

COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 1ST, 2021

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

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Spradlin moved to approve October 25th, 2021 Minutes. Morgan seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Road and Bridge report:

- Crews received reports of a hole on a bridge near T Road that has been added to the list of repairs.
- Fox reported that 360th Road near Madison is in need of repair. Crews are working to repair the issue this morning.
- Morgan informed Darrel that Piedmont Road is in need of attention.
- Fox stated that Reece Road "looks good."
- Hodge inquired if Darrel had been looking for a smaller excavator; Darrel responded he has not been actively looking at this point.

Morgan moved to accept payables in the amount of \$292,342.05. Spradlin seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Morgan moved to approve payroll in the amount \$127,354.99. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioners approved allowing Tiffany Milner to decorate the courthouse lawn for Christmas down Main Street.

Lucas Mullen with Eureka City attended the meeting to discuss water issues within the city. Mullen stated that correcting waste water issues is going to cost a significant amount of money. Last week, commissioners made the decision that Eureka City will need to search for more than one engineering bid before submitting their requests to the State for funding from the ARPA program. Lucas informed commissioners that BG Consultants already has information in their systems for Eureka City water maintenance and that bringing in a second engineer who does not have that information would cost more money in the long run. Lucas reported that the City of Eureka had already signed with BG Consultants contingent on funding from the American Rescue Plan Act. Commissioners spoke in favor of Eureka City moving forward with the process. Chuck Spradlin voiced opposition to the City not looking for another bid.

Commissioners discussed the county insurance rates. Fox spoke in favor of increasing insurance rates to 8.5%. Fox stated that most departments included a five percent increase in their budgets for 2022. He spoke in favor of utilizing the 5% and the county absorbing the remaining 3.5%. Sheriff Samuels noted that an 8.5% increase means that the county pays an increase along-side county employees; he then asked if the County could simply put some money into a fund to absorb that increase at the end of the year. Samuels noted that he was not aware that he needed to add a five percent increase to his 2022 budget in anticipation of insurance increases. Commissioners are slated to contact the auditors for Greenwood County for some guidance. Sheriff Heath Samuels questioned why the county couldn't maintain rates and transfer funds to the account at year end. Commissioners then called Scott Day for an answer to the question posed by Samuels. Day informed the commission that a year-end transfer is an option. Commissioners made the decision to maintain a flat rate and look at the numbers near the end of the year.

Fox moved to accept the annual contract renewal with Aumentum in the amount of \$30,400. Morgan seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Fox moved to approve a 15 minute executive session with Health Department Nurse Vicky Lindsey to discuss legal matters at 10:15 a.m. Spradlin seconded. Motion carried 5-0. No decisions were made.

Fox moved to approve a five minute recess at 10:01 a.m. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Fox moved to approve a five minute executive session with county counselor Paul Dean to discuss employee performance at 10:37 a.m. No decisions were made.

Commissioners discussed moving Maintenance Supervisor Greg Rawlings from hourly to salary wages. Spradlin moved to accept moving Rawlings from hourly to a salary rate of \$44,000 per year. Morgan seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

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Greg Rawlings provided commissioners with an update as to the projects he is currently working on.

Fox moved to approve a five minute executive session with county counselor Paul Dean to discuss legal matters at 10:40 a.m. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0. No decisions were made.

Fox moved to adjourn at 11:01 a.m. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

ATTEST: Kathy Robison
Kathy Robison, County Clerk

[Signature]
Ben Fox, Chairman

[Signature]
Roy Ballard, Vice Chairman

[Signature]
Chuck Spradlin, Member

[Signature]
Paul Hodge, Member

[Signature]
Robert Joe Morgan, Member