

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. Ulysses News Reporter, Bene Garcia was in attendance. Commissioner Stewart provided prayer and Commissioner Shapland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Rita Gee, County Treasurer; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator; Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Lavonne Michael, Senior Center Director; Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator; and Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager.

Commissioners reviewed a quote to replace the fuel tank monitor console at the Airport. The current monitor is obsolete and Hoidale is the only vendor in the area. Martin Long made the motion to purchase a fuel tank monitor console and labor from Hoidale at a cost not to exceed \$11,452.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Airport fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Janet Stewart made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2016 meeting along with the claims against the various funds of the county, payroll total \$147,787.18 dated December 21; voucher numbers ending 152147 totaling \$275,452.19. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss personnel matters of individual non-elected personnel. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued in open session with no action taken.

Jessica Akers, County Attorney, met with commissioners. Martin Long made the motion to recess into executive session with the County Attorney for 10 minutes to discuss personnel matters of individual non-elected personnel. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued in open session with no action taken.

Blake Bezona, citizen of Stanton County, asked commissioners if Grant County would be interested in contracting mowing county ditches. Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, joined the meeting. Commissioner Long informed Mr. Bezona the Road Department purchased tractors two years prior and he wasn't receptive to letting them set idle and hiring contract mowing. After discussion it was the unanimous decision of commissioners to continue the present method of mowing ditches.

Martin Long made the motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss personnel matters of individual non-elected personnel. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. At a previous meeting of the County Commissioners Jerry Jo Deckert gave notice of her retirement effective March 31, 2017. Martin Long realizing and appreciating Jerry Jo Deckert's many years of service to the EMS and Grant County, accepted Ms. Deckert's decision to retire and in consideration of long service to the County, and to assist with transition

to retirement or other employment makes the motion effective immediately and through March 31, 2017, to free her from further day-to-day director responsibilities during the notice period. Further, effective immediately and through March 31, 2017, Ms. Deckert will only be asked to make herself reasonably available to assist with EMS Department issues. Based on the mentioned years of service and possible help through the transition period, Ms. Deckert will continue to receive her regular salary and benefits through the end of her notice period. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners recessed at 10:40 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:30 a.m.

Martin Long made the motion to recess into executive session with the County Clerk for 15 minutes to discuss acquisition of real property. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 15 minutes the meeting continued in open session with no action taken.

Commissioners recessed at 11:50 a.m. for lunch at Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital (BWMGCH) with the BWMGCH Executive Team: Amanda Vaughn, James Forrest, Jr., Deanna Mustin, Dr. Patrick Barker, Betty Baker and Tammy Oxford; Centura/BWMGCH Board Members, Gary Riley and Lynn Teeter; and St. Catherine Hospital Executive Team: Nancy Killion, Victor Hawkins, Kathy Morrison, and Joben Reith. Ms. Vaughn provided updates on electronic health record conversion and training; the search for new doctors; Emergency Room Clinic progress, and Centura Health's merge with Dodge City Medical Clinic. Ms. Baker thanked commissioners for addressing the issue with ambulances responding to hospital transfer calls.

Jeff Baier and Terry Crosby, EMS Paramedics, met with commissioners per their request. Discussion was held on appointing an Interim EMS Director.

Commissioner Long left the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Janet Stewart made the motion to appoint Terry Crosby EMS Interim Director starting January 4, 2017, and remain the interim until a new director can be hired. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to renew the Medical Consultant Contract Agreement between Grant County Health Department and Douglas Johnson D.O. at a cost of \$1,800.00. Dr. Johnson will serve as medical consultant, and approve policies and procedures annually as required by the State Board of Health. Janet Stewart seconded the motion.

The commissioners adjourned at 3:00 p.m. to meet again in regular session on January 17, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Kevin Shapland, Chairman