

Commissioner Meeting
February 19, 2019

Chairman Chuck Spradlin called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were Ben Fox, Paul Hodge, and Kathy Robison, County Clerk. County Counselor Paul Dean was not present.

The commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve February 4, 2019 minutes. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve February 11, 2019 minutes. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve February 4, 2019 Board of Canvass minutes. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Darrel Chrisman reported they salted and sanded last week and did a little bit of road maintenance. They received more salt and sand in today; there was a hole that popped up in a bridge east of Quincy, but it looks like it was caused by an animal, and they are repairing it now. Commissioner Hodge asked about some ditching in his district, and Chrisman told him that those projects are on their priority list, but right now the bridge projects are higher on the list. Commissioners discussed different options to work on the ditching project. Commissioner Hodge also mentioned two bridges on 60th by Chaplins'. He suggested hiring a contractor and removing the bridges and putting in two low water crossings. Hodge said the estimate for the work to do the project was \$14,000, and he talked to Emergency Management Director Levi Vinson about FEMA Funding, but hasn't heard anything back yet on that. Emergency Management Director Levi Vinson said that most of the damage was road damage and debris that FEMA looked at, not bridge repair. Vinson said after March of this year, we will be eligible for pre-mitigation hazard funds, so we could apply for a pre-mitigation hazard grant. Chrisman also reported that they are attending a grant-writing seminar. Sheriff Samuels asked Chrisman if they would shut State Street bridge when the weather gets icy, because people try to cross it and go up the hill and slide down the bottom, and get really concerned.

Commissioners viewed the weekly Treasurer's Report.

County Clerk Kathy Robison reported that Salt Springs Township Trustee Joan Penner called and told her that as of March 1st, she is stepping down from her position, as Trustee. Harold Sullens is the Salt Springs blade operator and he said he would take the Trustee position temporarily until they find someone else, but he really doesn't want to do it, but in order to keep the township running, he would. Robison has not received Penner's letter of resignation yet.

County Clerk Kathy Robison also received an SKT Video Service Agreement and told commissioners that she thought County Counselor Paul Dean really needed to look at it. Robison pointed out that in the contract it states that the county can charge a fee.

Bob Kimberlin from Madison addressed the commissioners in regard to the need of war-specific markers (flag-holders) for veteran's graves in the county. Kimberlin explained that in addition to a universal veteran marker on each known veteran's grave, local Legion Posts 2712, Eureka and 124 in Madison, have placed markers designating WWII, Korean and Vietnam conflicts. These specific markers he had traded with other posts and is no longer able to find, so he would like the county to purchase some. Commissioner Spradlin asked Kimberlin if he knew how many were needed. Kimberlin had estimated an order of at least 50 WWII, 150 Korean, and several hundred Vietnam markers are needed. The commissioners said they would look in to the cost of the markers and take it into consideration.

Commissioners Spradlin mentioned they have some resumes for potential hospital board members to fill the vacant position, and considered having an executive session, but decided to table the discussion until they could ask County Counselor Paul Dean if this subject falls under executive session guidelines.

Resolution 13-04, regarding closing county offices/and how the employees will be paid, was discussed, from last week's meeting. Treasurer Donna Olson told commissioners that she checked with six other counties and Coffey, Crawford, Linn, Montgomery, Labette, and Bourbon all pay their employees, if they close the courthouse. Commissioner Spradlin asked how they handle emergency-pay, and Olson said she didn't check on that. Commissioner Spradlin commented that since the last meeting he has had time to really look at the Resolution and thinks that it is well-written and has the two personal days built in to it. There was some discussion about personal days and employees not having leave time. Commissioners Fox said, "if the weather is bad enough, and we close the courthouse, I think they should be paid." Commissioner Hodge said, "I do too." But commissioner Fox and Hodge said they do not think there needs to be overtime or double-time. Commissioner Spradlin said we would probably need a new resolution detailing essential and non-essential employees. EMS Director Brian Mongeau and Sheriff Samuels talked to commissioners about giving the employee comp time or a floating holiday, or a bonus at the end of the year for the extra hours worked on days like that. Another suggestion was to never close the courthouse and leave it to the discretion of the employee whether they can make it or not, then they can use their vacation or personal day, if they have it. After some discussion the commissioner decided to make a decision on this last closure day and talk to County Counselor Paul Dean about a new resolution for future closures. Commissioner Fox made a motion to pay straight-time, not double-time for the recent day the courthouse/county offices were closed. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. Commissioner Spradlin voted "no."

Noxious Weed/Emergency Management Director Levi Vinson presented the 2018-2019 Greenwood County Noxious Weed Management Plan. Vinson explained that in the plan it states, where we are at, and where we are planning to move forward. Vinson said their plan is to eradicate sericea lespedeza. Next year, he would like to plan in his budget to have two spray trucks to cover more territory, and his employee is working on his license, as he will also be selling chemicals in the office. Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the 2018-2019 Greenwood County Noxious Weed Management Plan. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. Vinson also presented the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report and explained the results. There was some discussion about chemical sales and the discount they get if they buy from the county. The last page showed how many chemicals have been sold. Commissioner Fox made a motion to accept the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report for 2018. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. Vinson told the commissioners that the chipper truck that was recently purchased needs new truck tires, as the ones currently on it, are recapped highway tires, so they are not holding up on our gravel county roads. Vinson said he is gathering quotes on tires, but so far it will be \$300-\$350 per tire and he needs four tires for the back of the truck. So it estimates to over \$1,000. Vinson asked permission to purchase the tires once he finds the ones he thinks are best. Commissioners told him to go ahead and purchase the tires then they would approve them.

At 10:07 a.m. Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

At 10:09 a.m. Commissioner Fox made a motion to reconvene the commission meeting. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion for a five minute executive session for personnel issue employee performance with Noxious Weed Director. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

No decision was made.

Commissioner Fox asked Noxious Weed Director Levi Vinson if the personal use of the county vehicle issue has been cleared up. Vinson said yes, he didn't think the statement about the employee taking kids to school in the county vehicle was correct because at 8:00 a.m. in the morning the employee is already in the chip truck working. Vinson said he's not going to say it didn't happen before he worked for the Weed Department, but since January 1st, it hasn't occurred.

The commissioners decided to revisit the Hospital Board Member subject and appoint someone, in open meeting, since they had each looked over the resumes of the hospital board candidates. Commissioner Fox made a motion to appoint Leslie Spillman to the Greenwood County Hospital Board. Commissioner Spradlin seconded the motion. The motion carried.


Commissioner Fox mentioned that the Soil Conservation Office is having a meeting Wednesday night, February 20th @ 6:30 p.m. at the Eureka Jr. Sr. High School. There will be representatives from the state in attendance so they would like a commissioner at the meeting. After discussing their schedules, Commissioner Hodge offered to attend.

At 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:

February 25th - Next Commission Meeting - 9:00 a.m.

February 27th - GW Co Hospital Board Mtg @ 5:30 p.m. @ GW Co. Hospital



Chuck Spradlin, Chairman



Ben Fox, Vice Chairman



Paul Hodge, Member

ATTEST: 
Kathy Rotfison, County Clerk