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, Chuck Spradlin, Kathy Robison County Clerk and County Counselor Paul Dean. (Roy Ballard by Zoom)

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Chuck Spradlin made a motion to approve the November 2, 2020 minutes, and Commissioner Ben Fox 2nd the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Darrel Chrisman brought commissioners a bid for the Reece Bridge. The previous bids did not include all items needed to complete the bridge as this one does. The commissioners accepted the bid of $14,615 which does include the delivery of the boxes. Supervisor Chrisman did note that bid did not include putting the boxes in and no estimates have been received for doing so. Supervisor Chrisman also stated two estimates have been received for the completion of the State Street Bridge approaches; the first one from Lueser Construction in the amount of $21,750 and the other one from Everett Concrete in the amount of $14,925. Commissioner Paul Hodge made a motion to approve the bid from Everett Concrete; Chuck 2nd the bid, motion carried 4-0. Chrisman stated that the bridge would be closed for approximately up to 2 weeks. Chrisman said he did receive a bid from Everett Concrete regarding the work on Shell Rock Bridge. Ben made a motion to accept the bid in the amount of $18,980, Roy 2nd it, motion passed 4-0. The project begin date will be contingent on the weather conditions. Chrisman ended the with noting there are several low water crossings in need of repair and that he’s looking at injecting foam for a temporary fix. Chrisman noted that two semi-trucks need to have their mufflers worked on in the amount of $5,000 to $8,573.

Ben said the SPARK Committee met last week and approved the following disbursements: Hamilton USD 390 in the amount of $272.25 for students laptop sleeves, Hamilton USD 390 for $1222.31 for computers being used by students, and Greenwood County Courthouse $4539.01 for cordless electrostatic sprayers. Commissioner Fox then made a motion to accept the disbursements; Commissioner Spradlin 2nd the motion, motion carried 4-0. Ben stated that the SPARK fund would have approximately $11,476.06 left after disbursements. The remainder can help pay for Early Testing items, and what monies left will go back to the state. Levi stated the guaranteed source he used for gloves has limited the amount that can be purchased.

Commissioners discussed the Early Testing Facility and furnishings. Levi stated spending $2700. Used for PPE in the facility.

Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to accept the Special Payables in the amount of $5362.39 for credit cards and every payment; Commissioner Fox 2nd the motion, motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to accept the payables in the amount of $107,591.01; Commissioner Fox 2nd the motion, motion carried 4-0.

Kwikom Operation Manager Eric Vogel gave his update with regards to the Madison tower proceedings. Eric Vogel said they are working on creating a new lease agreement. Vogel questioned if they were to establish a land lease agreement with the property owners, would the commissioners be ok with moving forward with the signing of the tower. Commissioner Paul Hodge said to reach out to Councillor Paul Dean regards to the wording of the agreement, and if he was satisfied they were not opposed to moving forward. Commissioner Hodge asked Under-Sheriff Randy Cox if he had any concerns. Under-Sheriff Cox stated he was concerned about being kicked off the tower. Vogel said they typically do a 30 year lease and were in favor of auto renewal. Vogel also said Kwikom's intent was to give the county access to the tower for as long as they need it.

Greenwood County Health Department Director Vicki Lindsey-Ross reported that there were 147 cases of COVID-19 with 43 cases being active at this time. Vicki reported that if a person is tested outside of Greenwood County the Health Department is not aware of the results until the lab contacts her. She
asked that persons that test positive and have not heard from the Health Department on the same day to please call and notify them. Vicki also said she knew that the Commissioners didn’t believe in mandating mask, but still believes they should be mandated. Vicki said she knows of more serious cases of COVID-19 people who have been hospitalized. She said at least a mandate in public places would help protect people.

Vicki Lindsey-Ross then presented employment verification for LPN Melissa McFadden at the proposed rate of $18 per hour for the County’s COVID-19 Testing Facility. Vicki said she intends to start her out Monday and Friday full days and Wednesday half day. She also will help do contact tracing as needed. Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to hire Melissa at $18 an hour part-time employment, and commissioner Fox 2nd the motion, motion carried 4-0.

Court House Maintenance Supervisor Jason Findley reported recent plumbing issues have come up and told the commissioners that the pipes running from the County Attorney’s office had collapsed. He also said there had been issues with the public restrooms as well. Findley stated that he contacted Thornton Plumbing and Electric, but has not received an estimate as of yet. Findley intends to start digging on Wednesday and depending on what they run into the court house may be closed on Thursday.

Hospital CEO Sandra Dickerson reported that the Greenwood County Hospital’s PPP loan has been forgiven and the bank has been paid.

Before concluding the meeting there was much discussion regarding employees having their temperature taken at the Courthouse. Spradlin made a motion for all courthouse employees to have their temperature taken first thing when arriving, Fox 2nd the motion and motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Paul Hodge made a motion to adjourn at 10:22am, Commissioner Ben Fox 2nd the motion, motion carried 4-0.

The next meeting will be November 16th at 9:00a.m.

Paul Hodge, Chairman

Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

ATTEST: Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Chuck Spradlin Member

Roy Ballard, Member

Robert Joe Morgan, Member