Commission Meeting August 17th, 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 August 10th, 2020 Minutes. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Darrel Chrisman reported having received a call from KDEM representative Jeff Hinrich, informing Darrel that he is actively pressing FEMA for a grant for the bridge located at U Road and 100th Street. Darrel informed the commission he had received an email from county contracted engineer Michael Maris regarding the small bridge program. Maris recommended the county wait until next year to submit the application for the small bridge program due to three pending projects; of which the final cost to the county is unknown. Commissioners made the decision to wait until next year to apply for the small bridge program. A brief discussion ensued regarding a Salt Springs township road, Darrel informed the commission that he had plans for that project to be finished by the end of the week. Commissioner Morgan asked Chrisman if the Road and Bridge Department could work on the washboards on Canyon Hill Road. Darrel informed Morgan he would work on that project this afternoon.

Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's report.

Commissioners reviewed the Fee report.

Health Department Nurse Vicki Ross told commissioners that she agrees with Steve Coulter's idea, that we are setting a poor example requiring children in school to wear masks but not requiring the remaining public to wear them. Ross stated that the counties in Kansas who require masks have seen a rapid decrease in COVID-19 cases versus those counties that do not require masks. She said that people are not respecting businesses that require masks to enter their establishments. She feels the Commission should mandate masks be worn in public places before schools open. Commissioner Hodge asked Ross if the county would provide the public with masks or if they would have to buy their own. Levi Vinson told Hodge that the PPE the county has received cannot be distributed to the public. No decisions were made regarding Ross's recommendation to mandate masks be worn in public.

EMS Director Brian Mongeau asked the commissioners if he could advertise for the 2 new full time positions that were approved for the Department for their 2021 budget. Mongeau also asked the commission to reconsider their decision to allow only 2 new hires for his department, as he asked for three full time positions to be approved during budget hearings, due to scheduling issues. Commissioners gave permission to allow Mongeau to start advertising to fill 2 full time positions.

Emergency Management Director Levi Vinson told commissioners that every 60 days we've been renewing the COVID disaster declaration; we now have the option to replace the end date with 'until rescinded'. This will prevent the county from having to renew every 60 days. The decision was made to proceed with said changes to the COVID-19 declaration. Commissioners are slated to sign the amended declaration during their next meeting.

Commissioner Fox presented the commission with 3 Direct Aid SPARK Grant submissions; Hamilton USD 390 in the amount of \$65,486 for 3 new positions brought on by COVID-19, Eureka USD 389 in the amount of \$50,260 and GW County EMS in the amount of \$233,570.32 for monitors and ambulance loading systems. Following said submissions, Fox continued with SPARK reimbursements to be sent to SCKEDD; Eureka USD 389 in the amount of \$847.80, Eureka USD 389 in the amount of \$2,941.14 and Madison-Virgil USD 386 in the amount of \$6,372.64. Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve turning those bills in to SCKEDD. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Legal Counsel Paul Dean presented commissioners with resolution 20-18; pertaining to their previous decision to allow local school administrations to choose whether or not masks be mandated for students. Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to approve Resolution 20-18. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The commission canvassed the votes for the 2020 Primary Election.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve a 15 minute recess. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Following the recess, the commission continued to canvass votes for the 2020 Primary Election.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to adjourn at 11:36 a.m. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The next Commission meeting will be held on Monday August 17th, 2020 at 9 a.m.

ATTEST: Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Paul Hodge, Chairman

Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

Chuck Spradlin Member

Roy Ballard, Member

Robert Joe Morgan, Member