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, and Kathy Robison, County Clerk. County Counselor Paul Dean was not present.

The commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve April 15, 2019 minutes. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve April 22, 2019 minutes. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Darrel Chrisman updated commissioners on county projects and reported that he had attended a FEMA scope meeting that was held Thursday with KDEM officials regarding the October flooding event. The county now has 60 days to declare any additional damage. Chrisman noted there is a new FEMA mitigation formula 428 that pays on projected costs rather than actual claims submitted. However, if the estimate ended up being short, the county would be responsible for coming up with the remaining funds. Vinson said that the new model has not been used yet by counties in Kansas and he was reluctant to be the “guinea pig.” Commissioners decided the new program may be beneficial in the future but wanted to continue with the current model for now. Commissioner Spradlin relayed he had a recent inquiry from the City of Fall River regarding hauling off the debris from a recent storm. Commissioners noted that a policy in 2016 had been passed to assist cities in the county with debris removal from storm damage, with the stipulation that the county would need to have the available personnel and equipment. Commissioner Spradlin mentioned they could waive the county’s portion of the landfill fees but did not feel they had the available staff or equipment at this point to assist with hauling the debris. Francis Chaplin discussed several bridges in the south end of the county that need repairs, and said that he had done some work on a low-water crossing himself. They discussed bridges located on 60th and 70th streets. Chaplin plans to meet with a construction company next week.

 Commissioners reviewed the weekly Treasurer’s Report.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve an employee status change for Kassie Martin, in the Clerk’s Office from part-time to full-time and her pay from $9.13 per hour to $10.00 per hour. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve an abatement. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Levi Vinson, Emergency Management Director said he scheduled a KDEM Incident Command class (G402) geared towards elected officials regarding disaster events, i.e. tornadoes. The class will be held on July 11th from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Eureka Public Library. So far, he has commitments from Eureka, Madison, and Hamilton, and plans to reach out to school boards and other organizations. Vinson asked about catering a meal for the training and the commissioners said that they would like Vinson to provide sack lunches for the training. Vinson relayed that the county had taken delivery of a new 20kVa generator/light tower, that was purchased with Southeast Homeland Security Region funding. Vinson said the unit is one of seven and will be used for response and incident support within the region. Vinson also noted that the security council are in discussion about soliciting bids for an electronic billboard as the next item from the funding. Vinson said the only downfall of receiving the emergency equipment is storage availability and mentioned the Sheriff’s Office is in need of storage space to keep seized vehicles out of the weather, as well. Commissioner Hodge mentioned the need to build a building specifically to house some of the equipment. There was also discussion about getting a generator for the Matt Samuels Community Building, as County Fire Chief Doug Williams had mentioned the need for one after the last tornado. Commissioner Fox planned to ask the City of Eureka about splitting the cost.

Sheriff Samuels told commissioners there would be 70 Westar trucks in town staging at the Community Building as they make repairs from storm damage from the night before. Vinson explained that 69 mph straight line winds had laid over 20 power poles on the Lake Road north of Eureka. Samuels added that one of the deputy vehicles had been involved in an accident over the weekend and they were in the process of getting estimates of the damage.

EMS Director Brian Mongeau presented a proposal to the commissioners for purchasing a gym membership for approximately 18 part-time and full-time EMS employees only, in his department. Mongeau explained that due to the heavy lifting requirements of the job, it’s important to know proper techniques of lifting and staying physically fit. The quote from The Gym was for $1,600 for one year and will be paid from the EMS budget. Mongeau said he talked to KWRCC about possible grant funding, but was told there was nothing at this time, however KCAMP may offer a risk avoidance grant program. Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve The Gym membership for the EMS Department in the amount of $1,600, to be taken out of the EMS budget. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Thank you cards were read from VFW Post #2712 in Eureka and the James Sill Brown Post #124 in Madison for the recent county’s purchase of Flag markers for area Veteran’s graves.

Building Maintenance Supervisor Jason Findley told commissioners the hot water heater that is used by the courthouse and jail is leaking from the bottom and needs replaced. Commissioner Fox made a motion to
approve a new 100 gallon hot water heater from Thornton, including installation, up to $6,000. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. The funds are to be taken from County General.

At 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Hodge made a motion to adjourn for a worksession to discuss moving the commission room to where the extension room is currently housed to accommodate for a 5-person commission board.

At 10:35 a.m. commissioners reconvened and Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve ReEnvision’s planning bid of $2,500. They will come up with options to repurpose the current extension office to fit the commissioners’ needs. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

At 10:36 a.m. Commissioner Hodge made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:
May 6th – Next Commission Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
May 23rd – GW Co. Hospital Board Mtg. @ 5:30 p.m. @ GW Co. Hospital

Chuck Spradley, Chairman

Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

Paul Hodge, Member

ATTEST: Kathy Robison, County Clerk