

## OFFICIAL MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 13, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Kiowa County Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Richard Scott on September 13, 2011. Commissioner Oswald opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Those attending were:

Richard Scott, Commissioner  
William E. Koehler, Commissioner  
Donald Oswald, Commissioner  
Debra C. Lening, County Clerk  
Peggy Dunlap, Administrator

Jeanne Sorensen entered the meeting as a visitor.

Minutes from the August 23, 2011 Regular Meeting and the September 6, 2011 Special Meeting were presented. Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to approve both sets of minutes as presented. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Prairie Pines Assisted Living (PPAL) swimming pool was discussed. Correspondence was received from Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services Inc. Insurance Company. The Commissioners should receive a bid from Gallagher and Brase Insurance by the end of the week. Tony Stimac's Company will not offer a quote while Gallagher is involved in the issue.

There was discussion regarding the meals at PPAL and complaints from residents. The Commissioners plan on dining with the residents today. The Commissioners feel that this is a PPAL board issue, not a Commissioner issue. The PPAL meetings are open to the public so the residents should feel free to attend the meetings and voice their opinions as needed.

The Commissioners are still in discussion regarding the standing on the TV tower.

There was continued discussion regarding the purchasing policy, trying to keep purchases in Kiowa County when possible. "Buy local; Buy area; Buy State!" Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to approve the purchase policy, to wit:

### KIOWA COUNTY PURCHASING POLICY

It shall be the policy of all departments within Kiowa County to give first consideration for all purchases to vendors within Kiowa County. All departments will patronize Kiowa County vendors as long as prices, including shipping and handling, are no greater than ten percent (10%) of outside vendors' quotes; the goods or materials are reasonably available; the goods and materials are of required quality and are compatible with the intended purpose.

A second consideration will be given to vendors within the state of Colorado, using the same pricing, quality and compatibility requirements as for County vendors. All other purchases will be based on a "Best Buy" for the taxpayers' dollar.

All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Eunice Weber met with the Commissioners and presented them with a job description for the Ambulance Maintenance person. She will be advertising for another EMT Basics class and will need 8-10 people to sign up to make it feasible. Weber reported that there were 28 runs in August. She will be attending a RETAC meeting tomorrow at Hasty at noon.

The vouchers were reviewed. Seven vouchers were questioned. Vouchers were approved and signed.

The library needs to draw up an inventory list of what belongs to the library and what belongs to the County for insurance purposes.

The Towner line was discussed. The W.I.F.E. organization has gotten involved with this matter and they are having a meeting Friday afternoon to draft letters in support of the Towner line railroad. The line was closed down for reasons other than economic reasons. Commissioner Scott talked with V&S Railroad trying to find out what their intent is with no results thus far. The Commissioners would like a face-to-face meeting with CDOT, V&S Railroad, the legislators and other rail people to find out what truly happened that the rail closed. If the rail is sold, there should be some kind of assessment made to help Kiowa County with their loss. Commissioner Scott would like to see the monies received by CDOT to go toward repairing Hwy 96 since Kiowa County is the county impacted by this closure.

The Commissioners called County Attorney Wendy Shinn regarding attorney/client matters. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes, Title 24, Article 6, Section 402 at subsection VIII (4)(f)(I) to go into executive session with the County Attorney regarding legal council. All Commissioners voted affirmative. The meeting went into executive session at 10:45 a.m.

The Commissioners came out of executive session and resumed the Regular Meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Commissioner Scott would like to compliment the Fair Board on an outstanding fair. He would also like to thank the Road & Bridge crew for the great BBQ's and the employees for their assistance on a job well done! Any ideas for next year should be given to the Fair Board!

There was ongoing discussion regarding Day Care. Discussion was tabled until Dennis Pearson meets with the Commissioners.

Christine Thiebaut with Senator Mark Udall's office entered the meeting to visit with the Commissioners. She brought letters from Udall and Bennett's offices regarding post office closures in rural Colorado. Commissioner Scott said nothing was being said about the erosion of rural America and this was one more part of that erosion. This can't be measured in dollars and cents. The Commissioners discussed the railroad issue with Thiebaut and asked for answers. They don't want the railroad just preserved; they want it used! She will research this matter and get back with the Commissioners. They also discussed the proposed USDA buyout for PPAL with Thiebaut.

Dennis Pearson, Director of the Department of Social Services (DSS), met with the Commissioners. DSS vouchers were reviewed. Two were questioned. Vouchers were approved and checks were signed. The Commissioners questioned Pearson regarding some Day Care issues. The Commissioners told Pearson they would like to have the vouchers at the beginning of the meeting so they could review them before starting the meeting with appointments and County business. There was no Medicaid Report available at this time.

The Commissioners signed the County's Warrant Accounts for Kiowa County National Bank.

To date, one application has been received for the Health Nurse position. Applications are due September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Bill Woelk met with the Commissioners regarding the old hotel on Maine Street. He was wondering if there would be any county funds to help with this restoration on the building. Also, he inquired as to whether or not back taxes would have to be paid to obtain the property. The Commissioners said the purchase of the building would be very inexpensive and no back taxes would need to be paid. Woelk would also like to have an old trail road bladed just to make access to some farm ground around the lakes possible. This matter will be discussed with the District Road Foreman.

The Regular Meeting was recessed at 2:07 p.m. for a Road & Bridge Equipment Operator interview. The Regular Meeting resumed at 2:45 p.m. After completing the interview, Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to offer the position of Equipment Operator to Craig Hansen. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The October Regular Meetings will be October 12<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The next Regular Meeting will be September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to put a hiring freeze on Day Care until further notice. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed.

The Clerk's report was reviewed and filed.

The Commissioners report was reviewed.

There was discussion regarding meeting with the District Attorney quarterly. Commissioner Scott would like to meet twice annually with all Commissioners in the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and at least once with just Kiowa County Commissioner in attendance.

Landfill Manager Dwight Lessenden requested time off for September 28<sup>th</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Commissioners approved this time off.

With no further business, Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to adjourn at 3:30 p.m. All Commissioners voted affirmative.