



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

MONDAY, JULY 6, 2020

This Regular meeting was conducted under 25 O.S §306 (C) (Signed and enacted March 18, 2020). The meeting took place in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room and through teleconference. To accommodate the public who are observing social distancing the following number was provided, (312)626-6799, meeting ID is 706 237 079; and <http://zoom.us/j/706237079/> for video. The public was asked to call ahead to (405)366-0200 to make Public Comment.

Jacob McHughes led in the Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Darry Stacy called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Cleveland County Commissioners at 1:00 P.M. this 6th day of July 2020, in Meeting Room 200 of the Cleveland County Office Building. Linda Atkins, Deputy County Clerk/Secretary, called the roll and those present were:

Darry Stacy, Chairman
Rod Cleveland, Vice-Chairman
Richie Fink, Road Foreman District #1, filled in for Harold Haralson, Member
(Clerk's Note: Mr. Richie Fink has a proxy on file in the County Clerk's Office.)
Linda Atkins, Secretary

Harold Haralson, Member, was absent.

Others present were: Assistant District Attorney Jim Robertson, Assistant District Attorney Nate Hales, Alison Vinson, Sheriff Blake Green, Brenda Hill, Brian Wint, Earl Cox, George Mauldin, John Roberts, Chief Deputy of Detention Julie Tipton, Christina Owen, Melissa Nies, Marilyn Williams, Jacob McHughes, Susan McClelland, Melinda Duke, and Sarita Scott.

After the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 1, 2020, and there being no additions or corrections, Rod Cleveland moved, seconded by Richie Fink, that the minutes be **approved** as read.

The vote was: Darry Stacy, yes; Rod Cleveland, yes; Richie Fink, yes.
Motion carried.

A. Old Business:

1. Upon the recommendation made by Susan McClelland, Darry Stacy moved, seconded by Rod Cleveland, to **table** the awarding and/or rejecting of the bids until a later date for **Bid #HWY-1955 – Six-month (6) Non-encumbered**

contract to provide Asphalt Material. The bid term will be from August 11, 2020 through February 10, 2021.

The vote was: Rod Cleveland, yes; Richie Fink, yes. Darry Stacy, yes.
Motion carried.

B. Items of Business:

1. George Mauldin, Emergency Management Director, presented the following **COVID-19 Updates and Operations within Cleveland County**. There are 1,107 confirmed cases in Cleveland County with 40 deaths. This is an increase of 270 cases with no additional deaths since the last weekly update on June 29, 2020.

There are 567 cases in Norman with 23 deaths. This is an increase of 235 cases with no additional deaths since the last weekly update on June 29, 2020.

The majority of the new cases are in younger people.

At present, 66.5% of total confirmed cases are among people under 50 years old.

Deaths have remained relatively low, with 49 deaths recorded in the past week statewide.

We have not recorded a COVID-19 related death in Cleveland County since June 9, 2020.

Hospitalizations are up significantly with 278 hospitalizations (146 in ICU) recorded on July 2, an increase of 51 since June 29. (227 hospitalizations with 115 in the ICU on June 29). At present there are only 8 COVID-19 related hospitalizations in Cleveland County.

The low point of hospitalizations was 63 on May 18.

Since the relaxing of restrictions seven weeks ago, we have had no issues in the courthouse complex.

The Norman City Council will vote on a mandatory face covering ordinance tomorrow (Tuesday, July 7). The ordinance will undoubtedly pass and requires:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided herein, persons located within Public Service Areas or Places of Public Accommodation are required to wear face coverings at all times when present therein.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided herein, persons in any Public Setting wherein social or physical distancing cannot be maintained are required to wear face coverings.

Definitions:

- (a) "Face Covering" means a covering that fully covers a person's nose and mouth, including, but not limited to cloth facemasks, towels,

scarves, and bandanas as recommended by the CDC. The Face Covering should fit snugly on a person's face but allow the person to breathe easily and worn consistent with the guidance provided by the CDC.

