

Logan County Commissioners Work Session

November 7, 2023

Present: Jerry Sonnenberg, Joe McBride, Mike Brownell, Alan Samber, Marilee Johnson, Debbie Unrein, Kristan Lange, Marty Gaines, Rick Cullip, Jeff Rice, and Danny Guitierrez-Dutton.

Chairman Jerry Sonnenberg called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS SESSION – Commissioner Brownell moved to approve the minutes of October 31, 2023 as written. Commissioner McBride seconded, and the motion carried, 3-0.

REVISIONS TO WORK SESSION AGENDA – Alan Samber added discussion of the NJC lease for equine facilities.

REVIEW AND APPROVE SCHEDULE OF COUNTY BILLS – Kristan Lange met with the Board to review the Logan County schedule of bills for November 7, 2023. The Board approved all bills as presented.

REVIEW BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA – There were no additions or changes to the Business Meeting agenda.

STERLING BUSINESS NETWORK USE OF CLARENCE’S CORNER – Commissioner McBride reported that he had talked to Jane DeSanti of the Sterling Business Network on the phone. The two agreed that the county will purchase two soldier decorations from Home Depot to be used on either side of Clarence’s Corner. Two poles with a banner or overhang with the slogan “City of Sweet Adventure” can be placed as well but nothing will be painted on Clarence’s Corner. Commissioner McBride talked to Rick about getting the soldiers.

NJC EQUINE PROGRAM FAIRGROUNDS LEASE – Alan Samber discussed the NJC Equine Program’s lease of the fairgrounds. Instead of a year-to-year lease, he is proposing a five-year lease. NJC no longer needs certain parts of the Exhibit Center. He has highlighted those areas. The Board did not feel the need to increase the rent for the program. NJC has shown the community favor by doing the same thing helping other groups at no cost.

Other minor changes were discussed. The use of the meeting room will be taken out of the lease as they no longer need it. If NJC wants to use the meeting room, they can, however it will need to be scheduled through the office. The use of the racetrack will be removed from the lease as it is being torn out. It will be referred to as a warm-up area.

Several areas in the Exhibit Center may need to be redefined. The large meeting room will be referenced as the “East Meeting Room”. The reference to the “Equine Management Office” in the lease will be removed. The lease states that the county allows NJC to use the county’s tractor. This will be removed, as they have never used the county tractor. Fairgrounds personnel are very good at making sure the arena is worked for NJC’s use.

The Board discussed a reference to “Open Livestock Area” which refers to an area across Division Avenue that is leased from the City of Sterling. NJC brings steers in for the ranch program. They leave them year-round and house them in the covered beef barn.

Alan will continue to work on the changes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.