Commissioner Meeting
February 5, 2018

Chairman Ben Fox called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were Paul Hodge, Chuck Spradlin and Shannon Gant, Deputy.Paul Dean, County Counselor arrived at 9:27 a.m.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve January 22, 2018 commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Spradlin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve January 22, 2018 commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Spradlin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor, reported that King Construction is starting work on the Norwegian Church bridge project that day. The road will be closed for the entire project, which may be until July, and the landowners have all been notified. The bridge project is a result of a grant from KDOT that will pay approximately 80% of the costs. Lowe mentioned crews have been ditching at 150th & U Rd and hauled the dirt to the landfill; Lowe said he would let to put a motor in the dump truck they had that gets metal in the oil, so they can start using it again. He would like to solicit bids for remanufactured motors. Levi Vinson, Emergency Management/Axious Weed Director said they would also like to use the truck by boxing it off and maybe purchase a chipper to put inside of it. Vinson said that a good chipper would cost between $7,000-$15,000, and a grapple truck, which they have discussed in the past, is more expensive, also you have to talk to the landowners, but a lot of them don’t mind wood chipping. Commissioner Fox commented he wasn’t sure about spending that much money on a truck that was about 15 years old but told Lowe to gather more information. Lowe mentioned a project regarding moving a ditch back on DD Road, about 3 1/2 miles north of US 54. The estimated cost will be $4,000-$5,000. Commissioners plan to view the ditch after the meeting before giving approval.

A representative of Twin Grove Township attended the meeting and addressed the commissioners about repairs he felt were needed on 30th Street, near N Rd. He specifically mentioned a small wooden bridge and a few other places on 30th Street, as well. There was some discussion on options on how to repair/replace the bridge, i.e. culverts, or using an 8-10 foot box. After some discussion Road and Bridge Supervisor, Roger Lowe said he would visit the bridge to determine possible solutions and check the other issues.

No Treasurer’s Report.

Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to approve a special payable in the amount of $2,183.33. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to approve abatements in the amount of $6,857.72. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Undersheriff Randy Cox presented three quotes to the commissioners to replace the current K9 SUV vehicle that has over 120,000 miles. Quotes: (1) $26,484, (2) $28,268, and (3) $32,135. Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve the 1st quote from Rusty Eck Ford for a 2017 Ford Police Interceptor SUV, in the amount of $26,484. Commissioner Spradlin seconded the motion. The motion carried. Undersheriff Cox said some of the equipment from the old K9 vehicle will be able to transfer and the Sheriff’s Office had budgeted $35,000 for new vehicles this year. He said with the money leftover plus the sale of the old K9 SUV, Cox hopes to purchase another vehicle later in the year.

EMS Director Brian Mongeau updated commissioners on the Madison communications tower that the county has obtained from MediaCom. Mongeau reported that an inmate crew cleared the brush and cattle panels have been installed around the anchor bases. Now the tower inspection is expected this week. Mongeau said that according to records from the 2011 inspection, he figures that a fair amount of issues will need to be corrected and asked about the funding for the necessary work. Commissioner Fox told him to wait and see what the expenses end up being, and then they will decide which funds will pay for the expenses. Mongeau added that a chain link fence will also need to be added around the base equipment.

Levi Vinson, Emergency Management/Axious Weed Director, told commissioners he purchased two security cameras for the weeds building. He asked permission to purchase three more cameras that would also help cover the chemical storeroom, and purchase a subscription that would allow the video footage to be stored on the system’s cloud for future access for $240 a year. Vinson said the cameras would be around $300. The commissioners were okay with the purchase. The cameras will come out of Noxious Weed Capital Outlay.

Commissioner Fox made a motion for a 15 minute executive session for legal and personnel, regarding an employee’s decision making with Road and Bridge Supervisor Roger Lowe, Emergency Management/Axious Weed Director Levi Vinson, Sheriff Heath Suenkel, Undersheriff Randy Cox, and County Counselor Paul Dean. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. An additional 5 minutes was added to the meeting. An additional 5 minutes was added to the meeting.

No decision was made.

EMS Director Brian Mongeau reported that he will be collecting sealed bids for a new ambulance until 12 p.m. March 2nd and will open the bids at the commission meeting March 5th.
Sheriff Heath Samuels gave the commissioners a 2017 end of year forfeiture report that is mandatory by statute. The report showed six cases where assets were forfeited in 2017. Several are listed as pending, but the forfeitures include several vehicles and U.S. currency. Samuels said that statutes mandate what the forfeited currency can be used for, i.e. drug training and vehicles are utilized by the Sheriff’s Office or sold at auction.

Commissioner Spradlin asked if it was okay to have a meeting with the other commissioners to ask them questions and be brought up to speed on county issues. County Counselor Paul Dean said it was fine for them to get together to discuss business as long as it was a “work session”, and decisions would not be made, they could plan it after a commission meeting and that way people could attend if they would like. Commissioner Spradlin requested a work session for next week, February 12th, following the commission meeting. Commissioner Fox asked County Counselor, Paul Dean, to attend in case Commissioner Spradlin has any questions that would relate to his area of expertise.

Levi Vinson, Emergency Management/Noxious Weed Director, asked permission to send his new employee, Mike Johnson, to a 3-day training in Junction City for Household Hazardous Waste. It is a mandatory requirement. The conference is free, but it will cost the county meal and hotel expenses. The commissioners said it was fine.

At 10:18 a.m. Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:
  February 12th – Next Commission Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
  February 22nd – GW Co. Hospital Board Mtg @ 5:30 p.m. GW Co. Hospital Conference Rm.
  March 26th – Farm Bureau Lunch w/Commissioners @ 12:00 p.m. – Restaurant not chosen yet.

ATTEST: Shannon Hart, Deputy
            Kathy Robison, County Clerk

[Signatures]

Ben Fox, Chairman
Paul Hodge, Vice Chairman
Chuck Spradlin, Member