Chairman Ben Fox called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 8:30 a.m. Other members present were, Paul Hodge, Brian Hind, and Kathy Robison, County Clerk. Paul Dean, County Counselor arrived at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Fox made a motion for a 15 minute executive session for personnel with four Road and Bridge Department employees and Paul Dean, County Counselor. Commissioner Hind seconded the motion. The motion carried. An additional 15 minutes was added to the executive session. An additional 15 minutes was added to the executive session.

No decision was made.

Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor presented some bids for two tires for the grader in Madison and four tires for a grader in Eureka. After some discussion over the bids, Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the bid from Mel’s Tires in Emporia for two Sampson tires in the amount of $580 plus $50 mounting fee per tire, and a $35 fee for Mel’s Tires to travel to Madison and four Advance tires from Rock’s for $675 plus $25 mounting fee per tire in Eureka. Commissioner Hind seconded the motion. The motion carried. Lowe reported that Linskidds’ asked permission to backburn on the east side of the creek out by the landfill, the commissioners said it was fine. Lowe reported they are working on the landfill wall; Lowe also reported he needs to get someone to take pictures of all of the projects they have repaired for FEMA, for future funding. Pete with water board at Darrell Lutz’s water tower, Commissioner Hind asked Lowe what he found out about the culverts, Lowe said he checked on them. Commissioner Hind said Murphy is supposed to come a grade the township around Madison has to trade. The commissioners opened two bids for repairing Ladd bridge. Road and Bridge had asked for bids from seven companies but had only received two responses. The first bid was $136,600 and the second was $219,000. Commissioner Hind said, “We have problems, because I’m not voting on either one of those unless we’re getting FEMA money,” he added “and we need to fix the bridge.” Levi Vinson, Emergency Preparedness/Noxious Weed Director, gave the commissioners contact information for Jim Fry, from KDOT, who is able to release funds for 2nd Class RS Roads. There was more discussion on the quotes for Ladd Bridge and the plans to repair it. No decisions were made.

Levi Vinson, Emergency Management/Noxious Weed Director, reported that another appeal from the May 2015 storm has been denied and it was one of the claims that was thought to be a “slam dunk”, according to the Kansas Department of Emergency Management. The repairs were made at P Road and 75th street, where a culvert was washed out. Vinson said paperwork, including an engineering analysis was sent, however FEMA still claims that the damage cannot be tied directly to the storm, instead FEMA believes the damage was caused by a lack of maintenance over the years prior to the storm. FEMA sent a letter to the county listing 26 items the county still needs to provide in order for them to reconsider their appeal, including original construction plans for the culvert and GPS coordinates from where the county obtained fill dirt. Vinson said, “A lot of it is things we cannot produce, we could spend a week trying to come up with it, and I think the writing is on the wall. They’re going to deny it.” The county has 30 days from March 22nd to respond with the 26 items listed in FEMA’s letter. “If you think about the resources they’ve spent on this and what we’ve spent, it exceeds the amount we’re even asking for,” Vinson stated.

Commissioner Hind made a motion for a 5 minute executive session for personnel with Paul Dean, County Counselor. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

No decision was made.

Commissioner Hind made a motion for a 10 minute executive session for personnel with Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor; Rhonda Ward, Road and Bridge Secretary, and Paul Dean, County Counselor. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried. An additional 10 minutes was added to the executive session.

After returning from executive session, the commissioners announced that they plan to hire an additional office worker to support Road and Bridge Department part-time and Noxious Weed/Emergency Preparedness Department part-time. The office worker will be a full-time Greenwood County employee paid from the Road and Bridge Department Budget.

The commissioners viewed the weekly Treasurer’s Report.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve payroll in the amount of $90,545.05. Commissioner Hind seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve payables in the amount of $164,477.29. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve payables, dated 3-27-2017, in the amount of $1,136.50. Commissioner Hind seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve an abatement in the amount of $44.32. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve an add in the amount of $29.78. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.
Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve the revised Resolution 14-03 (Greenwood County Burning Resolution). Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve March 20, 2017 minutes. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

At 10:50 a.m. Commissioner Hind made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:

March 30th—National Weather Service Storm Spotters - Mtg @ 6:30 p.m. - Eureka High School
April 3rd—Next Commission Mtg @ 9:00 a.m.
April 11th—Special Election from 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
April 17th—Board of CANVASSING Immediately following Commission Mtg.
April 27th—GW Co. Hospital Board Mtg @ 5:30 p.m.—GW Co Hospital Conference Room

Ben Fox, Chairman
Paul Hodge, Vice Chairman
Brian Hind, Member

ATTEST: Kathy Robinson, County Clerk