

Commissioner Meeting

November 30, 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, Chuck Spradlin, Robert Joe Morgan, Kathy Robison County Clerk and County Counselor Paul Dean.

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kassie Turner from Road and Bridge reported they sold 22.6 tons of cardboard at \$55 a ton for a total of \$1243.

Kassie also brought the agreement with Kirkham Michael Engineering Company for the commissioners to sign stating they will be doing the work for the county at no cost to the county as the state will reimburse them.

Commissioner Paul Hodge said he had a personal complaint about the Christian Hills Bridge being rough. Road and Bridge supervisor Daryl Chrisman said the man working on it was at the Reece project.

Chrisman reported that the concrete truck should be at Shell Rock to put the slurry on the bridge.

Chrisman also said he needs to go to Hugoton, Kansas to look at a 2007 Dozer Thursday as the auction is Friday. Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to allow Chrisman to spend up to \$82,500 on the dozer; Commissioner Hodge 2nd the motion, motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Joe Morgan asked Chrisman to go look at the State Street road and bridge.

Levi Vinson the Emergency Management Supervisor said he heard from the person who handles FEMA Claims. They have started working on the Russell Bridge. They have already closed out some townships which mean they have approved and checks have been mailed out. He is working in Greenwood County now. With a combination of pictures and reports being submitted we should know something the first of the year.

Commissioner Spradlin was concerned about the payroll amount. His main concern was the overtime. He said there shouldn't be holiday pay plus time and a half. Deann came in and explained the Sheriff's overtime as time & half plus holiday pay. Commissioner Hodge said people had to work so why did they get extra pay. Commissioner Fox thought it was a Federal Regulation; Deann reminded them they approved it. Spradlin said he had never heard of being paid time and a half plus Holiday pay, and wanted to know why they do it. Kathy Robison the clerk told them they needed to ask Sherriff Samuels. Fox summed it up saying we had \$6000 extra for the Sheriff's department and \$1000 for Ambulance. Spradlin made a motion to pay Payroll in the amount of \$120,987.71; Ben Fox 2nd the motion, motion carried 5-0.

Fox made a motion to pay the payables in the amount of \$210,030.17, Morgan second the motion, motion carried 5-0.

There was discussion on the Year-End Bonus. They discussed last year's bonus being \$75 for full time employees, and \$37.50 for part time employees. Spradlin questioned everyone getting the bonus except the commissioners. Fox stated that's the way it's always been. Spradlin said where he worked before they didn't exclude the people making the decisions. Hodge made a motion to pay full time employees \$75 and part time employees \$37.50 for the year-end bonus. Joe seconds the motion, the motion carried 5-0.

Hodge brought up the COLA raise. Spradlin wanted to know if they could think about it for a week. Spradlin wanted to know if Covid was going to pay out anymore for retirees. Hodge said it didn't matter how much extra the social security pays the insurance seems to absorb it.

Councilor Paul Dean said that the Federal COLA will be 1.3% percent in 2021. Spradlin asked again if they could take a week to think about it, Clerk Robison said they needed to decide by the next meeting. Ben concluded with saying the department heads also allowed for raises in their budgets.

Fire Chief Doug Williams updated the commissioners on the HWY 99 fires. Chief Williams showed pictures of equipment and referenced the semi that he put sprayers on the sides of. He said it turned out to be a great asset in recent fires where there were high winds. Williams mentioned that in 2011 he and Brian Hind evaluated every station and shortly following that they replaced five brush trucks. Williams went onto say there are currently 4 pickups that need replaced and within the weeks to come he will bring back a purchase proposal. He was questioned regarding the conditions of the tanks and pumps on the trucks. Williams said they were not in good enough condition to be placed on the new trucks and should be sold on Purple Wave.

County Clerk Robison brought up because of the increases of COVID -19 cases in Greenwood County; Department Heads were in favor of having the court house go back to seeing the public by appointment only. Levi Vinson stated that the positivity rate was at 20%. He said he anticipated seeing an increase due to the recent holiday. Robison stated that there was a recent death in Greenwood County due to COVID. Treasurer Donna Olson stated that the banks have closed their lobbies to the public. She stated she would do title work by appointment only, drivers licenses will be shut down for a couple weeks, and they can pay their taxes by way of on-line, mailed, or put in one of our drop boxes. Register of Deeds Marsha Ramsey said the commissioners needed to do whatever needed done to avoid an entire staff being out all at once. Commissioner Roy Ballard said "if you're going to get it you're going to get it, but if closing to the public except by appointment only makes you feel better, I'm not against it". Commissioner Hodge said what he feels what the government is doing is controlling people with something small. Hodge said he isn't opposed to wearing mask in businesses that require it, but he's concerned with what the government will do next. Spradlin made a motion to close the court house to the public except by appointment only effective December 1st, 2020 and putting the notice in the paper and on our website. Paul seconds the motion, motion carried 5-0.

Commissioners approved the appointment of Dee Elliott to fill Cindy Pelky's position on the Greenwood County Hospital Board.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approved the following SPARK reimbursements: Payment to South Central Kansas Economic Development District Administrative Fee of \$30,500; Eureka Nursing Center for visitor Kiosk so people can visit the residence in the amount of \$8560; Greenwood County Emergency Management in the amount of \$2250.44 for equipment including a printer and a sanitizer for COVID-19 testing site and \$1,000 for the purchase of PPE; and Tri-Valley Developmental Services in the amount of \$1,300 for two computer stations for remote communications. Commissioner Hodge 2nd the motion, motion carried.

Mac Obourn talked to the commissioners about washouts and his fence on 130th East of F Road. Joe said he asked Daryl 5 times to get a load of rock on the stone arch bridge, but nothing has been done.

Levi reported about the 911 outage on Sunday. He said that people need to update their information on the Code Red Website. He said that they called 3182 people through the emergency notification system to report the outage, and only 1200 calls went through.

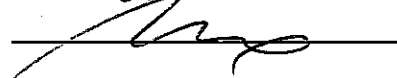
Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Hodge second the motion, motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Next meeting will be December 7th at 9:00 a.m.



Paul Hodge, Chairman



Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

ATTEST: Kathy Robison
Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Chuck Spradlin
Chuck Spradlin Member

Roy Ballard
Roy Ballard, Member

Robert Joe Morgan
Robert Joe Morgan, Member