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

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Spradlin moved to accept April 12th, 2021 Minutes, as written. Commissioner Morgan seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Darrel Chrisman reported that Road and Bridge is nearly finished with repairs on a bridge near Neal. He informed commissioners that Bitter Bridge is estimated to be completed within thirty days. A brief discussion ensued regarding an ongoing dispute about which party is responsible for replacing a fence near Bitter Bridge. Commissioner Morgan posed questions regarding the ongoing project at Reece. Darrel is slated to coordinate dates for the installation of the boxes at Reece later today.

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve the purchase of an excavator in the amount of $205,000. Commissioner Ballard seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioners reviewed Treasurer’s report. No decisions were made.

Commissioner Fox moved to approve the contract with Jarred, Gilmore and Phillips for audit services in the amount of $16,200 for the audit and $2,500 for a single audit. Commissioner Hodge seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve payables in the amount $120,664.11. Commissioner Morgan seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Ballard moved to approve payroll in the amount of $134,669.89. Commissioner Morgan seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

Noxious Weed Director Jerrid Baumgartel asked for approval to add Old-World Bluestem and Teasel to the list of accepted weeds that chemicals can be sold at cost for. Commissioner Ballard moved to approve adding said weeds to the list of chemicals that can sold at cost. Commissioner Morgan seconded. The motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Ballard modified the previous motion to include the specific names of adding Old-World Bluestem and Teasel to the list of weeds that chemical can be sold at cost for. Commissioner Spradlin seconded the modified motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Health Department employee Mary Hancock informed commissioners that the Health Department was awarded a COVID-19 grant from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in the amount of $129,773. Hancock provided a list of items to be purchased with those funds such as; a trailer, cement, and replacement of the air conditioning unit at the Health Department in the future, and a handicap exam table among other expenses. Also included in this grant are salary adjustments for Health Department employees in the amount of $1,800 per employee, for going above and beyond the call of duty during the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioner Fox moved to accept the COVID-19 ELC Expanding Infrastructure grant in the amount of $129,773. Commissioner Hodge seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Ballard voiced concerns regarding the fence dispute near Bitter Bridge. Ballard stated strongly that he does not believe the cost of fencing should fall on the County. The decision was made that County counselor Paul Dean would send a letter to the parties that are involved in the matter.

Ambulance Director Brian Mongeau notified commissioners about an incident that occurred recently where an EMS staff member put gasoline in an ambulance rather than diesel fuel. Mongeau reported that the vehicle had been experiencing issues prior to the incident. He stated he would expect an expense to repair the issue; although he did not have specific numbers on said expense at that time.

The Zoning Board is still looking to fill a vacancy.

Commissioner Fox moved to approve a 15 minute executive session to begin at 9:56 a.m. with Vicki Lindsey pertaining to employee performance. Commissioner Ballard seconded. The motion carried 5-0. Five minutes were added for the same subject. An additional five minutes were added for the same subject. Commissioners reconvened at 10:21 a.m. No decisions were made.

Property owner Terry Hart requested a fence viewing be scheduled.
Commissioner Fox moved to approve a ten minute executive session with Emergency Management Director Levi Vinson pertaining to real estate acquisition to begin at 10:27 a.m. Commissioner Hodge seconded. The motion carried 5-0. Commissioners reconvened at 10:37 a.m. No decisions were made.

Commissioner Ballard moved to adjourn at 9:38 a.m. Commissioner Hodge seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

The next commission meeting will be held on Monday, April 26th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

ATTEST:  
Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Ben Fox, Chairman
Roy Ballard, Vice Chairman
Chuck Spradlin, Member
Paul Hodge, Member
Robert Joe Morgan, Member