing by Rees Apple Farm. The crossings were blocked for 45 minutes. Later that same day another train blocked the tracks for an hour.

First responders must travel a mile and a half to get around the blocked tracks in order to respond to calls. He has a solution, if they would proceed a little over 3.5 miles into Topeka they could fuel on a pad they own there. There would be no crossings blocked for 2 ½ miles from that pad. Wayne indicated that he had visited with the public relations person at Union Pacific and wondered if there had been any improvement since then. Michael indicated that there was not an improvement. Wayne will visit with Michael after the meeting regarding the issue. Jeff Herrig spoke with regard to the lawful time they can block the tracks. He said that the railroad company would rather pay the fine than break the trains to unblock the crossing.

Dustin Parks, Planning & Zoning Director met with the Board. He presented zoning cases to the Board for consideration. Case Z2019-01 & PR2019-01 by Don and Mary K. Hurd. Wayne moved that the requests (Z2019-01 & PR2019-01) be approved as presented. Richard seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Hurds called this morning to let us know they were stuck in Iowa due to weather and unable to attend today.

Don Adams commented on Nemaha Road across from David Tenpenny's is a "swamp" and needs work. Bill Noll commented on conditions that contribute to the problems with the road.

Case PR2019-02 by Kameron Robbins regarding a plat of subdivision for Faherty Farms. The property is located on the east side of K92 Hwy and between 94th and 106th streets. Lynn moved that PR2019-02 be approved as presented. Wayne seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Wayne moved that the Board recess into executive session to discuss matters of preliminary discussion of land acquisition with Bill and the Counselor invited to stay until 2:00 p.m. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. The Board recessed at 1:50 p.m. Present during the session were Ryan, Bill and the Board. The Board reconvened at 2:00 p.m. The chair announced that no binding was taken during executive session.

Douglas Walbridge–Union Township Trustee met with the Board to discuss the City of McLouth fire department merging with Union Fire District #9. He asked if the Board had any objection to the merger. The Board indicated by consensus they support the consolidation of the districts.

Larry Means, Lawrence (Rural Township) met with the Board. He discussed road issues on 27th street. He stated that Commissioners, Bill Noll, Bob Johnson and Rick met and viewed the road on January 11, 2017. Larry stated that to date he has not heard if any of the issues expressed at that time will be fixed. Bill Noll addressed the issue. He asked Bill about road grader operator training. Bill indicated that the department does several types of training for new operators. Potholes on the road were discussed. Larry would like to see KU contribute to fix some of the issues due to the traffic that their events whose traffic travels the road. He asked that the County maintain 27th street better than they have in the past.

There being no further business to come before the Board they adjourned to meet in regular session on March 4, 2019.