Commissioner Meeting
January 29, 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, and Shannon Gant, Deputy. Paul Dean, County Counselor arrived at 9:16 a.m. The Republican Committee selected Charles "Chuck" Spradlin to fill the Commissioner District 1 position for the rest of Commissioner Brian Hind’s term, left open due to his recent passing away December 29, 2017. Chuck Spradlin was in attendance at the meeting and ready to participate, but was unable to vote on decisions until receiving word from the Governor to receive the "oath of office".

Commissioner Fox opened the meeting by introducing Chuck Spradlin as the new Commissioner of District 1 and explained that we were waiting to hear from the Governor, and if we received word during the meeting, Mr. Spradlin would receive the "oath of office" and be sworn in as the Greenwood County Commissioner District 1 and be able to participate in voting on decisions.

No commission meeting minutes.

Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor, reported he needs to view DD Road north of the McClaskey tanks and talk to Zach Marshall about it; still has the dozer in the shop; been working on thirteenth south of Neal at CC & 130; Jamie Larcorn has been removing stumps at U & 146; Lowe told Commissioner Hodge crews have been working at the rock quarry and Office Manager Amber Woodie presented the Solid Waste Management Plan for signature and it was approved.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve changing Eric McLean from a Tier 1 to a Tier 2. His new rate of pay will be $13.60 per hour, for the effective paycheck date 2-2-2018. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Amber Woodie, Road and Bridge Office Manager, told commissioners that the annual township meeting will be Wednesday, March 21, 2018 and letters have been sent to restaurants requesting bids.

John Riggins, an engineer from Kirkham Michael Consulting Engineers attended the meeting along with Amber Woodie, Road and Bridge Office Manager, to discuss an application for the High Risk Rural Road funding grant through KDOT. Riggins has been working on the grant with the Road and Bridge Department. The grant would be for fiscal year 2020 and there is no funding match required and it is 100:0. The rural road range will be everything west of 99 and split into two priorities: (1) North of Hwy 34 (2) South of Hwy 34. KDOT replaces regulatory signs, including warning, stop signs, yield, curve ahead, or basically anything red, yellow, black or white. The grant does not apply to green route markers or brown historical signs. The entire state’s funding availability is only $3.5 million and Greenwood County is a large land mass county. That is why they are breaking it up into sections hoping to be selected. Spradlin mentioned his only concern was that it didn’t include roads east of K99. Woodie answered that they had determined that the area they selected included portions in all three districts. County Counselor, Paul Dean, said Elk County had been selected for this grant and received 800 signs and 1200 object markers.

The commissioners viewed the weekly Treasurer’s Report.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve payroll in the amount of $92,031.10. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve payables in the amount of $145,015.57. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve an employee verification for Kristian Ogden, as Motor Vehicle/Driver’s License Clerk, in the Treasurer’s Office at $11.00 per hour. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioners viewed a certificate of liability for Schindler Elevator Corporation.

Deputy Shannon Gant presented the commissioners with original copies of the Performance Bond with Knipp Service for the new chiller project. Gant also presented three original contracts from Knipp Services for the new chiller project, for signature. Two for our records, and one to be mailed back to Knipp. Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve the contract and sign it. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Building Maintenance Supervisor, Jason Findley, and Consultant Vic Delpine attended the meeting to update the commissioners on information about a generator for the Sheriff/ Jail or one that may power the whole courthouse. They have been consulting with KNIIP, the contractors working on the chiller project, who had suggested that now would be the time to do the wiring for a generator, while they are doing the wiring and prep that they are doing for the chiller. However, KNIIP also suggested, it would cost an additional $5,000-$6,000 to redraw the plans, to change the electrical work. Several options were discussed, including, leasing a generator, lease-to-own. Findley and Delpine will get additional information and return at a later date.

Ambulance Director Brian Mougeau attended the meeting with an update on the generator for the Ambulance barn. Wester came and discovered that the wiring was insufficient for the project. It only has 100 amps, at this time. Mougeau said he will gather more information and return with a bid that will be more than he had originally planned, due to the electrical issue. Probably looking at $10,000-$12,000 for the generator project. Mougeau also told commissioners that efforts are still being made to utilize the old Mediacom tower in Madison for fire north. There will be several small maintenance projects necessary to get that started, however, such as, spraying for noxious weeds and putting up fencing around the anchors. The expenses will be split between the emergency departments. Mougeau asked that as work continues, if there are larger expenditures, that it be supplemented from the Courthouse General fund. There was some discussion about what portions the E911 funding could be used for on the project.

Vicki Ross, Health Department Administrator, shared that she had received a Kansas Association Local Health Scholarship to a weeklong summit in Atlanta, GA. The grant will pay for the entire trip, with hotel, transportation and meals being paid by the county but reimbursed by the conference. The commissioners said it was okay with them.

Doug Williams, County Fire Chief, recently attended a State Wildfire Seminar and shared information regarding protocols relating to using ponds during fires. Williams told commissioners you must have an agreement with a landowner to use their pond water but also said if you have an agreement with the water district, you can use all of the water sheds. Williams also discussed the drone he recently acquired through a grant and he raised some donations through the “Growing Greenwood” committee. Training to operate the drone will be $4,500 and that is for
10-12 people. Williams said they will be able to use it for monitoring fires and other emergency search operations. Sheriff Samuels added they are helpful in locating missing people in large fields and it's a safer alternative in a fugitive situation. Also they are used to assess accident scenes. Williams also updated the commissioners on a grant he is working on for 125 sets of bunker gear for the county. It will require a five percent match for the county's portion. Williams said he already has a lot of the parts and equipment to start the truck and estimated approximately $25,000-$35,000 more to finish. The commissioners said it was okay.

Greenwood County Hospital CEO Sandra Dickerson presented a revised 2018 hospital budget that was approved at their hospital board meeting January 25, 2018 to the commissioners, using up-to-date financial information. Dickerson also presented a balance sheet and income statement for December 2017 and noted a few changes that have occurred in their finances. The commissioners thanked her for bringing the information.

Levi Vinson, Emergency Management/Noxious Weed Director, addressed the commissioners about a complaint he has heard from the public regarding meals for the inmate work crews. Vinson said the crews eat a sack lunch, four days a week, provided by the jail, that equates to $2.50 per meal and that he has now worked with a few local restaurants to get each meal down to $4/plate. Commissioner Hodge said, "People should stop and think a minute about the money they're saving the county." Vinson said the crew is only 6-16 members, and they only provide their restaurant meal, one day a week, and it's now only going to be $1.50 more than their inmate lunch. According to Vinson's new figures on how much money the inmate work program will save the county by the end of the year, the crews will work 18,000 hours and $400,000 in payroll. He bases this on a Road and Bridge employee's wages with benefits. Commissioner Fox mentioned he had heard positive remarks about the program. Undersheriff Randy Cox said, "The whole purpose of the jail is to rehabilitate people, not to punish them."

At 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:
February 5th – Next Commission Meeting – 9:00 a.m.

ATTEST:
Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Ben Fox, Chairman

Paul Hodge, Vice Chairman

District # 1, Member (Vacant)