

Commissioner Meeting
October 11, 2016

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

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve October 3, 2016 minutes. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor, was not present for the Road and Bridge report but Levi Vinson, Emergency Management Director, was at the meeting and has been working closely with the Road and Bridge Department so Commissioner Hind asked him to give a report. Vinson reported that there was a road on 54 South that had extensive damage due to the recent rains; Vinson said at first there were reports that some bridges were lost but after the water receded they discovered the bridges were there just in bad shape; Ladd Bridge is still underwater; Vinson also reported that Road and Bridge worked Friday; and that the City of Eureka sent an employee with their blade equipment to assist the Road and Bridge Department.

Commissioner Conard is concerned that the townships will run out of money in their budgets to fix all of the road damage that has happened because of the rain that we've received this year.

Commissioner Conard made a motion to approve Resolution 16 – 23 Disaster Declaration. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Levi Vinson, Emergency Management Director, reported that he has been working with a FEMA representative on the September 2-12 disaster and they stated they are going to do everything they can to settle it quickly. Commissioner Hind asked if Vinson had made any progress with the FEMA claims from last year. Vinson said that he had been working closely with the state representative from Kansas Department of Emergency Management, KDEM, Jeff Heinrich, and that he was going to be coming over to the county this week to help with the appeals. FEMA has denied \$240,000 in claims from last year that they had already approved, saying that the county should have done more preventative maintenance or that the damage was already there. Heinrich has most of the documentation, proving that the claims were valid. As discussed before Vinson said that FEMA has based their denials partly on Google images that are old aerial photos which cannot clearly show alleged damage beneath bridges.

Vinson turned in a bid for repairs to the emergency management truck in the amount of \$710. Due to the massive amount of emergency events this year, the emergency management budget is depleted. The commissioners approve the repairs to be paid out of the courthouse general fund.

Two members of the Meng family were there to discuss their concerns about a culvert located about a mile north of US400. They reported that during the last big storm, water flooded areas that never flooded before and they felt the culvert was a big part of the problem. After some discussion it was suggested to put a snorkel drainpipe in to release the vacuum. Commissioner Hind suggested putting in a concrete box culvert instead and the Mengs thought that might fix the problem. The commissioners agreed to look into a possible solution.

Commissioner Conard made a motion to approve payroll in the amount of \$85,777.51. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve payables in the amount of \$136,256.17. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve the 3rd Quarter Financial Report. Commissioner Conard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

After some discussion regarding an employment verification for Marissa Strickler, LPN with the Health Department, Commissioner Conard made a motion to approve paying her the requested wage of \$20 per hour. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried. It is the same rate of pay that an RN earns but they spoke with, Office Manager, Mary Harrison, who said that Strickler does the same job duties.

The U-verse bill for the Health Department was discussed because there has been an issue regarding it being late because of the time it takes to receive the bill, turn it in for approval by the commissioners, and then cut the check. County Counselor, Paul Dean, suggested that when the Health Department U-verse bill is received by the Clerk's Office that they automatically approve it each month and cut the check immediately and send it out as long as the amount is the regular \$65 per month then turn it in at the following Monday Commission meeting for approval. Commissioner Conard made a motion to approve paying the Health Department U-verse bill each month in the amount of \$65 each month when it is received then having it approved at the next Commission meeting. Commissioner Hind seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The commissioners also discussed the Health Department Verizon bill, as the Health Department had recently requested to add a Health Department employee to the account to have the ability to turn the service on and off to the county's iPad during flu season as it does not get used year-round. After some discussion, Commissioner Conard made a motion to approve adding Mary Harrison, Health Department Office Manager to the Health Department Verizon account. Commissioner Hind seconded the motion. The motion carried.

County Counselor, Paul Dean, asked the commissioners if they would pay for an online law library subscription for the County Attorney's Office. Elk County has agreed to pay half the cost of \$318.90 per month, as they employee County Attorney Joe Lee part-time and Dean part-time. The subscription is for Lee and Dean and covers a 36 month term. Commissioner Conard made a motion to approve for Greenwood County to pay 1/2 and Elk County to pay 1/2 for the online law library subscription in the amount of \$318.90 per month out of the diversion fund. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Conard said he had received a complaint about a man that had moved several mobile homes in on a lot at Rock Ridge Cove at Fall River. After viewing that area he observed that most of the lots are in code violation. Commissioner Conard said he doesn't feel that they can enforce for one lot and not all of them. The code reads, "any new structure has to be 50 feet away from the roadway." He recommended that the commissioners leave it in the townships hands as it in their jurisdiction.

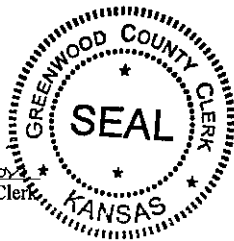
Commissioner Conard made a motion for a 15 minute executive session for personnel. Commissioner Hind seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox reported that after months of talking to AT&T, he had heard from Steve with Advantage Computers and the county should be getting a large refund check due to incorrect rates being charged over the last year or so. He estimated the refund to be in the area at \$12-\$15,000.

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

Calendar:

October 17th- Next Commission Meeting - 9:00 a.m.



ATTEST: Kathy Robinson
Kathy Robinson, County Clerk

Brian Hind
Brian Hind, Chairman

Bep Fox
Bep Fox, Vice Chairman

Cole Conard
Cole Conard, Member