

The Wallace County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with Larry Townsend, Chairman, Michael Cowles, Commissioner, Becky Larson, Commissioner, and Brionna Colvin, County Clerk present.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Townsend at 8:00 a.m.

Warrants 29663-29686 in the amount of \$ 43,838.47 were approved for payment. Payroll warrants in the amount of \$58,457.50 for the working period of May 28, 2023, through June 10, 2023, were approved for payment.

Melinda Daily and Nancy Schmidt from the Wallace County Community Care Center Board, Brad and Eileen Porubsky from Hope Springs, and 15 members of the community.

Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable reports were presented from WCCCC Board. Inventory values from WCCCC were presented. WCCCC needs \$42,408.77 to meet the payroll for tomorrow. If the commissioners do not give the payroll money, then they will keep all the assets and donate them to a charity. WCCCC will not have any staff members as of Friday June 29th. They will not operate the facility after June 29th. All services for WCCCC have been shut off as of June 29th. Commissioner Larson has reached out to a board member multiple times to communicate but the member has not been willing to meet.

John Kennedy is not willing to extend his administration license past June 29th.

Tate Vincent, co-pool manager entered the meeting.

The water level is down so they are adding more water. They have ordered sunscreen to add to the water. Hopefully they can get that added this week. Tate discussed a few problems that are happening at the pool. On opening day, they had 56 people in attendance. Tate thinks it would be helpful to hire another manager since we have lost one due to an emergency situation. The commissioners would like Clerk Colvin to put an ad in The Western Times for a co-pool manager.

Doug Springsteel, Landfill Supervisor entered the meeting.

Doug does not have much to report this time. The iron pile has been picked up and he already has a good pile going again.

Anthony Garcia, Road Supervisor, entered the meeting to report on his department.

Anthony had an engineer from Penco Engineering come out to look at the Smokey River crossing at road 3. To fix road 3 properly it will be about \$500,000.00. The weeds in the road ditches are getting too tall to spray them so Anthony is having employees mow the weeds down. Once the weeds start to grow a little they will start spraying.

Ty See entered the meeting.

Chairman Townsend and Anthony discussed with Ty how to fix Road 3.

A member of the community would like to swath the road ditches to bale it.

Road and Bridge application is presented. The commissioners would like to keep the application in the file for the future if needed.

Marshall Unruh, Sheriff entered the meeting.

Ryan Grace with Grace Teams entered the meeting via phone call.

Chairman Townsend informed Ryan Grace of what the County, WCCCC, and Hope Springs is going through. Chairman Townsend was asking if Ryan would be able to fill a gap of administration if needed. Ryan was going to think about it, but he did not want to see the care home shut down.

Lissa Sexson, Economic Development Director entered the meeting.

Marshall Unruh re-entered the meeting.

One new application has been submitted for the housing incentive grant. The improvement applications for the storefront/signage grant that were submitted last meeting have begun. Lissa has everything available on the county website for anybody to access. Lissa has gotten in contact with Melinda Daily and Clerk Colvin about the scarecrow contest at the Kansas State fair.

RESOLUTION # 2023-09 AND PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION of a State of Local Disaster Emergency for Wallace County, Kansas.

WHEREAS on the 17th day of June 2023, the Board of Commissioners of Wallace County, Kansas finds that flooding has caused, or eminently threaten to cause widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property in disaster proportion in Wallace County, Kansas.

WHEREAS such conditions have created obstructions which endanger health, safety, and welfare of persons and property within the border of Wallace County, Kansas.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Wallace County, Kansas.

That the Board of Commissioners of Wallace County, Kansas, under and by virtue of the authority vested in it by K.S.A. 1976 Supp. 48-932 does hereby PROCLAIM that a State of Local Disaster Emergency exists.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED that the area within the border of Wallace County, Kansas covered by this proclamation/resolution is in the entire area of Wallace County, Kansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Board has all rights and/or powers to perform such functions as are vested in said Board by and through the provisions of the Kansas Emergency Preparedness Act of 1975.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED that this resolution shall remain in effect for a period of thirty (30) days unless terminated earlier or renewed by consent of the governing body.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF WALLACE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THIS 27th DAY OF June 2023.

ATTEST:

Brionna Colvin, County Clerk

Larry Townsend, Chairman

Michael Cowles, Commissioner

Becky Larson, Commissioner

Commissioner Larson made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-09. Chairman Townsend seconded.

AYE 3 NAY 0

The motion carried unanimously.

Marshall informed the commissioners that Weskan Schools has a new superintendent.

The commissioners informed Marshall of the issues happening at the pool.

