

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. Pastor Nathan Engleman provided prayer and Commissioner Shapland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, presented a sale flyer for bunker gear from Weis Fire and Safety Equipment. He requested permission to purchase four sets of bunker gear, and one extra pair of bunker pants. Martin Long made the motion to purchase the gear at a cost of \$6,725.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Fire Department fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, Mr. Crosby requested permission to hire US Business Funding Solutions to assist with finding grants to fund the renovation of proposed Fire Station/EMS/Emergency Management building discussed at earlier meetings. The grant writing would cost \$3,500.00 to search out grants and another \$3,500.00 if one was found. Commissioner Shapland discussed with the Fire Chief a possibility of exploring the costs for renovating the present fire station. Everyone was in agreement the round top building would need to be destroyed and the meeting room and offices could be gutted and remodeled. Commissioners relayed they were hesitant to abandon buildings. Mr. Crosby will research the idea and draw up plans to share at a later meeting. The Fire Chief left the meeting. Commissioners discussed their concerns with abandoning buildings. It was the consensus of commissioners to no longer pursue purchasing the old Iron Horse building or the land adjoining it.

Janet Stewart made the motion to adopt Resolution 16-02, a Resolution authorizing issuance and delivery of \$7,830,000.00 principal amount of general obligation refunding bonds, Series 2016. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The hospital bond refinance carries a 1.57% interest rate and will save the County \$377,222.09.

Bob Wetmore, Executive Co-Director of Great Plains Development, Inc. (GPDI), gave a 2016 service update and explained the benefits of renewing membership with them. Since the County hasn't seen any loan movement for some time, discussion was held on turning back Community Development Block Grant funds held by Grant County. Mr. Wetmore requested the County wait as GPDI has several applications and if they qualify the CDBG funds could be used. It was the consensus of commissioners to wait until Mr. Wetmore processed the applications. Janet Stewart made the motion to maintain membership at a cost of \$1,957.00 with GPDI. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Martin Long made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 5 and April 15, 2016 meetings along with the claims against the various funds of the county, payroll total \$136,973.57 dated April 13; voucher numbers ending 150137 totaling \$132,593.44. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Bruce Howard, local farmer, requested permission to cash lease farm ground at the Airport. Rex Colman has retired from farming and will be terminating his cash lease with the County this fall. Martin Long made the motion to enter into a five year Cash Lease Contract with Bruce Howard on 31.77 acres of Airport land for \$15.00 per acre. Janet Stewart

seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, Mr. Howard expressed his concerns with the idea of moving the Fire Station/EMS/Emergency Management departments into another building. Commissioner Long assured Mr. Howard that idea was not on the table anymore.

Commissioner Shapland relayed his prior conversation with Steve Hatlestad, Senior Vice President for Americare Senior Living. Commissioners requested the clerk schedule Mr. Hatlestad on the agenda for next meeting to discuss the care home and assisted living facilities.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, presented road crossing permits which were reviewed and approved. Next, Mr. McCauley discussed the Road Department budget and asked if he could replace the two employees retiring this year. It was the consensus of commissioners he should budget for them but it wasn't a firm commitment to rehiring. Commissioner Shapland questioned whether the Road Department could work on one mile of road on Road P. It was decided Mr. McCauley should contact Kearny County Road Department since the mile is shared by both counties.

The 2017 Cimarron Basin Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan was reviewed and approved by consensus of commissioners.

Commissioners reviewed a plan Garden City Cooperative had for adding an anhydrous facility at the Rock Island Elevator location. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the facility.

Commissioners reviewed and accepted a resignation letter from Care Home Board Member Terry Maas. Commissioners discussed a replacement member, no action taken.

Commissioners reviewed Kansas Public Retirement Systems (KPERs) new regulations and penalties concerning retiring employees. It was the consensus of commissioners to review new hires on a case by case bases.

Martin Long made the motion to adjourn at 11:35 a.m. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The commissioners reconvened at noon for lunch at Park View Assisted Living with the City of Ulysses Officials. Those attending from the city were: Mayor, John Battin; Council Members, Jerry Jo Deckert, John Duran; and Administrator/Police Chief, Alan Olson. General discussion was held.

Commissioners adjourned at 1:15 p.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on May 3, 2016.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Kevin Shapland