

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 Todd Guinn provided prayer and Commissioner Shapland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rita Gee, County Treasurer, met with commissioners to request the current postage meter lease be reviewed. Ms. Gee explained the current vendor expressed concern regarding repair parts for their leased meter. Janet Stewart made the motion to enter into a new lease agreement for 63 months with Midwest Connect for \$330.00 a month with the stipulation Midwest Connect buys out the current postage meter contract. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, presented a road crossing permit which was reviewed and approved. Later in the day Mr. McCauley returned with Andy Smaltz, Manager for Rocking Heifer Feedlot. Mr. Smaltz requested closing a half mile of road located at Hwy 25 and Road 4 going east. Rocking Heifer is planning expansion of the feedlot to the north. Mr. Smaltz planned to ask KDOT's permission to open a different access road off the highway. Discussion was held on the alternate access road. It was the consensus of commissioners to support the expansion plan of Rocking Heifer and requested the Public Works Supervisor start the process to close the road.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, gave a written request to purchase two new computers at the Civic Center to replace two that were problematic. Martin Long made the motion to allow the Civic Center Manager permission to purchase two new computers at a cost not to exceed \$1,499.98, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Martin Long requested an executive session for 5 minutes for consultation with an attorney deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 5 minutes the meeting continue in open session. Martin Long made the motion to accept the sole bid from Builders Development Corporation to purchase 1.83 acres of land at the old care home site located at 300 E. Maize. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. This land disposition of county property is the final acres owned by Grant County at the old care home site.

Martin Long made the motion to adopt Resolution 16-05, a Resolution approving an assessment by the Western Kansas Development Organization for its obligations under a Settlement Agreement and Amendment to Contract to Rehabilitate Railroad Line and the Contract to Rehabilitate Railroad Line. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Janet Stewart made the motion to allow the October 1st Grant County Recreation Commission corporate fitness rate increase to \$30.00 per member and \$2.00 per swimmer; and further to allow the County Wellness Program to continue using the present structure. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of commissioners the Civic Center staff should continue mowing the small area in front of the Extension building.

Southwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging (SWKAAA) requested two members be appointed to the sub-region council. It was the consensus of commissioners to submit one name to SWKAAA sub-region council, Nancy Smith was reappointed to the council. The commissioners will continue to look for another member to represent Grant County.

The clerk shared September 20th as the date for the Southwest Kansas Association of Counties Fall Meeting. It was the consensus of commissioners to move their regular meeting to Monday, September 19th so they may attend the meeting.

Commissioners discussed the next step for the care home and assisted living facilities and decided a 501(c) 3 didn't fit into their strategy. Commissioners held a conference call with Nick Cacciabando with Senior Living Investment Brokerage (SLIB). Mr. Cacciabando told commissioners no fees were paid out until the property is sold. During the conference call Martin Long made the motion to engage with the firm SLIB to facilitate the sale of Grant County's senior living facilities. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

At 10:00 a.m. the public hearing for the 2017 budget was held. No one from the general public attended. Janet Stewart made the motion to adopt the 2017 budget in the amount of \$17,072,125.00. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Amanda Vaughn and James Forrest, Jr., Finance Officers with Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital/Centura Health, met per commissioners' request. Discussion was held on County contribution deadlines and success of the hospital transition. Ms. Vaughn relayed quarterly financials will be coming from Centura Health starting in October.

Martin Long made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 2 and August 8, 2016 meetings along with the claims against the various funds including a bill presented by the County Clerk for water service, payroll total \$144,530.36 dated August 3; voucher numbers ending 151029 totaling \$412,905.87. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

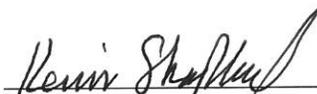
Lance Babcock, Sheriff, visited with commissioners and requested permission to install a shower in a single jail unit. Sheriff Babcock explained a storage room is beside the cell and a doorway would be cut to the storage room from the cell and transformed into a shower. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Sheriff to add a shower. The Sheriff did not request funding for the jail improvement and will use money earned from prisoner commissary fees.

The commissioners recessed 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, Kenneth Warner, and Larry Velasquez; City Clerk, Sarah Britton; and Administrator/Police Chief, Alan Olson. General discussion was held.

The commissioners adjourned at 1:15 p.m. to meet again in regular session on September 6, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Kevin Shapland, Chairman