Commission Meeting
November 8th, 2021

Chairman Ben Fox called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other Members present were Vice-Chairman Roy Ballard, Chuck Spradlin, Robert Joe Morgan, Paul Hodge, and County Clerk Kathy Robison.

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ballard moved to approve the November 1st, 2021 Minutes. Morgan seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Road & Bridge Report:

- 380th Street Bridge was re-opened November 4th, 2021. The temporary bridge that served as a crossing will be cleaned up.
- Payment for the crop and field damage in the amount of $300 that was approved at the last commissioners meeting, was presented for signatures.
- Chrisman requested that Andy Metzler get a $1.00 an hour raise after completing his 90 days from $13.50 to $14.50. Commissioner Fox made a motion to give him the raise and Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
- A bid was presented from Airgas for a three-in-one Miller that also affords for MIG and TIG welding in the amount of $3839.58 after stating the welder they currently are using is very inconsistent providing heat and is too small for the welding they do. Ben made a motion to authorize Darrel to spend up to $4839.58 for the purchase of the welder. Chuck seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Ballard will be looking into the item further to ensure that the price received is the best price.
- The Bridge located at T Road and 360th Street was fixed.
- The culvert at 110th & P Road is smashed and also needs ditched; that’s on the list to be fixed.

Commissioner Robert Joe Morgan noted that the Piedmont Road was in bad shape and needed attention. Commissioner Morgan also noted the Motor Grader Operator that did Christian Hill Road from the bridge South did an excellent job and needs to be told so.

Residents of Rock Ridge Cove at the Fall River Lake returned to the Commission Meeting regarding the ongoing issue pertaining to 36th Street. Jeff Pittman of Salt Springs Township said the issue of the road being opened or closed needed to be addressed. Councilor Paul Dean said a letter had been sent to the land owner last week but was unsure if it had been delivered. Pittman said he spoke with the landowner and as of Sunday he had not received the letter. Commissioner Hodge stated the letter the commissioners asked Paul Dean to write indicated they viewed the road as public access based on the number of years it has been utilized by the public. Pittman also stated emergency vehicles such as EMS needs to be told if the road is open. According to some of the residents, approximately in 1998, a similar issue with another landowner neighboring one of the properties along the road way had been faced. Residents stated that commissioners in office then told the property owner that the road had been utilized for public access and therefore be open for public use. Sheriff Heath Samuels told residents that if that were the case there would be county records to reflect that. He said he was concerned this had not been shared earlier. Residents asked if it could be opened until a resolution is reached, Commissioners asked Paul Dean what was the next step. He said noted this was outlined in the previous meeting, stating the road was never formally opened and the matter would have to be taken to court. Dean continued by saying filing a lawsuit and asking for a temporary injunction, the road opening until formally open the road have been completed. He said any member of the public or the county could pursue legal proceedings. Chuck made a motion to authorize Paul Dean to get an injunction to open the road immediately. Roy seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Roy Ballard stated “we are on your side on this deal.” He told the residence they have to leave it to a judge now.
Scott Day of Day Insurance Solutions, LLC presented figures pertaining to the commission’s request to not impose a health insurance on employees. Day told the commissioners that the county would need to put $31,389.47 in the claims account to maintain a targeted balance. There could be a fluctuation depending on employment/policy changes (an employee moving from single to family) that can occur throughout the year. Commissioner Fox made a motion to proceed with the health insurance plan with an increase to the employees. Funds will be rolled over to the claims account. This will happen at the end-of-year transfer unless needed earlier. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0

Morgan moved to pay the Special Payables in the amount of $17,227.71. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Health Director Vicki Lindsey requested that commissioners consider moving to a 4-day work week. Monday-Thursday. The department would be looking at changing their hours of operation from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. to 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. She noted that this would give individuals the opportunity to come to the Health Department prior to or after school/work. Lindsey asked that they consider this change for next year. Spradlin questioned Lindsey in regards to Vaccinations. He said members of the community told him it would be up to a month before they receive their booster, he asked if that was true. Lindsey said she would address this in executive session, however Moderna and Pfizer were only being offered at the hospital. No executive session was held pertaining to this topic.

Lindsey held a 15-minute executive session with the commissioners for legal discussion pertaining to policies and procedures. Following the session, no decisions were made.

Greenwood County Clerk Kathy Robison brought an AT&T service tower agreement, approved by the Zoning Board for commissioners to sign. The tower is located on 15th Street in Severy. The representative from AT&T stated they were unable to secure a lease with an existing tower owner at this sight. This is the reason they submitted their request to stay on-air.

Robison told the commissioners that there was new security added to the election software, and now the real estate computer that is also utilized to access the program is no longer compatible because it has Windows 7 operating system. Commissioner Fox made a motion for Kathy to spend $1802 for the purchase of a new tower. Spradlin Seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Maintenance Supervisor Greg Rawlings revisited discussion regarding the bid presented for the concrete work to address potential trip hazards. A bid from Judd Everitt Concrete was then presented to the commissioners, in addition to the bid already presented. The discussion was tabled until a later date.

Commissioner Ben Fox made a motion to approve Jan Stephens to serve on the Greenwood County Hospital Board of Trustees. She will be filling the role of Randy Cox, who resigned earlier this year. Commissioner Paul Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Fox made a motion to re-new Leslie Spillman’s appointment when it expires in December, as she was appointed to fill the remaining term of former member Matt Wilson. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioners held a 5-minute executive session for discussion of employee performance. No decisions were made.

The Year end dinner was discussed and Kathy Robison will send out letters to local restaurants to get bids on a meal.

Joe made a motion to adjourn at 10:50 a.m. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0.