

**FORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF JUNE 5, 2023**  
**MEETING NUMBER 2023-23**  
**COMMISSION CHAMBERS**  
**3:30 P.M.**



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The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the Commission Chambers at the Ford County Government Center.

Those present were:

Shawn Tasset, Chairman  
Chris Boys, Commissioner  
Ken W. Snook, Commissioner

J.D. Gilbert, County Administrator  
Debbie Cox, County Clerk

Chairman Tasset called the meeting to order. Pastor Steve Ormond, First Baptist Church, led the group in prayer, followed by Chairman Tasset leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Consent Agenda**

Approval of Minutes Meeting: 2023- 20; 2023- 22; 2023-22  
Fireworks License: Wholesale Fireworks Enterprises, LLC x2  
Fireworks License: A & A Fireworks  
Fireworks License: J. Day Fireworks LLC  
Fireworks License: Krazy Bull Fireworks

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Approval of Claims for Payment: \$3,087,151.33**

Commissioner Boys moved to approve the claims for payment as presented. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Open Public Comment**

Kent Stehlik and Sonya Hughes thanked the board for the help and support for the Legacy Center. The Historical Society will continue to look for grants and tax credits for the Legacy Center.

Ford County landowners, Clay Sellard, Steven Powers, and Mark Fischer, spoke of the proposed updated Zoning regulations for Wind and Solar farms and the effect it will have on their land and property. They asked the board to check into changes on descriptions of buildings in the regulations and setbacks.

Jonathan Leventhal with Invenergy also spoke on the proposed updated regulations. He asked the Board to consider following the FAA regulations only. Chairman Tasset asked questions of Legal Counsel and the Planning and Zoning Director. The topic is also an agenda item.

Ford County Legal Counsel introduced Samantha Sweley who is a new Attorney in his office.

**Unfinished Business****Bid Results: Phase 2 Renovations**

This was tabled from Meeting No. 2023-21 for further review.

Dana Williamson presented the two bids for Phase 2 of renovations at the Ford County Legacy Center. These are Base Bids to get the building in turn key opening.

Building Solutions \$3,475,199.80

Conant Construction \$3,600,000

Discussion was held about funding for this project.

Commissioner Boys expressed he does not want to go to bonds to pay for this. He does not want to put the county in more dept. He prefers to pay dept off, and then look if we could justify this in the budget.

Chairman Tasset expressed the need to clarify what is the County's responsibility and what is the Historical Society's responsibility for the Legacy Center. He also does not want to go into more debt for this. Chairman Tasset stated this amount of money is well outside of what we have budgeted for this project right now.

Commissioner Boys stated after listening to the budget list of the departments, there are things that are at the top of the list with the way the County is growing that needs to be looked at first.

Commissioner Snook stated our job is to take care of the people of the county not just the Legacy Center. Ms. Williamson stated they have the option to reject all bids or accept one.

Chairman Tasset moved to reject the bids at this time. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 3-0.**

Ms. Williamsons stated she has prepared a RFQ for a construction manager at risk to continue this project. The County could then work with this construction manager to get the building up to compliance. Bringing the contractor in from the beginning will get the spending at what is wanted and needed for the County. The draft for the RFQ is pending administration and legal review. There is a time line as to when it is to be distributed and due.

Chairman Tasset moved to submit a RFQ, pending review of Legal and Administration.

Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 2-1.** Commissioner Snook voted **no.**

**Legal Counsel – None****County Administrator's Report****Western Kansas Career Exploration and Development**

Boyd Orr, from Fowler and Joe Coles, from Cimarron presented information on the Western Kansas Career Exploration and Development program. This program is to encourage students in High School and College to create partnerships with local organizations to explore career opportunities, build connections, and encourage young adults to remain in Southwest Kansas by showing them the careers that are available in Southwest Kansas. This program has been growing. They have had over 800 students from 26 different school districts attend their rural showcases. Donations of \$5,000 would help to feed the students at the showcases.

**Planning and Zoning: Conditional Use Permit**

Planning and Zoning Director, Melissa Drake presented for approval Resolution No. 2023-16 **A Resolution Concerning Amendments To The Ford County Zoning Regulations For The Unincorporated Areas of Ford County, Kansas.**

Discussion was continued from the Open Public Meeting about these regulations. Chairman Tasset stated he would like more time to read and understand these regulations.

Chairman Tasset moved to table this until the June 20 meeting to give him time to read and understand this. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Communications: OnSolve LLC / CodeRed Renewal**

Communications Director Elliot Linke presented for approval the annual renewal of the CodeRed package with OnSolve, LLC. This is a budgeted item.

Commissioner Boys moved to approve renewing the annual CodeRed package with OnSolve, LLC. as presented. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Dodge City Days Lapel Pins**

The Register of Deeds is requesting approval to purchase 300 Dodge City Days Lapel Pins for \$3.00 apiece. These pins will be resold to Ford County employees at cost. The Register of Deeds has been doing this since 2003.

Chairman Tasset moved to approve the purchase of 300 Dodge City Days Lapel Pins at \$3.00each. Commissioner Boys seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**Upcoming Meetings**

Next Regular BOCC Meeting: 3:30 pm on June 20, 2023

Community Facility Advisory Board (CFAB) 6:30 pm Wednesday, June 21, 2023

2023 NACo Annual Conference: Austin Convention Center in Travis County/Austin, TX July 21-24

Dodge City Days: July 27- August 6, 2023

**Adjournment**

Chairman Tasset moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FORD COUNTY, KANSAS**

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Shawn Tasset, Chairman

Attested:

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Debbie Cox, County Clerk