



DICKINSON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

109 East First Street, Suite 208, Abilene, KS 67410
Phone (785) 263-3120 Fax (785) 263-2081
dkcoks.org

County sales tax collections doing well

By Kathy Hageman/
Dickinson County Public Information Coordinator

Dickinson County's sales tax collections have been doing very well in 2021.

Based on collections from November 2020 to August 2021 – the most recent report received from the state – the county has collected a total of \$1,292,890.61. At the same time last year, the county had brought in \$1,155,828.47 in sales tax, a more than \$137,000 increase.

November and December collections always are included on the next year's reports.

The August 2021 monthly total came in at \$138,061.88, compared to \$128,074.32 during the month of August 2020, almost \$10,000 higher.

The county's special sales tax question, approved by county voters and used exclusively to fund road and bridge repairs, also is performing well. In August 2021, the county collected \$131,524.64 in special tax revenues, approximately \$9,570 higher than 2020 when revenues came in at \$121,954.22.

Other news

* The sheriff's department is fully staffed, possibly for the first time in a decade, especially in the jail. The new facility, however, provides vastly improved working conditions which made it easier to attract corrections' officers as did improving pay rates.

* Commissioners approved the purchase of a second 2021 Dodge Durango police vehicle from Superior Emergency Response Vehicles for the sheriff's office at the same price as one purchased in recent weeks. A vehicle came available when another agency cancelled its order. The vehicle cost is approximately \$45,000.

The county was planning to purchase four 2022 vehicles next year, but with the two purchased in recent weeks they would only need to buy two in 2022, if they are available due to the parts shortage.

County Counselor Doug Thompson said his office is moving forward on the sale of properties with long delinquent taxes and reported that one attorney member of the county's indigent defense team had been suspended but the other attorneys were "picking up the slack."

*Commissioners approved bids to buy materials to replace the bridge at 170 Trail Road. Husker Steel of Lincoln, Neb., submitted the low bid of \$22,581.10 for I Beams, angle iron and flat iron. Welborn Sales of Salina had the low bid of \$25,868.80. Money will come from the bridge budget.

*Commissioners approved the construction contract for the bridge replacement project at 1510 Rain Road. This project was not planned to be done at this time, but a hole opened up in the bridge unexpectedly due to deterioration caused by salt and other materials used to treat roads

in icy conditions. The low bid of \$727,226.87 was accepted from Ebert Construction and work began this week. Funding will come from the special highway fund.