- (b) "Place of Public Accommodation" means all places offering items, goods or services for purchase or rent, including without limitation retail businesses, personal services and spas, entertainment venues, food service facilities, restaurants and bars, hotels, motels and travel related services, professional offices and services, banks and financial services, repair facilities, and motor vehicle dealerships.
- (c) "Public Service Area" means areas of a Place of Public Accommodation wherein employees interact with the public in the normal course of business.
- (d) "Public Setting" means any public place where persons congregate which is not a place of public accommodation including without limitation, offices, workplaces, houses of worship and ancillary facilities, child care facilities, hospital and health facilities, gymnasiums and physical fitness facilities, adult and youth sports facilities, communal outdoor spaces such as sidewalks, trails, and parks, food trucks, and other outdoor retail entities.
- (e) "Social Distancing" means the maintenance of at least a 6-foot minimum social distancing from other individuals outside of your household.

Governor Stitt stated categorically that he would not issue a statewide face covering mandate at his news conference last Tuesday.

Recommendations:

In light of the significant increase in confirmed cases and the impending City of Norman Municipal Ordinance requiring the wearing of face coverings, I recommend that we require all employees and visitors wear a face covering when in close contact with others.

Close contact is defined by the Oklahoma State Department of Health as "within six feet of the individual for at least ten minutes."

Individuals conducting business through a glass barrier would not be required to wear a face covering.

Employees who can maintain a distance of at least six feet from others in their workspaces would not be required to wear a face covering.

Reusable face coverings (for employees) and disposable face coverings (for visitors) are on order and are expected to arrive Friday.

Employees should be encouraged to follow this recommendation immediately. The face covering requirement should be mandatory effective Monday, July 13, 2020.

This requirement should be evaluated on a weekly basis and rescinded when warranted based upon OSDH case data.

CDC Cloth Face Coverings Recommendations:

- CDC recommends that people wear cloth face coverings in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- Cloth face coverings may help prevent people who have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others.
- Cloth face coverings are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings.
- Cloth face coverings should NOT be worn by children under the age of 2 or anyone who has trouble breathing is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

Commissioner Cleveland said that he has a problem with the word “require” and thinks that the word “encourage” is more appropriate. He said that there are eight elected officials that can set policies within their offices. The County has a District Attorney’s Office which is a State Agency and then there are five Judges and the Judges are requiring masks to be worn in their Court Rooms. So a written policy should be implemented to make it fair and consistent for all employees. He thinks it is a good idea to encourage everybody to wear a mask and since he has observed people entering the building wearing masks, it is applicable to offer free disposable masks to people that don’t have one. He said that it is important to ask the CARES Sub Committee to look at this to see what the chances are in getting reimbursed if the masks are made available in this City Ordinance that is going to be voted on, it says that a place shall make available coverings free of charge to its members of the public provided that the City makes masks available to the business for distribution. Cleveland County as an entity wants to encourage people to still come into the County and Norman to do business. His main concern is the word “require” and if there is a requirement it makes it necessary to have a written policy in place to vet it through. He said that if a policy was written and vetted then the BOCC could vote on it at the next meeting.

George Mauldin said that as far as the individual offices go, he recommends that the employees do this. He is certain that the State Employees will, but doesn’t think that it can be enforced, but they must maintain the 6-foot distance regardless. He said that if one maintains a distance of 6 feet, it’s no longer necessary to wear a mask all day because they are not having face to face contact with people for more than ten minutes at a time.

Rod Cleveland mentioned that the County has other facilities such as the Fair Grounds, the Couch Center, and the Sheriff’s Office and the “6-foot distance” can be accommodated in most offices without wearing a mask all day.

Chairman Stacy asked if the masks will arrive on Monday.

