

Commissioner Meeting
January 25, 2016

Chairman Brian Hind called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were Ben Fox, Cole Conard, and Shannon Gant, Deputy Clerk. Paul Dean, County Counselor arrived at 9:07 a.m.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve January 18, 2016 minutes. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rhonda Ward, Road and Bridge Secretary, reported that due to recent storms crews have been doing a lot of salting and sanding of roads; replacing and repairing signs on EE Roads; Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor, talked to O'Malley's about mowers; crews have been cutting trees; they are getting ready to install tin horns at 550th and K and 230th and H Roads. Ward reported that FEMA was by on Friday and gave figures on approximate dollar amounts for various damages caused by the heavy storms in May. The figures submitted include \$180,000 for roads, \$170,000 for debris, and \$21,671.75 for damages associated with Pikes Corner at 75th St., west of P Rd. Ward said a low-water bridge east of South 99 Highway on 50th Street is still being looked at to see if it qualifies for additional funding. Ward reported that she'd been informed by KDOT that the estimated dollars on the Federal Funds Exchange is approximately \$110,000. Ward said that part of the FEMA project was two debris piles, one at Lamont and another at Madison from flooding. FEMA has given three different options to dispose of them one, County personnel can burn the piles and haul off or burn the ashes; two, they can talk to the landowners to see if the piles can be left for wildlife habitat; or three, give the piles to the landowners and let people come in and cut the debris up for firewood. The commissioners asked Ward to call the company we have talked to about chip/seal regarding the rate to see if it is less than it was before.

The commissioners reviewed the weekly Treasurer's Report.

Commissioner Conard made a motion to approve payables in the amount of \$5,796.54. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the abatements in the amount of \$1013.90. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve adds in the amount of \$129.72. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve appointing Pam Zimmerman as the new Greenwood County Hospital Board Member to replace Ann Coon for a four-year term. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried. Commissioner Hind mentioned he had spoken with Hospital Administrator, Nancy McKenzie, regarding Rene'll Schroeder's position as a Hospital Board Member, which is also expiring, and the fact that Renell would like to remain on the board. Paul Dean, County Counselor, said that should be fine. Commissioner Conard asked if the hospital was interested in changing bylaws to appoint lifetime positions to the board, but the hospital was not interested in that.

Commissioner Conard suggested the possibility of raising the Sheriff's annual salary from \$46,000-\$56,000 as an incentive to attract the best candidates possible in the upcoming election. Commissioner Conard explained he would like to start the conversation with the community and get feedback from constituents. Commissioner Fox asked what surrounding counties are paying and Undersheriff Steve Smith replied that Butler and Lyon County paid considerably more, due to their size, but he thought Woodson and Wilson were reasonably comparable. The commissioners discuss their frustration with the entire legal process, from arresting to the prosecution end. Commissioner Hind pointed out that it seems even when people are arrested, they are out with just a slap on the hand. He asked if in five years, after they put more money into the Sheriff's salary and things are still the same, would it have been worth it. No decisions were made regarding salary, but they plan to make a decision before the filing deadline in June.

Commissioner Fox asked if Road and Bridge still does roadwork for townships. Commissioner Conard and Commissioner Hind told him that in the past that has been done and then the Township was charged but now that Road and Bridge seems busier the townships should look into a private contractor.

Undersheriff Steve Smith reported that the Sheriff's Department has been working on two rollover accidents. Smith also reported that one of the patrol cars was hit last week while parked on the side of the road. The officer was working an accident and not in the vehicle at the time. The car is still usable, but will need repairs. At this time, they have not gotten an estimate for damages.

At 9:58 a.m. Commissioner Conard made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:

February 1st-- Next Commission Meeting - 9:00 a.m.

ATTEST: Kathy Robinson
Kathy Robinson, County Clerk



Brian Hind
Brian Hind, Chairman

Ben Fox
Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

Cole Conard
Cole Conard, Member