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, County Clerk Kathy Robison and County Counselor Paul Dean.

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Road and Bridge report:

- The bridge on 380th is now open.
- Commissioners signed a claim voucher in the amount of $300 for crop damage. Approval of such was made at a previous meeting.
- Andy Metzler has reached 90 days of employment; Chrisman requested to move Metzler from $13.50 per hour to $14.50 per hour. Fox moved to approve a $1.00 raise for Metzler. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
- Chrisman received a quote from Airgas to upgrade from their current welder to a Miller three-in-one welder in the amount of $4839.51. Fox inquired whether or not Chrisman has received more than one bid. Chrisman stated he could get another bid if commissioners preferred. Fox moved to approve the purchase of a new welder up to the amount of $4839.51, with the understanding that Commissioner Ballard will look into the matter further to verify the best possible purchase price. Spradlin seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
- Repairs to the bridge on T road and 360th street are completed.
- Chrisman informed commissioners of several culverts in need of repair.
- Chrisman is looking into the purchase of a culvert cleaning machine.
- Morgan informed Chrisman that Piedmont road is in need of repair. Morgan also told Darrel that the grader that worked Christian Hill road, south of the bridge did an excellent job.

Jeff Pittman with Salt Springs Township and Fall River Lake residents attended the meeting to inquire about ongoing disputes pertaining to 36th street. Pittman asked if the Commission could make a decision to open or close the road. County Counselor Paul Dean informed Pittman that a letter has been to the owner although Dean was not sure if said letter had been delivered. Pittman has spoken with the land owner and stated he has been told that a letter has not been received. Residents stated that a previous commission had made the decision that the road was an open road several years prior. County counselor Paul Dean stated that there is an option to take the matter to court and ask for an injunction to keep the road open until the dispute is resolved.

Commissioner Spradlin moved to approve county counselor Paul Dean filing a law suit, on behalf of the Commission Board, to get an injunction to keep the road open. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Morgan moved to approve special payables in the amount of $17,227.71. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

During a previous meeting, commissioners discussed insurance rate increases and made the decision they do not want rates to increase for employees. Scott Day with Day Insurance Solution presented commissioners with figures to support this decision. Day stated that if the rates stay the same and the county does not make any changes, they will underfund the Claims account. He informed commissioners that the alternative to raising insurance rates is that the county needs to add an additional $31,389.47 to the claims account. This is a projected amount and is likely to change by the end of the year.

Fox moved to approve the renewal of insurance with no rate increase to employees, with the understanding that the County will roll money over to the claims account at the end of the year to cover any additional costs. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Maintenance Supervisor Greg Rawlings presented commissioners with a bid from Everett concrete for repairs needed to the courthouse.

Health Department Nurse Vicki Lindsey asked commissioners to consider allowing for a four day work week versus five days to begin at the start of 2022; with hours of operation moving from 8a-5p to 7a-5:30 p.m. This move would allow for clients to call before school/work.

County Clerk Kathy Robison presented commissioners with an AT&T service agreement for signatures. The Zoning Board approved a new telecommunications tower at a meeting held on November 3, 2021. The tower will be located on 15th Street in Severy.
Robison also informed commissioners that the State of Kansas added new security to election software; because of this addition, there is one computer in need of replacement. The computer in question has Windows 7, which is not compatible with the new security software. Robison presented a bid for a new tower in the amount of $1,802. Fox moved to approve the purchase of a new tower in the amount of $1,802. Spradlin seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Robison presented letters of support in need of signatures for the senior center and transportation services.

Fox moved to approve a fifteen minute executive pertaining to legal matters with Health Department Nurse Vicki Lindsey. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened at 10:37 a.m. No decisions were made.

Fox moved to approve a five minute executive session for employee performance. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened at 10:43 a.m. No decisions were made.

Commissioner Fox moved to approve Jan Stephens to replace Randy Cox on the Greenwood County Hospital Board. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Fox moved to approve Leslie Spillman’s reappointment to the Greenwood County Hospital Board. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioners briefly discussed the year end dinner for county employees. Spradlin voiced support for inviting the local press to the county dinner.

Morgan moved to adjourn at 10:50 a.m. Ballard seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

ATTEST:  
Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Ben Fox, Chairman
Roy Ballard, Vice Chairman
Chuck Spradlin, Member
Paul Hodge, Member
Robert Joe Morgan, Member

Greenwood County Commission Meeting November 8th, 2021