George Mauldin said that delivery is expected on Friday and added that every

employee was given a reusable cloth mask last week. He prefers the disposable masks for the public coming in the building. Commissioner Cleveland moved that the Board of Cleveland County Commissioners address this item on Monday after a policy is written and the masks are received. Richie Fink seconded the motion. The vote was: Richie Fink, yes; Darry Stacy, yes; Rod Cleveland, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Darry Stacy said that the following item numbers, 2 through 11, are **Consent Items** and are routine in nature: Rod Cleveland moved, seconded by Richie Fink, to **approve** the consent items.

2. **Payment of Invoice #25277** from Rieger Law Group PLLC in the amount of \$1,392.39 for general legal services.
3. **Independent Contractor Agreement** between Cleveland County Board of Commissioners and Karen Berry for services to the Family Drug Court Program in the amount of \$1,350.00 per month for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
4. **Independent Contractor Agreement** between Cleveland County Board of Commissioners and CGW Enterprises for services to the Family Drug Court Program in the amount of \$1,650.00 per month for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
5. **Service Agreement** between Board of County Commissioners and Rod's Pest Control for County Building located at 201 S. Jones effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$225.00 quarterly.
6. **Service Agreement** between Board of County Commissioners and Rod's Pest Control for Alan J. Couch Center located at 1650 Tecumseh Road effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$60.00 monthly.
7. **Rescind** award for the following item from South Central Industries on Bid #BE-1947 – Latex and Nitrile gloves/all sizes per letter from vendor, due to the high demands or those items because of COVID they are not able to supply at this time. Departments will get quotes to purchase gloves. Awarded in the June 8, 2020 Commissioner's Meeting.
8. **Resolution** to Adopt the Revised FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the Lower Walnut Canadian Watershed.
9. **Lease Agreement** between Cleveland County Facilities Authority and Crossroads Youth & Family Services for lease of property at the Alan J. Couch Juvenile Center, 1650 W. Tecumseh Road for a term of twelve (12) months commencing on July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021. The total rent of \$1.00 be made on July 1, 2020.

10. **Review, Audit, and Approve or Disallow Blanket Purchase Orders** submitted. A report will be available for distribution at the meeting or may be obtained from the County Clerk.

11. **Review, Audit, and Approve or Disallow claims for Payment of Personal Services, Travel, Maintenance & Operations, and Capital Outlay.** A report will be available for distribution at the meeting or may be obtained from the County Clerk.

The vote was: Rod Cleveland, yes; Darry Stacy, yes; Richie Fink, yes.
Motion carried.

END OF CONSENT DOCKET.

C. There was no **new business** to come before the Board for discussion.

D. During **Commissioner's** discussions about **County Business**, Richie Fink said that District #3 was pleased to help haul asphalt for the other two Districts to complete some projects. Commissioners Cleveland and Stacy expressed their appreciation for their help.

Commissioner Cleveland said that he hoped everyone had a safe and happy 4th of July.

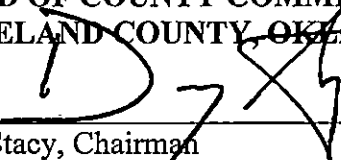
Commissioner Stacy congratulated Susan McClelland on her recent marriage that took place over the weekend and he congratulated Marilyn Williams for winning the recent election as Court Clerk.

E. Christina Owen made a **public comment** on Agenda Item No. 9, concerning the Lease Agreement with Crossroads Youth & Family. She expressed thanks to the BOCC for charging rent in the amount of \$1.00 since they are a non-profit facility; it helps them to maintain a level of service that is important to so many.


F. There being no further business to come before the Board, Rod Cleveland moved, seconded by Richie Fink, that the meeting is **adjourned** at 1:16 P.M.
The vote was: Rod Cleveland, yes; Darry Stacy, yes; Richie Fink, yes.
Motion carried.

(Clerk's Note: Agenda was posted on July 2, 2020, @ 8:35 AM.)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CLEVELAND COUNTY, OKLAHOMA



Darry Stacy, Chairman

ATTEST:


Tammy Belinson, County Clerk and Secretary to the Board

Minutes prepared by: 

Deputy County Clerk

