

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the Deputy County Clerk present. Ulysses News Reporter, Bene Garcia was in attendance. Pastor Nathan Engleman 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; Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Jerry Jo Deckert, EMS Director; Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds; O'Lavonne Michael, Senior Center Director; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Marilea Honstead, Civic Center Manager; and Toni Irvin, Health Department Interim Administrator.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, requested the purchase of a projector. He has a quote of \$3,083 for the entire projector, screen, and accessories; however, he wishes to purchase only the projector and speakers for \$1,913. He just received \$2,000 from Linn Energy and would like to spend the grant funds for the project. The purchase was approved by general consensus. He also discussed his progress finding grant funds for the emergency services building purchase. A grant writing service is available for \$3,450 and he is considering using it because grants are so difficult to get approved. No action taken.

Dennis Leighty, citizen, inquired about the plan to purchase the "Iron Horse" building for emergency services. His concern is the intention to spend \$1,000,000 at this time, the need for a new facility at this time, and the ability for the three departments to get along were discussed. Fire Chief John Crosby offered to tour the current facility with Mr. Leighty to explain the current need. Commissioners clarified that funds are not currently available and grant funds would have to be obtained. No action taken.

Janet Stewart made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2016 meeting, along with the claims against the various funds of the county, payroll total \$272,751.82 dated March 16 and March 30; voucher numbers ending 150012 totaling \$503,972.32. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Martin Long made the motion to proclaim April as Fair Housing Month and expressed the hope this year's observance will promote fair housing practices throughout the County. Janet Stewart second the motion, and it passed unanimously.

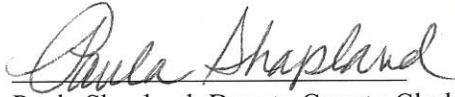
Sheila Ellis and Jim Rice of the Kansas Natural Resource Coalition appeared to invite the commissioners to the upcoming conference in Dodge City and to thank Grant County Commissioners for previous support of the coalition. Discussion about upcoming issues, including how easements affect landowners, followed.

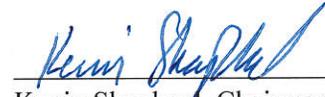
Rita Gee, Treasurer, updated Commissioners on the activity of the hospital profit sharing account. Following discussion, it was agreed to have Commissioner Shapland visit with David Higgs to clarify the hospital board motion about which accounts the County Treasurer will have access to.

Commissioner Long updated Commissioner Stewart about a discussion with the Care Home Board about the possibility of selling the care home. He reported that the Care Home Board is open to it and will create a list of criteria to look for in a buyer. Discussion is very preliminary and no action has been taken. Commissioners asked the clerk to obtain names of consultants or facilitators who provide that service.

Care Home Pet Policy. Commissioners discussed the newspaper article about a new pet policy at the care home and questioned if the County Attorney reviewed it.

Commissioners adjourned at 12:10 p.m., to meet again in special session on April 15, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

  
Paula Shapland, Deputy County Clerk

  
Kevin Shapland, Chairman

