

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. Warren Baldwin, Pastor, provided prayer and Commissioner Shapland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marilea Honstead, Civic Center Manager, presented the only bid for one aeration and four spray applications of fertilizer and weed control chemicals on 339,172 square feet of cool season and buffalo grass located at the Courthouse and Civic Center Complex. Janet Stewart made the motion to accept the sole bid from A-Lawn Service for \$4,539.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Courthouse General fund. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Jerry Jo Deckert, EMS Director, presented applications to recertify County ambulances with the State of Kansas, which were reviewed and approved by commissioners.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, presented road crossing permits, which were reviewed and approved by commissioners. Next, Mr. McCauley presented pre-agreements from Kirkham and Michael Consulting Engineers to oversee the 2016 Sign Project through the State of Kansas for high risk rural roads. The State of Kansas is funding the sign project at 100% and Kirkham and Michael will be reimbursed with program funding. Commissioners reviewed and approved the pre-agreement.

Janet Stewart made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 1 and March 2, 2016 meetings along with the claims against the various funds of the County, payroll total \$135,519.83 dated March 2; voucher numbers ending 149886 totaling \$124,764.50. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, proposed relocating the Fire, EMS and Emergency Management Departments to an existing building located at 1280 W. Oklahoma. Jerry Jo Deckert, EMS Director, joined this part of the meeting. The Fire Chief explained the building could be renovated and it would be cheaper than building a new Fire, EMS and Emergency Management facility. Commissioner Long inquired whether any grants were being pursued for this project. The Fire Chief stated he had inquired on a USDA Grant and will pursue any grant prospects. Commissioners stressed to the Fire Chief he should pursue grants to help fund this project because the County did not have all the monies needed to fund it. A letter from GMCN Architects and Planners proposing to investigate the feasibility of remodeling and adding on to the existing building was discussed. The Fire Chief encouraged commissioners to sign a contract with GMCN because he thought it would be useful. After discussion, commissioners instructed the Fire Chief to get with an adjacent landowner to see if it is available before they were willing to move forward with the project.

Rita Gee, County Treasurer, relayed to commissioners she had been placed on the Hospital Board of Trustees checking account. The County Treasurer asked commissioners to

define their expectations of what role she was to play with the account. Commissioner Long emphasized she did not need to take a primary role. Commissioners requested Ms. Gee monitor the activity of the account and CD keeping them informed of the aggregate on a monthly basis.

A conference call was held with Jim Tchou, Associate Director of Public Finance and Oscar Padilla, Public Finance Associate with Standard and Poor's Rating Service; and Greg Vahrenberg, Managing Director with Piper Jaffray and Company. The County Treasurer remained for this portion of the meeting. The purpose of the conference call was to answer questions and request a rating be assigned to the Series 2016 Hospital General Obligation Refunding Bonds.

Lance Babcock, Sheriff, shared bids for a voice recorder and explained his present system was not capable of receiving or sending text messages. Sheriff Babcock will be using money from his 911 fund for the purchase. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Sheriff to pursue the purchase.

Commissioners discussed working with the Care Home Board to investigate the possibly of selling the care home and assisted living facilities. The clerk was instructed to schedule the commissioners on the next Care Home Board Meeting Agenda.

Scott Nichols, Recreation Director, visited with commissioners to thank them for supporting recreation and to let them know he was resigning his position and moving to Wichita. Commissioners thanked him and wished him well in his future endeavors.

Janet Stewart moved to adjourn at 11:45 a.m., to meet again in regular session 9:00 a.m. on April 5, 2016. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Kevin Shapland