Andrea Cross, Development Director for Options entered the meeting.

Andrea discussed the statistics for Northwest Kansas and also Wallace County. Options went from housing 4,000 people in hotels in 7 years to 80,000 people in one year.

Previously Wallace County has not given any funds to Options to them since 2017. They are requesting \$500.00 for 2024.

Options has had 0 incidents in Wallace County in 2022, which is a great thing.

Lance Finley, Undersheriff entered the meeting.

Discussion about the care center was had

Recess at 11:44 pm.

Reconvene at 1:03 pm.

Theresa Dasenbrock and Lisa Axman with Lewis, Hooper, and Dick entered the meeting. Theresa and Lisa held a budget workshop for the commissioners to look at the 2024 proposed budgets and make any changes they need.

The State Fire Marshall is the last obstacle that the Kansas Department of Aging and Developmental Services is waiting on. The Fire Marshall will be to the care center tomorrow to do the inspection. John Kennedy will pull his license as of Friday at midnight. The commissioners would like to have a special meeting tomorrow so that they can think about the financials overnight. WCCCC Board will need to find financials tomorrow if the commissioners do not give them any.

Like many of President Biden's signed executive orders this would be a loss of private land to the federal government. Chairman Townsend suggested to the other 2 commissioners that we are apart of the opposition.

Resolution 2023-08

**Resolution OPPOSING Chisholm National Historic Trail and
Western National Historic Trail Designation**

Whereas, Various Historical Preservation Associations are pursuing a Chisholm National Historic Trail and Western National Historic Trail Designation encompassing 2,728 miles of land in 109 counties, (18 in Oklahoma, 29 in Kansas, 6 in Nebraska, 56 in Texas);

Whereas, Congress has designated National Historic Trails which encompass vast amounts of privately held land in order to highlight areas of specific interest. Citizens of this county appreciate efforts to encourage economic development, but oppose blanket designations that put dissenting private landowners in the unreasonable position of having to "opt out" of federally mandated designations;

Whereas, the establishment of a 109-county National Historic Trail Designation would adversely influence local officials to pass zoning laws not otherwise needed in order to accommodate the surrounding view (referred to as viewshed) of National Historical Trail Designations, thereby altering well-established processes for land use regulation;

Whereas, A National Historic Trail Designation invites interference in local affairs by special interest groups who claim to be stakeholders, such as the National Park Service, animal rights activists and environmental groups who do not have the historical perspective or deeply felt stewardship responsibility of owners who have worked the land over several generations.

Whereas, the establishment a National Historic Trail Designation directs the Secretary of the Interior to identify and inventory sites and segments along the 2,728 miles of private property, without owner knowledge or consent, illustrates a violation of private property rights; The United States can no longer afford to borrow money to engage in endless expansion of

dependency and regulation by the federal government, resulting in chronic dependency rather than free market activity.

Whereas, A fundamental interdependence exists between individual liberty and the ability to own property, the citizens of this county are very concerned that a National Historic Trail Designation would deprive landowners of their ability to use and enjoy their property as they see fit;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Wallace County opposes the Chisholm National Trail and Western National Historic Trail Designation of the 2,728 miles aforementioned, and does not wish to confer upon an unelected management entity the ability to establish, inventory or influence land use policy within the boundaries of this county.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, on this 27th day of June, 2023 by the Commissioners of Wallace County that the report be and hereby is approved.

ATTEST:

Brionna Colvin, County Clerk

Larry Townsend, Chairman

Michael Cowles, Commissioner

Becky Larson, Commissioner

Commissioner Cowles made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-08. Commissioner Larson seconded.

AYE 3 NAY 0

The motion carried unanimously.

All counties in the 15th Judicial District are making enhancements to the courtroom. With the enhancements, all districts will have the same equipment and be uniform. The state has applied for a grant for \$40,000.00 to help pay for the enhancements. The total cost of enhancements is \$86,000.00.

Commissioner Larson makes a motion to pay \$46,000.00 to help District Court for the courtroom and technology improvements. The funds are to be paid out of Special Building. Chairman Townsend seconded.

AYE 3 NAY 0

The motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Colvin discussed the road department financials with the commissioners. When Clerk Colvin paid the invoice for the Road Grater, she used an inactive fund. Clerk Colvin is needing to make the adjustment and would like to know where the commissioners want to take the money out of. The commissioners would like Clerk Colvin to take it out of the Road and Bridge Department and the commissioners can help out financially with anything over budget at the end of the year.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm.

ATTEST:

Brionna Colvin, County Clerk

Larry Townsend, Chairman

Becky Larson, Commissioner

Michael Cowles, Commissioner