

MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
February 8, 2021

February 8, 2021

9:00 a.m. Regular Meeting

All Present

10:30 a.m. Work Session at Public Works

All Present

At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Becker opened the regular meeting. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the agenda for February 8, 2021 as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

During Public Input at 9:00 a.m., Sheriff Jerry Montagne updated Commissioners on the current jail counts and recent department activities.

At 9:05 a.m., Sheriff Montagne presented the 2020 End of Year Statistics in areas of civil process, criminal cases, accidents, traffic tickets, jail operating costs, K9 Unit, and assets seized for forfeiture.

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve the minutes for February 1, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve checks and claims and encumbrances for February 8, 2021, and payroll for pay period ending February 6, 2021. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:20 a.m., John Verssue, Planning/Zoning/Environment Administrator joined the meeting with two (2) items:

- A. A request for approval of Case ZA2020-03: changes to McPherson County Zoning Regulations. Chairman Becker began the public hearing and then asked Mr. Verssue for a background report. Discussion took place regarding the proposed new language to be amended to Article 4 to add commercial solar energy projects. The case was approved by the Planning/Zoning Appeals Board at their January 18, 2021 meeting. Following discussion, Chairman Becker closed the public hearing and reviewed options for Commission action. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to table the item for further study, including non acceptance of applications until that time. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**
- B. A request for approval of the final plat for Residential Subdivision Case SD2020-03 by applicants Bruce and Marlys Elbert who are also the property owners. The four (4), five-acre lots are located 289 feet East of 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. on the North side of Navajo Road. Chairman Becker began the public hearing and then asked Mr. Verssue for a background report. The case was not recommended for approval by the Planning/Zoning Appeals Board at their January 18, 2021 meeting. Chairman Becker asked the applicants to address the issues of concern including gas pipelines underneath the property, and water run-off. Following discussion on resolving the two issues, and a clarification by Mr. Verssue, of the term "zone", which should be referred to as "easement." Chairman Becker closed the public hearing and reviewed options for Commission action. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to table the case for further study and to return within 60 days for reconsideration. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:45 a.m., Kim Romero, County Appraiser, joined the meeting with two items:

- A. A request to advertise to fill the recent vacancy of an Office/Field Assistant position. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the request as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**
- B. An update on the average percentages/valuations which will be sent out the week of March 1, 2021. Ms. Romero also clarified the process of valuing property and reported that the Trend Study would be published this week.

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve adds and abates for February 5, 2021. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:00 a.m., Julie McClure, Director of Emergency Management/Communications, joined the meeting to request approval of a Personnel Change Notice (PCN) to hire Jacob Quested as a Communications Technician, effective February 9, 2021, to fill a vacancy. Commissioner Kueser made a motion for the Chairman to sign the PCN as presented, with the stipulation that Mr. Quested will correct his application response regarding job functions ability, on his first working day, and that the effective hire date listed on the PCN, will be amended from February 8, 2021 to February 9, 2021. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion for approval to apply expiring FAA Funds for McPherson Airport to projects, improvements, and replacements, with a County match of 5%, up to the amount equivalent to the match made by McPherson City. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

The Work Force One item was tabled to obtain further information regarding the representative requirements.

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion the he would serve as the Community Corrections Advisory Board County Commission Representative, replacing former Commissioner Ron Loomis, who has retired from the Commission Board. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:15 a.m., Commissioner Kueser made a motion to recess and directly reconvene at Public Works to participate in a work session. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 2:30 p.m., Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Minutes recorded by Abbey Heidebrecht.

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Keith Becker, Chairman

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David O'Dell, Vice Chairman

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Thomas L. Kueser, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Hollie D. Melroy, County Clerk