GREENWOOD COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

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Chairman Roy Ballard called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were Ben Fox, Paul Hodge, Mac Obourn, Preston Evenson, County Counselor Paul Dean and County Clerk Kathy Robison.

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Road and Bridge report:

- A bridge near 255th and DD Roads has fallen in; crew are slated to look into this week.
- Interim Director John Schouten informed commissioners that he was looking into vehicles on the Purple Wave auction.
- Tadpole Creek Bridge is still under construction with an estimated completion in the next couple of months
- Schouten received quotes from Drew Ramsey for repairs to Snell and Short bridges.

Evenson moved to approve repairs to Short Bridge, west of Madison, for the amount of \$26,000. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0. (SEE JE 23-26)

• Schouten reported the forestry head has been utilized by crews recently

County Treasurer Donna Olson informed commissioners that there are outstanding checks in the estimated amount of \$25,000. County Counselor Paul Dean noted that he would look into the matter and discuss it at a later date.

Commissioners reviewed fee reports. No decisions were made.

Evenson moved to approve payables in the amount of \$314,289.25. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Fox moved to approve special payables in the amount of \$231.85. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Hodge moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$145,285.28. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ambulance Director Brian Mongeau attended the meeting to discuss a couple of broken-down vehicles in his fleet. Mongeau has ordered new vehicles but will not receive them until 2025. Commissioner Obourn suggested for Mongeau to contact the Fire Chief in Shawnee in regards to possibly obtaining newer ambulance trucks from them.

Commissioner Fox noted that switching to Granite became a problem, therefore, the county made the decision to use Velocity. Granite has now attempted to charge the county for an estimated \$4,000 in early termination fees. Fox has contacted Granite representatives to make an attempt to resolve the matter.

A brief discussion was held regarding billing practices and procedures. County Counselor Paul Dean noted that the County Clerk's office should contact vendors and change billing dates.

Hodge moved to approve a fifteen-minute executive session to discuss personnel evaluations. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened at 10:03 a.m. No decisions were made.

Obourn moved for a five-minute recess. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting reconvened at 10:10 a.m.

Ambulance Director Brian Mongeau provided an update from the salesman regarding ambulance trucks; the salesman is slated to ask his superiors regarding getting Greenwood County vehicles sooner than expected.

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A brief discussion was held regarding gathering bids for bridge projects. Commissioner Ballard is slated to speak with Road and Bridge employee Kassie Lazar to gather more information regarding getting bids out.

Emergency Manager Levi Vinson informed commissioners that the Hazel Russell Bridge has been sent to FEMA. A response could take anywhere from two weeks to two months.

Commissioner Evenson informed the public that four commissioners would be attending a road viewing today after the meeting. The location of which is on P Road, south of Highway 400. Discussion regarding this viewing will be discussed at the next meeting.

Commissioner Fox gave a public service announcement about the phishing problem that continues to occur; noting that people are opening messages stating that their computers are infected and asking them to call a help line. Fox wanted the public to know that Microsoft will never send such a notice and to be aware of such a scam.

Commissioners received a petition to vacate a road. The viewing for such is slated for October 2nd.

County Counselor Paul Dean would like tipping fees waived for two demolished houses in Madison.

Evenson moved to waive tipping for both houses in Madison; one located at 425 South Mulberry, the other located at 317 Santa Fe Street. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Hodge informed fellow commissioners that a road issue has presented itself near 60th Street, west of J Road. Hodge would like to see the matter addressed.

Evenson moved for a wage adjustment of \$22.50 per hour for Interim Road Supervisor John Schouten. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0. That change is effective today.

Evenson moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Emergency Manager Levi Vinson noted that cyber security is a larger threat than natural disasters.

Evenson moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Obourn moved to approve a two-minute executive session to discuss legal matters. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0. No decisions were made.

Commissioner Evenson moved to adjourn. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

ATTEST: Kalm Roman

Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

Roy Ballard, Chairman

Paul Hodge, Member,

Malcolm Obourn, Member

Preston Evenson, Member