

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

Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator, and Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator, gave a Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) efforts update. The Health Department Administrator reported there is one test pending but there is no COVID-19 positive cases in Grant County. The Health Department is tracking international travels in our community. The Governors Stay-at-Home Order is still in effect and there is too much activity. Contact has been made with the school to get the word out to parents and high school kids being too active and not social distancing. It is time for law enforcement to start writing tickets. Art Studios, Hair and Nail Salons, Dog Grooming, and Fitness Centers are on the list to remain closed, all other businesses are approved to stay open. The Mennonite Community requested permission to open their private school and because they had traveled abroad recently, the request will be denied. The Emergency Management Coordinator reported six counties in this region have positive cases in their community - Scott, Seward, Morton, Stevens, Finney, and Ford. Emergency Management received personal protective equipment for emergency services. The equipment will be distributed as soon as it is sorted and inventoried.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess to the conference room for 15 minutes in executive session with the County Clerk to discuss two employee's health under the justification of personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 15 minutes the meeting resumed in open session.

Discussion was held on employees who are in an exempted category in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and are directed to self-quarantine for 14 days by the doctor. Mark McGaughey made the motion to include all Grant County Emergency Responders in the FFCRA. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on employees who voluntarily travel to a state that has a high level of COVID-19 infection and have been designated a hot spot. Mark McGaughey make the motion to exclude any county employee from using FFCRA that has voluntarily traveled to a high-risk area, those employees will be allowed to use accrued paid time off. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve the Register of Deed's request for a new hire starting wage as presented. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve the Register of Deed's request for a wage increase for the Deputy Register as presented. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to wave the Wellness Program charge to an employee since the Grant County Recreation closed their doors March 19, 2020 due to COVID-19 and the employee did not have time to finish the 10 times requirement. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, gave a department report and a road update. Next, the fuel price quotes for 2021 were reviewed. Janet Stewart made the motion to forward contract fuel with Brown-DuPree as presented, \$1.64 for gasoline; \$1.97 for #2 clear premium; \$2.27 for 50/50 winter clear. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Thirdly, price quotes for asphalt oil were reviewed. Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve purchasing chip sealing oil from Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions at the quote price presented, and for this expense to be paid from the Road Department fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Fourthly, the quote from Klotz Sand and Asphalt Paving Company for mixing sand was reviewed. Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve the quote from Klotz Sand for 2,500 ton of MRAZ at \$9.00 a ton, and for this expense to be paid from the Road Department fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Later in the day the Public Works Supervisor returned to discuss an employee that was at home in self-quarantine. Janet Stewart made the motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes with the Public Works Supervisor to discuss an employee's health under the justification of personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued in open session with no action taken.

Discussion was held on the request from the EMS Director for a part time employee wage increase. It was the consensus of commissioners to meet with the Director and negotiate the wage increase. Later in the meeting Paul Fort, EMS Director, met with commissioners to discuss the wage. After discussion, Janet Stewart made the motion to allow the wage increase as presented for the part time AEMT. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners opened the sole bid from Koehn's Country Gardens for lawn care. The bid includes one aeration and four spray applications of fertilizer, and one treatment for grub and weed control on 48,709 square feet of cool season grass located at the Courthouse and Civic Center Complex. Mark McGaughey made the motion to accept Koehn's Country Gardens bid at a cost not to exceed \$2,616.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Courthouse General fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve minutes for the March 17, March 18, March 23 and March 28, 2020 meetings along with claims against the various funds of the County, payroll total \$141,345.19 dated March 25, 2020; voucher numbers ending 161328 totaling \$366,877.22. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Irene Velasquez, Grant County Community Foundation (GCCF) Member, informed commissioners of a new fund named 2020 COVID-19 Response. The fund was created for

direct relief and recovery of residents who are in the greatest need due the current pandemic situation. They group is hoping to get enough funds to fund several areas of need, including illegal residents because they are being passed over during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Velasquez asked the County to partner with GCCF and contribute to the fund. No action was taken on the request.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, shared pictures of the trees needing removed that are causing issues with the water and sewer. It was the consensus of commissioners to get quotes on trimming and/or removing several trees and return at a later meeting. Next, the Civic Center is needing a new computer for graphic design. Ms. Honstead gave a verbal quote from CDW of \$3,178.00. Commissioner McGaughey requested the local computer dealer be allowed to quote. The Civic Center Manager will get the quote and return at a later meeting. Lastly, the Civic Center Manager gave a progress report on maintenance work and how she was keeping her staff busy during the closure of the facility due to the Governor's Stay-at-Home Order.

The clerk proposed a collection drop box for Courthouse use. After discussion on location, it was the consensus of commissioners to find a location before approval would be given.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to adopt Resolution 20-03, a Resolution adopting continuance of the original Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for Grant County, Kansas which designates the City of Ulysses and a three-mile area surrounding the city limits as a neighborhood revitalization area. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to accept TEDS Plumbing bid to repair two mop sinks at the Senior Center at a cost of \$895.00, and for this expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Janet seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Janet Stewart made the motion to recess into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss applications for Senior Center Director under the justification of personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 15 minutes the meeting continued in open session. Interviews will be held on Sunday April 19, 2020 starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Senior Center's facility, the clerk was directed to contact each applicant and set an interview time.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 12:15 p.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2020.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Kevin Shapland, Chairman