

## BOARD OF MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**August 4, 2009**

**10:00 a.m. Commission Meeting**

**All Present**

Chairman Loomis opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Patrick's NACO Convention Report was added to the agenda. The session with the County Appraiser was postponed. Commissioner Patrick made a motion to approve the agenda for August 4, 2009 as amended. Commissioner Terry seconded. **All voted aye.**

No one spoke during Public Input at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Patrick made a motion to approve the minutes for July 21, 2009. Commissioner Terry seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner Terry made a motion to approve the minutes for July 28, 2009. Chairman Loomis seconded. **Chairman Loomis and Commissioner Terry voted aye. Commissioner Patrick abstained due to his absence at the July 28, 2009 meeting.**

Commissioner Patrick made a motion to approve adds and abates for July 31, 2009. Commissioner Terry seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:10 a.m., Susan Meng, County Clerk, joined the meeting with a request to fill a full-time vacancy for a Clerk's position in her department. Following discussion, Commissioners reached a consensus and decided to allow a part-time employee for the position, agreeing that it would be changed to a full-time employee/position in the future if necessary.

At 10:30 a.m., Tom Kramer, Public Works Director, joined the meeting to request the purchase of an "RTK" G.P.S. system for surveying purposes for the Engineering department. Commissioner Terry made a motion to approve the purchase from Griner Schmitz, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$22,136.00. Commissioner Patrick seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 10:50 a.m., Kenneth Cook, Planning and Zoning Administrator joined the meeting with four (4) items:

- A. A public hearing for a Special Use request (SU2009-02) by Kansas Gas for a Gas Compressor Distribution Station on property located in Delmore Township. Mr. Cook gave a report of the case; it's conditions and site plan. Following discussion Commissioner Terry made a motion to approve Resolution #09-11 as requested, adopting the findings and factors and recommendation of the Planning Board on Case #SU-200902. Commissioner Patrick seconded. **Chairman Loomis voted aye. Commissioner Patrick voted aye. Commissioner Terry voted aye.**

- B. A public hearing for a Special Use request (SU2009-03) by Johnstown Farm LC for a seasonal pumpkin patch, craft and entertainment operation located in the Northeast ¼ of Section 17, Township 18 South, Range 3 West. Mr. Cook gave a report of the case; it's conditions and amendments by the Planning Board. Mr. Vincent Rocco, applicant, addressed Commissioners and asked that the permit also allow for the possibility of a Christmas nativity display (walk-through) which would be operated after dark during the holiday season. Following discussion, Commissioner Patrick made a motion to approve Resolution #09-12, SU2009-03 as recommended by the Planning Board, with additional amendments to condition #5 regarding hours of operation, and the addition of a Condition #10 which involves the limitations on noise levels from operational equipment during hours of operation. Commissioner Terry seconded. **Chairman Loomis voted aye. Commissioner Patrick voted aye. Commissioner Terry voted aye.**
- C. A petition/application (VAC2009-02) public hearing for the vacation of portions of Vision Triangle Easements on and adjacent to Lot 6 and Lot 7 of Rolling Hills Subdivision. Following the report on the petition and review of conditions by Mr. Cook, Commissioner Patrick made a motion to adopt the recommendation of approval of the Planning Board, and for the Chairman to sign the request as presented. Commissioner Terry seconded. **All voted aye.**
- D. A Temporary Use request for the operation of a Haunted Forest at 964 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Mr. Cook presented a review and report on the request and suggested conditions. As Planning and Zoning staff representative, Mr. Cook was allowed to approve the request. The operation will be located at 964 17th Avenue and will run during the month of October from dark to midnight, mainly on Fridays and Saturdays, extending to include Thursdays the two weeks prior to Halloween.

Commissioner Terry shared a request he received from U.S. Cellular asking for Commission support of the U.S. Cellular grant application for federal stimulus funds to bring broadband access to rural and underserved areas in Kansas. It was a consensus among Commissioners to send a letter of support as requested.

At 11:55 a.m., Commissioner Patrick presented a report of his recent attendance at the NACO Convention in Nashville, Tennessee July 24 through 28, 2009. Key issues discussed at the meetings included: environment, energy, land use, and water; the changing workforce; safety and rural roads; railroads; solar energy; USDA crop testing and food safety; infrastructure and economic development.

At 12:05 p.m., Chairman Loomis adjourned the meeting.

Commission minutes taken by Abbey Heidebrecht.

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Ron Loomis, Chairman

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Duane Patrick, Vice-Chairman

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Harris Terry, Commissioner

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Attest: County Clerk  
Susan R. Meng