

Commissioner Meeting
June 13, 2016

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

There were no commission meeting minutes to approve.

Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor, reported that crews started patching Ranch Road, Piedmont Road, south of 54, north of Madison; they are working on getting the chipper running; called around about rock; crews working on washouts; Lowe shared information about blade; garage door at the carwash was run into, received an estimate from Overhead Door Company of Wichita to fix it in the amount of \$2,137; a claim has been filed with KCAMP; Commissioner Hind asked if the approach had been fixed at 210th & DD Road, Lowe said yes; Lowe said he thought he would need around 600 tons of chips for the chip/seal project; they briefly discussed storing oil, chips, rock, etc.; Commissioner Hind asked how the sign machine was coming along; Lowe said he would check to see if the needle has been ordered.

Emergency Management Director, Levi Vinson, reported that the State of Kansas met the FEMA threshold for storms at the end of May and should be declared a disaster soon. Damages in Greenwood County amounted to \$119,000. After submitting the necessary paperwork, Vinson will schedule viewings with FEMA representatives.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve payables in the amount of \$6,486.76. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sheriff Rusty Bitler announced that he appointed Jail Administrator, Randy Cox, to Undersheriff, following the retirement of Undersheriff, Steve Smith last week. Commissioner Fox and Undersheriff Cox discussed the need for an upgraded courthouse security camera. Cox had some previous quotes in the amount of \$80,000, which included equipment and installation. Commissioner Fox recently talked to a wholesale distributor in Houston that would sell the equipment for around \$30,000. Commissioner Fox is looking into travel arrangements for Cox and himself to go to Houston to inspect the equipment.

Sheriff Bitler reported they should be receiving \$35,252 from the insurance company for a patrol car and equipment that was destroyed in a fire.

A group representing the Greenwood County Hospital, including Nancy McKenzie, Greenwood County Hospital CEO, attended the commission meeting to request a six mill levy in order to keep functioning. McKenzie explained that in 2004-5 commissioners had asked for the mill levy back from the hospital as there was \$800,000 to one million dollars in the hospital reserve. The board at that time elected to give it back, as they were also receiving approximately \$600,000 annually from the one percent county tax that was created in 1995 and they didn't feel they needed the mill levy. McKenzie told commissioners that she had been in the CEO position for three years and has tried everything she can think of not to be in a position to have to ask for the mill levy back, "But things are bad with rural health, she added." McKenzie said their salaries in the county are higher than any other business because of the professionals we have to have, our docs, the mid-levels that cover our ER, the nursing staff, our rehab department. "So we're struggling," said McKenzie. In 2014, the hospital saw a \$1.2 million dollar loss. McKenzie said they turned that around in 2015 by making cuts and was able to profit just over \$300,000. By the end of 2016, McKenzie is projecting a \$556,623 loss. Medicare reimbursements are not final yet, so this number may change. McKenzie told commissioners they need to have six mills in order to get what they need to function. The commissioners asked McKenzie to come back to a future meeting to discuss it further.

Commissioner Hind made a motion for a 5 minute executive session for personnel with Doug Williams. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

No decision was made.

Commissioner Hind made a motion for a 5 minute executive session for personnel with Sheriff Rusty Bitler and Undersheriff Randy Cox. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

No decision was made.

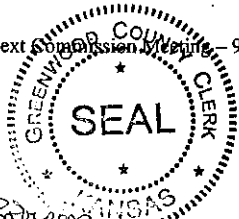
Commissioner Hind made a motion for a 5 minute executive session for personnel. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

No decision was made.

At 10:15a.m. Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hind seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:

June 20th - Next Commission Meeting - 9:00 a.m.



ATTEST: Kathy Robison
Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Brian Hind
Brian Hind, Chairman
Ben Fox
Ben Fox, Vice Chairman
Cole Conard
Cole Conard, Member