



# BUCHANAN COUNTY COMMISSION

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Ron Hook  
Western District Commissioner

Scott Nelson  
Presiding Commissioner

Scott Burnham  
Easter District Commissioner

## **Meeting Minutes Monday, July 10, 2023**

In attendance were Commissioner Ron Hook, Presiding Commissioner Scott Nelson, Commissioner Scott Burnham, Purchasing Agent Kim Hartman, Administrative Coordinator Amy Kendall and Cindy Reeder

Presiding Commissioner Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

### **Meeting Agenda**

Presiding Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve today's agenda. Commissioner Burnham seconded the motion.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Presiding Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve meeting minutes for Friday, July 7, 2023. Commissioner Hook seconded the motion.

### **Business**

Presiding Commissioner Nelson explained to Cindy Reeder that all the sheet rock will be removed and replaced, the whole ceiling will come down. All the insulation will be bagged up, taken out and replaced. The Courtroom is a priority, then Cindy's office, law library and jury room will need to be fixed. Cindy stated that Judge Kate Schaeffer will be coming to the meeting about 9:30 am. Cindy left the meeting at 9:09 am.

A court order to sign the second amendment to the funding agreement with Buchanan County Academy for additional funds was presented and approved by Presiding Commissioner Nelson, Commissioner Burnham, and Commissioner Hook.

Court orders to transfer funds were presented and approved by Presiding Commissioner Nelson, Commissioner Burnham, and Commissioner Hook.

A court order in receipt of the Domestic Violence Fees report was presented and approved by Presiding Commissioner Nelson, Commissioner Burnham, and Commissioner Hook.

A court order authorizing Presiding Nelson to sign the cooperative agreement with Lake Contrary Fire Protection District was presented and approved by Presiding Commissioner Nelson, Commissioner Burnham, and Commissioner Hook.

An ARPA funding request for Habitat for Humanity Distribution Center was presented and approved by Commissioner Burnham and Presiding Commissioner Nelson. Commissioner Hook abstained; he is a board member.

Commissioner Burnham suggested going forward that the County puts on our website and social media of board appointments coming available. Commissioner Hook and Presiding Commissioner Nelson agreed, and to link to the page to complete an application.

Judge Kate Schaefer joined the meeting at 9:30. Presiding Commissioner Nelson explained he didn't want anyone in the courtroom on Friday while it was being tested for asbestos, that is why he didn't let the media go in. He has called and left a message with Charles Christian with News PressNow to explain why he didn't let anyone in the Courtroom. Good news is there is no asbestos. Commissioner Hook added that a second test was done, and we will get those results today. Presiding Commissioner Nelson said he spoke to Tim Miller (Project Manager for Roof/Dome project) on Saturday, Tim agrees that all the drywall needs to come out and replaced with new drywall. They are focusing on the courtroom the next couple of days and getting all the insulation bagged and taken out the ceiling. Judge Schaefer stated the walls are wet and need to be addressed. Presiding Commissioner Nelson said they are working from the top down. Once the ceiling is in, they will clean the floor and benches, then work on walls and assess the speakers. Judge Schaefer demands the walls be replaced. Presiding Commissioner Nelson stated we need to see what's in there. Commissioner Burnham stated that he could sense the urgency last week while he was on vacation, he could not get a hold of Commissioner Hook or Presiding Commissioner Nelson, he did talk to Judge Schaefer, Maintenance Supervisor Roger Murphy, and Purchasing Agent Kim Hartman. He wanted to talk to Commissioners about getting Serve Pro here to look at the interior damage and test for asbestos. Since he wasn't able to reach Commissioner's, he called serve Pro to inspect the Courthouse to come on Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup>. He is not sure we have the right people here to do the repairs. He thinks we need to report this to our insurance, just to have on record and turn in as a report only. Purchasing Agent Kim advised that Bill Brinton contacted our insurance, he is having a call with them today. Commissioner Burnham added we should have professionals do the restoration for us, not the company we hired to replace the roof and dome. Judge Schaefer reiterated she wants everything replaced, there was debris everywhere. Purchasing Agent Kim said she had maintenance put in mold detectors on Friday. Commissioner Burnham stated it is a red flag when Fritz sent an email saying he doesn't want anyone else in the Courthouse to inspect the damages. We need to hire professionals. Commissioner Hook stated Tim is hiring someone to come clean the carpet and benches, upholstery cleaner. Commissioner Burnham said it is not proper to have Fritz tell us if the carpets get cleaned or replaced, that is up to the Commission. Commissioner Hook stated we let Ron Bachman do the work on the Drug Strike Force building when his driver backed into the building, we did not replace air handler, Lippert looked at it and said it was fine. Commissioner Burnham was not aware of this decision. Commissioner Hook and Presiding Commissioner Nelson both confirmed they made the decision to not replace the air handler. Presiding Commissioner Nelson stated that once the courtroom is cleaned up by whatever crew is doing the cleanup. The three of us "Commissioner's" will go in and evaluate. The procedure is the same as what Brett Halsey came up with. Commissioner Burnham reiterated that it is a conflict if we have them use their people, a third party is needed. Judge Schaefer left the meeting at 9:57 am. Commissioner Burnham asked that a court order be presented that the Commission authorizes Ambrozi Contracting to complete all repair work from the water damage to Division 1 and surrounding offices due to the storm on July 4, 2023. He wants it recorded that Commissioner Hook and Presiding Commissioner Nelson approved it while he remained opposed.

At 10:00 City Manager Bryan Carter, Chief of Police Paul Luster, Medical Examiner Dr. Adam Wineinger joined the meeting. Commissioner Hook advised that Dr. Wineinger comes in quarterly to give updates on autopsies and investigators. Dr. Wineinger gave history, that we used to have only one medical investigator as of September 1, 2022, we hired three part time investigators. Commissioner Hook added there are two from the Sheriff's department and one from the police department, they work on a rotating schedule each week. They also have an administrator. They are paid from the County budget. Discussion took place about investigators getting called out on a death while on their shift. They are supposed to clock out and not double dip.

### **Adjourn**

With no further official business on the agenda Presiding Commissioner Nelson made a motion to adjourn to any unofficial business that may develop during the day. Commissioner Hook seconded the motion. All are in favor of adjourning. The meeting ended at 10:20 a.m.