



## COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2023 – 9:00 am

Those present were:

Commissioner Gary Weaver

Commissioner Deena Vietzke

Commissioner Kenny Schutte ~~Via Phone~~

Executive Director Chris Faix

Executive Assistant Carmon Derting

Guests: Kyle Niehenke

Called to order at 9:00 am.

Kenny Schutte made a motion to approve the agenda, G. Weaver second, motion passed

G. Weaver made a motion to approve minutes from December 13, 2022 meetings, K. Schutte second, motion passed

G. Weaver made a motion to approve vouchers, clarification was made on the CIAW and J. Padilla invoices. K. Schutte second, motion passed.

### Kyle

Kyle went to the WPPA meeting and made a contact with a company interested in the Highway 26/Reynolds property. C. Faix and Kyle attended a zoom meeting and plan on meeting with them again this week. The company is interested in the full 70 +/- acres for housing and commercial possibilities. They are aware of the sale price and have been sent the land information. There has been a 2<sup>nd</sup> site visit with the company from Project Catch and they seem to want to proceed in Bruce. They would create 200 jobs in the 1<sup>st</sup> phase and then an additional 200 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase. They would want all of the property left that is not needed for the water tower and is looking at a Long-Term Lease option. They will be looking at using 300,000 gallons of water a day. The used water may be land applied as well as a reuse facility maybe built by the company to use. The company will be meeting with investors in Mid-March for a decision.

### Airport

It has been reported that water is leaking into the new Hangar 4 storage units. Upon inspection, it appears that the seals and lower support beams were not done correctly with the man doors. C. Faix will reinspect where the leaks may be coming from, but the repairs will not be able to be done until the weather is warmer due to the glue requirements. The original contractor was contacted to do the warranty work, but confirmation on a repair date has not been received. A letter will be sent to the contractor stating that arraignments need to be made for the repair work by April 1st and the required inspections on the bi-fold doors by Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. If another contractor is needed for the work, the cost will be deducted from the amount remaining to the original contractor. C. Faix did contact an attorney about the outstanding money owed and discovered we cannot just close it out. A legal letter can be sent out with an end date or legal action will be taken, but it is not a recommended course of action.

An obstacle for Life Flight has come to up. They require the availability of the weather conditions at the airport on an app. WSU does have a weather station located near the airport that is available on an ag station. C. Faix will look into that and see if that is adequate. The FAA has a list of approved AWOS systems and the AIP money can be used to purchase them. It was suggested to contact the FAA to see if there is emergency money available to help get the system soon that later. It was also suggested to look into Starlink for the internet for the Airport and the Office.

### Bruce

The application to the Department of Commerce for \$500,000 was denied. The potential new tenant is willing to become a CPP for the CERB application, but no lease has been signed. The information from the other CPP is still being gathered in order to turn in the Tier 2 application.

**Road 26/Reynolds:**

**Other**

Executive Session was called for a discussion of an offer for a potential land sale. The session will be for 15 minutes being at 10:06am. The session ended at 10:21am.

A motion was made by G. Weaver to reject the offer and not do a counter offer. K. Schutte second the motion and the motion passed.

With no further business coming before the Port of Othello Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 10:22 am with a motion made by G. Weaver and seconded by K. Schutte.




Gary Weaver, Chairperson



Deena Vietzke



Kenny Schutte



Carmon Derting, Executive Assistant