

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and County Clerk present. Commissioner Long led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner McGaughey provided prayer.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Terri Trotman, County Treasurer; Ludivina Gonzales, Senior Center Director; Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds; Shaun Minks, Public Works Supervisor; Jeff Baier, EMS Director/EM Coordinator; Denise James, Health Department Administrator; John Crosby, Fire Chief, Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, and James Biddle, Sheriff.

Mark McGaughey motioned to approve minutes for the June 20, 2023, meeting along with claims against various funds of the County, payroll totals \$152,433.11 dated June 28, 2023, and voucher numbers ending 170047 totaling \$454,758.33. John Martin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Marieta Hauser, Grant County Chamber Director, discussed projects the Chamber puts on each year and requested a \$12,500.00 appropriation for 2024, same as given prior year.

Bob Dale Passini, Economic Development Director, and Board Members, Samantha Sanchez, Kristy Frazee, and Kasey Kruger met with commissioners. Kasey Kruger gave a presentation and requested a \$100,000.00 appropriation for 2024, an increase of \$10,000.00 from prior year.

Jeff Baier, EMS Director/EM Coordinator, discussed using the Courthouse basement for a storm shelter during severe weather. Commissioners relayed they would take the request under advisement and possibly find another location to use.

Ludi Gonzales, Senior Center Director, presented bids for a new ice machine and refrigerator. John Martin motioned to purchase the Avantco Reach-In Refrigerator from Webstaurant Store at a cost not to exceed \$2,742.98, to be installed by Senior Center staff, and for this expense to come from the Special Equipment fund. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Next, Mark McGaughey motioned to purchase an ice machine from Webstaurant Store, with warranty, at a cost not to exceed \$2,050.00, and for this expense to come from the Special Equipment fund. John Martin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, presented a bid for a lawn tractor and relayed she had other bids, but they could not get their equipment for 4 to 6 weeks. John Martin motioned to purchase a 2023 John Deere S130 Lawn Tractor at a cost not to exceed \$2,959.00, and for this expense to come from the Special Equipment fund. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Next, the Civic Center

Manager reported TEDS ran the camera through the sewer line and found a break on the south side of the fire lane. To fix the sewer line it will cost \$1,500.00. John Martin motioned to repair the sewer line at the Civic Center at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.00. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Thirdly, Commissioner McGaughey asked if the graveled shared parking lot used by Civic Center and Recreation could be smoothed out. Ms. Honstead stated it helped keep the cars going slow and would be a daily task to keep smooth.

Chad McCormick, Bravane Phelps, and Ryan Rice, Ulysses Stampede Rodeo Board Members, met with commissioners. Commissioner Long requested the Civic Center Manager remain for this portion of the meeting. Mr. Phelps inquired how many officers it would take for the beer sales at the rodeo. After discussion, it was consensus the rodeo would require four officers during beer sales. Next, discussion was held on hiring another employee at Civic Center that would help mow and clean around the Rodeo Arena when needed. Mr. McCormick suggested to save cost of hiring another employee, purchase a tractor, weed eater, metal shed with concrete pad and the Rodeo Board would mow. Commissioners will take the suggestion under advisement.

Sarah Loewen, Ulysses News, presented copies of Experience Grant County and asked if the county would sponsor again this year. Marty Long motioned to sponsor a half page ad in the 2023 edition of Experience Grant County at a cost of \$349.00. John Martin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Denise James, Health Department Administrator, and Nancy Borthwick, Local Health Equity Action Team (LHEAT) Leader, met with commissioners to discuss Communities Organizing to Promote Equity (COPE) Grant of \$3,000.00. A conference call was held with Rod Hay, Auditor for Hay, Rice, and Associates, to discuss this grant and policies and recommendations for administrating. The LHEAT committee would like to purchase gift cards and fuel cards to give away to community members traveling to doctor appointments. After Ms. Borthwick explained the program, it was the auditor recommendation to set up a line item in the revenue and expense of the Health Department fund to track grant dollars. The auditor also requested a name listing of participants for year-end reports.

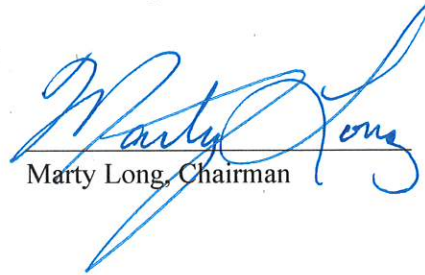
Department wage recommendation forms were reviewed. John Martin motioned to approve the hire and wage recommendation for an EMT at the Ambulance Station. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Next, Mark McGaughey motioned to approve the wage increase recommendation for a Deputy Register of Deeds. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Thirdly, John Martin motioned to approve the position change and wage increase for an Operator II; and new hire and wage recommendation for an Operator II. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Fourthly, Mark McGaughey motioned to approve the wage increases for two secretaries and two nurses at the Health Department. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Shaun Minks, Public Works Supervisor, reported Atmos Energy has not been paid since October 2022. It was determined that no fees had been assessed. It was consensus of commissioners to pay the missed billings with this year budget dollars. The Public Works Supervisor will ask for paper billings method since the electronic billing method is defective.

Commissioners discussed a request from the Mexican Independence Committee for a donation to the festival. No action taken.

Mark McGaughey motioned to adjourn at 2:00 p.m. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk


Marty Long, Chairman

