Commissioner Meeting  
March 11, 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, Kathy Robison, County Clerk, and County Counselor Paul Dean.

The commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Road and Bridge Supervisor Darrel Christman reported that he has a new quote on the warranty deed for the excavator, with no deductible, no mileage, and an extended warranty for high priced items, in the amount of $2,772.00. The warranty deed covers 1200 and something more hours or 48 months. Christman mentioned, if possible they normally try to take the equipment to the vendor because it’s so expensive to have them come to the Road and Bridge for repairs or maintenance. Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the warranty deed in the amount of $2,772.00. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. Christman relayed that the local tire vendor, Rock’s, has been working with to purchase tires in bulk to maybe get a cheaper price, said he could get 20 tires at $225 each, right now before a tariff goes into effect. Commissioner Hodge made a motion for the Road and Bridge Department to purchase 20 tires from Rock’s in the amount of $225 each. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried. Administrative Assistant Amber Woodie presented a ‘302 to the commissioners for signature that was related to the new sign project in the northwest corner of the county. Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the ‘302 for signature. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. Woodie also gave commissioners an update on Bitter’s Bridge, located on X Road north of 190th. Woodie relayed that Michael Maris contacted her and gave her material to be sent to consultants regarding the bridge. Commissioner Spradlin asked if Maris mentioned how much approximately the project would cost. Woodie said she didn’t have that information with her. Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the Road and Bridge Department moving forward with the design plans from Michael Maris and collecting bids for the project. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. The stone arch bridge will be constructed with a new bridge built straight. Woodie also reported that they sold six-months worth of cardboard to Linn Paper Co. out of Oklahoma. Greenwood County sold them 22.77 tons of cardboard at $75/ton. Woodie said that was a little low and was told next time they would probably get a higher rate due to the quality of what they purchased. The total amount of the check will be $1,707.75. Woodie told commissioners they will sell the cardboard two times a year and should have the bales and supplies paid for in three and one-half years, excluding costs for labor of the employee, fuel and repairs. Commissioner Spradlin asked if they were considering doing any other recycling programs? Woodie replied that they were looking into other recycling programs including plastics.

Commissioners viewed the weekly Treasurer’s Report.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve payroll in the amount of $100,520.02. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve payables in the amount of $162,315.70. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve a Notice to the Township Board for Tri-Com. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The commissioners revisited the SKT Video Service Agreement they had approved at last week’s meeting, as SKT contacted County Clerk Kathy Robison to verify whether the commissioners would like to charge a 2-5% service fee, as the contract states Greenwood County is entitled to do. The commissioners decided to not collect a service fee.

Fall River Fire Chief Robert Graham addressed the commissioners regarding Fall River fire units not being paged to recent injury accidents on Highway 400. Graham told commissioners he was involved in a head-on accident recently on Highway 400, and although the response time was within specs, it seemed lengthy. Graham stated there are eight firefighters that serve on both the Fall River City Fire and the Greenwood County Fire – Fall River Division. Graham mentioned they could be on the scene within 5 minutes. Greenwood County Fire Chief Doug Williams stated, “If we (the county) are going to respond 10-48 (injury) car wrecks and various things, we have an obligation by law to provide infection control programs, which include infection control vaccinations, to the tune of $500 per man.” He continued, “There is a cost associated if they want to respond.” Williams mentioned there are 15 county fire divisions within Greenwood County, and Chief Williams didn’t believe it was feasible for all divisions to undergo this program. Graham said he would talk to the Fall River City council to see if they would like to pursue this avenue. It was noted that Fall River Fire units cannot provide medical treatment, due to lack of EMT training. They are able to serve as a first responder, but are limited to CPR, first aid, and have the ability to utilize AED machines. Ambulance Director Brian Mongeau relayed that response times were checked and were all within the adequate time frame.

Commissioner Fox mentioned he has talked to someone at Re-Invision to look at the courthouse for options on updating office space for a new commission meeting room.

Greenwood County Hospital Board Member Pam Brown and Hospital CEO Sandra Dickerson returned to discuss the request they had presented to the commissioners at last week’s meeting, in the amount of $105,000, to help pay down a Medicare payback. Last week the commissioners told the hospital members they would like a week to think about the decision. Brown had mentioned that the hospital has taken some cost-saving measures, which is some of the reason they owe a Medicare payback. Brown also mentioned at last week’s meeting that the half-cent sales tax will not go into effect until April and probably not be received until July. After some discussion the commissioners decided they could not issue funds at this time, as other issues may arise. They asked Brown and Dickerson to return to the commission meeting in a month or so.

Madison resident Bob Kimberlin and Eureka resident Don Scott revisited commissioners to follow up on the request for war-designated flag holders for veteran’s graves in Greenwood County. Commissioner Fox stated he had ordered a bronze holder for comparison, but it has not arrived in time for this meeting. No decisions were made.
Register of Deed Marshia Ramsey told commissioners she has an open job position in her office and would like to get the hourly rate approved so when she hires the person she can tell them how much they will be making. Commissioner Spradlin asked if it was a reasonable amount. Ramsey confirmed that it was. Commissioner Hodge asked if they would be in training for awhile. Commissioner Spradlin and Fox suggested offering less at the beginning, then in 30-90 days, if she is satisfied with the person’s performance raise their pay. They told Ramsey it was completely up to her, as it was her Department.

Health Department Administrator Vicki Ross presented an employment verification for Brandi Starr as a full-time Administrative Assistant at $12 per hour. Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the employment verification. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. Ross also asked for clarification regarding accrued time for county employees, as she felt an employee didn’t receive accrued time. Ross referenced policy 50.04 (sick leave) and said she had talked to someone at Kansas Labor and Wage Board. County Counselor Paul Dean asked her who she talked to at the Kansas Labor and Wage Board. Dean also explained that sick leave is a benefit. Ross said she would get with Dean for clarification and possibly update the policy if possible.

Attorney’s Office Administrative Assistant Arlene Edwards asked, “If new employees are coming on at $12, when is longevity going to be addressed?” Commissioner Spradlin told her to talk to her Department Head County Attorney Joe Lee. Edwards asked, “At what point in time does any increase become a merit raise?” There was a discussion about different ways to incorporate merit raises during budget time. Commissioners said if the elected officials have the money in their budget to give the raise, they can.

At 10:22 a.m. Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:

- March 4th 8:20 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. thru March 18th 8:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. - Early Voting in the Clerk’s Office Dates
- March 18th – Next Commission Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
- March 19th – 2019 Special Election – 389 School Bond from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
  @ Matt Samuels Bldg & Severy Methodist Church
- March 20th – Township Mtg/Dinner – Registration @ 6:00 p.m. / Dinner @ 6:30 p.m. @ Matt Samuels Bldg
- March 25th – Board of Canvass for 2019 Special Election – 389 School Bond @ 10:00 a.m.
- March 25th – Lunch w/ Farm Bureau @ Cherokee Lanes @ 12:00 p.m.
- March 28th – GW Co. Hospital Board Mtg. @ 5:30 p.m. @ GW Co. Hospital

ATTEST:  Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Chuck Spradlin, Chairman

Ber Foss, Vice Chairman

Paul Hodge, Member