

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

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Obourn moved to approve the August 26th, 2024 minutes as written. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Evenson moved to approve special payables in the amount of \$13,908.59. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Obourn moved to approve payables in the amount of \$126,156.15. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Hodge moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$148,664.64. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Greenwood County residents Larry and Jan Stuber questioned the reason for doing away with curves at intersection corners. Emergency Management Director, Levi Vinson explained it was for safety purposes and followed the DOT Uniform traffic control manual as part of the mapping project, and eliminates liability to the county. The Stuber's also questioned who would take care of the corner and fence, Vinson stated the land would be given back to the property owner. Dean said the land owner would be responsible for a fence. Vinson also explained that a majority of county roads are Rural Secondary Roads.

Severy City Clerk, Tessa Riggs and City Treasurer, William McClendon discussed the Severy City mill levy rate and the difference in what was submitted and what was put in the program. McCaffree stated that it was a program issue, and the County Clerk's office had contacted the state regarding the issue. It was also noted that if amended, new tax statements would need to be sent out.

Vinson updated commissioners on the mapping project. Vinson stated that letters regarding: open roads that have gates, roads that are open and do not show on taxes, and roads closed and not filed correctly have been written and ready to mail out.

Evenson moved for Commissioner Ben Fox to approve and sign the letters once County Counselor Paul Dean has finalized them. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Fox abstained.

A Greenwood County resident questioned whether the public would be able to view the changes to the map prior to it be published. Dean informed them that preliminary drafts are not considered public record and everything will be published when finalized and residents will receive a letter, and a resolution passed.

Vinson informed commissioners that the proposed map for Greenwood County could be printed and displayed in the courthouse. Commissioners agreed this should be done.

Obourn moved to approve a ten-minute break. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Reconvened at 10:11.

Obourn informed fellow commissioners that a meeting was held for Greenwood County Community Center, to discuss the Eureka Downs. Obourn noted that in looking into the property, the City of Eureka transferred the property to the Greenwood County Fair Association in 1997. Obourn informed commissioners that a final decision had not been reached with the Department of Commerce as far as funding. It was noted the fair association intends to use the first funds for the track. City Administrator Joel Laws stated the repairs to the roof and the HVAC system would be half a million dollars, not including electrical, and should be repaired first. Ballard stated this was not the county or the city's building and asked why the city was so involved. Laws noted the city council was asked the same question. Ballard stated he would rather see money invested in Memorial Hall. Laws presented bills from the past year to commissioners and informed commissioners that the city is hopeful to work with KSU for aid. Obourn suggested looking into grants to have the electrical work fixed, and putting charging stations at Eureka Downs. (JE24-87)

Laws informed commissioners the city was looking into a cost share grant for a shared road. If the grant was received the cost per party would be \$125,000 for concrete and blacktop. Laws asked that commissioner consider fitting this into the budget.

Fox moved to approve a five-minute executive session with County Clerk Deann McCaffree regarding jury duty and part-time employees. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0. No decisions. Reconvened at 10:57.

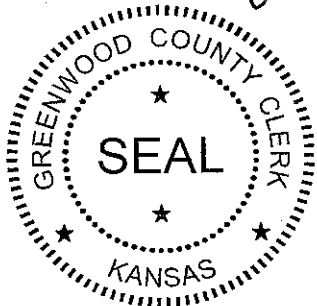
EMS Director, Brian Mongeau informed commissioners they are on a list with Osage Ambulances for a remount in 2028, it could possibly be \$10,000 higher. Commissioners were in agreement with Mongeau to have Road and Bridge haul the chassis of the ambulance currently being remounted from Osage to Emporia.

Evenson expressed appreciation to emergency service workers regarding an accident in his part of the county.

Dean questioned whether a hearing had been held regarding minimum maintenance roads, it was noted the hearing was not on the agenda. Dean stated it was published and set for a hearing at 10am.

Fox moved to adjourn. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

ATTEST: *Deann McCaffree*
Deann McCaffree, County Clerk



Ben Fox
Ben Fox, Chairman
Malcolm Obourn
Malcolm Obourn, Vice Chairman
Paul Hodge
Paul Hodge, Member
Roy Ballard
Roy Ballard, Member
Preston Evenson
Preston Evenson, Member