

Commissioner Meeting  
June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Chairman Paul Hodge called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were Ben Fox, Roy Ballard, Robert Joe Morgan, Chuck Spradlin, Kathy Robison County Clerk and County Counselor Paul Dean.

The Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to approve June 8, 2020 Minutes. Commissioner Ballard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Darrel Chrisman reported that the FEMA meeting that was scheduled for Tuesday has been postponed. Chrisman informed Commissioners that three Road and Bridge employees are waiting to test for their CDL. He then reported that the ditching project on North State Street has been completed. Darrel also told commissioners that he had a teleconference with KDOT last week. KDOT informed Chrisman that they would start construction on the county's signage replacement project on or before July 1, 2020.

Emergency Preparedness Director Levi Vinson informed Commissioners that Greenwood County has had another positive case of COVID-19, which brings the total to 11. Vinson stated some people are upset, blaming the newest cases on a loosening of restrictions, but then reiterated that he believes the county will have positive cases of COVID-19 regardless of the restrictions. Vinson notified commissioners that the 11<sup>th</sup> positive test result is the only active case of COVID-19, in Greenwood County. All previous cases have recovered and all individuals who had come into contact with them are no longer quarantined.

Levi Vinson informed Commissioners that every year the Department of Agriculture randomly selects ten sections of land to be surveyed for Noxious Weeds. Levi warned Commissioners they may receive phone calls from upset land owners. Vinson then informed Commissioners to have those people call him, if that situation were to arise.

Joy Jenson approached Commissioners with a request of finances for the Field Trials. She informed Commissioners that, "these events cost us quite a bit, but not near as much as what they bring into our community." Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve \$1500 to go towards the Field Trials. Commissioner Spradlin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Undersheriff Randy Cox inquired about the budget proposal the Sheriff's had received from the County Clerk's office. Cox stated, "We like to make our budget really, really close every year and it's going to be hard to do that with these numbers." According to Cox, creating an accurate allowance for facets such as insurance and taxes would be difficult. County Clerk Kathy Robison informed Cox that those numbers were the only figures that were available at that point. Robison stated that more solid numbers won't be available until later in the year, noting that it has been difficult reaching state representatives due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but Department heads have to move forward with budgets. County Counselor Paul Dean reminded the Commission that, "this is the way it's been, always." A brief discussion ensued regarding budgeting. Commissioner Fox stated he would look into getting a more specific number from the insurance company the County uses.

County Clerk Kathy Robison inquired about first appearances, stating that approximately 25 people were in the courthouse for 3 court appearances. Robison told commissioners that they were all in the lobby area, reminding commissioners that there are 2 empty rooms upstairs that are not being used for anything. Commissioner Ballard asked, "Why can't they be upstairs?" County Counselor Paul Dean informed Ballard that the Judge shut down the upstairs. Ballard responded, "Well then we shut the downstairs down! Now what are you going to do with the people?" Paul Dean reminded the commission that it was not the Judge's decision to send those people downstairs, that decision was that of the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Spradlin asked if there was any way to limit court appearances to only allow those that have court and keeping the family/friends out of the courthouse. Paul Dean responded, "Absolutely." Commissioners opted to disallow spectators from coming to the courthouse for hearings. Defendants will not be allowed to bring friends and family with them.

Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to approve payables in the amount of \$138,004.45. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve payroll in the amount \$107,357.36. Commissioner Morgan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

County Clerk Kathy Robison informed Commissioners that there was a Zoning Board hearing last Wednesday to approve the U.S. Cellular Tower on 400. The Zoning Board approved the tower; therefore

approval is needed by the Commission. Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the U.S. Cellular Tower. Commissioner Ballard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

County Treasurer Donna Olson asked for a 5 minute executive session for personnel. Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve a five minute executive session. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried. Following the executive session the decision was made for Treasurer's office employees Bailey Gudde, Stacie Pearse and Cara Evenson to receive a fifty cent raise. Bailey Gudde will move from \$11.59 per hour to \$12.09 per hour. Stacie Pearse will move from \$13.60 per hour to \$14.10 per hour and Cara Evenson will move from \$14.68 per hour to \$15.18 per hour. Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to approve said raises. Commissioner Ballard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

County Counselor Paul Dean explained the services Granite provides for other counties. Granite is a telecommunications company that contracts with businesses to provide them with better phone rates. According to the estimate presented, Granite would be able to save Greenwood County approximately \$8,841 per year. Granite provides wholesale phone rates with no long term commitment. Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve using Granite. Commissioner Spradlin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to adjourn at 10:38 a.m. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next Commission Meeting will be held Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

ATTEST: Kathy Robison  
Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Paul Hodge  
Paul Hodge, Chairman

Ben Fox  
Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

Chuck Spradlin  
Chuck Spradlin Member

Roy Ballard  
Roy Ballard, Member

Robert Joe Morgan  
Robert Joe Morgan, Member