

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner McGaughey, Commissioner Shapland and County Clerk present. Commissioner Stewart was absent due to illness. Ulysses News Reporter, Tammie Hensley was in attendance. Commissioner McGaughey led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mrs. Hensley provided prayer.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, presented the Terracon Contract for 2022 groundwater and methane monitoring at the Transfer Station. Commissioners reviewed the contract, and it was the consensus to approve.

Ludivina Gonzales, Senior Center Director, met with commissioners and asked for an executive session. Kevin Shapland motioned to recess into executive session with the Senior Center Director for 10 minutes to discuss wages under the justification of non-elected personnel. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued in open session. Kevin Shapland motioned to increase the Senior Center Director's salary \$1,500.00 a year. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Terri Trotman, County Treasurer, reported a \$1,300.00 check was received on the Opioid Settlement and presented an authorization for opioid settlement funds to be direct deposited. After review, commissioners approved the direct deposit of funds.

Jeff Baier, EMS Director/EM Coordinator, updated commissioners on the new arrival date of the ambulance. The date of arrival was 2023 and now has been moved to November this year. The Director explained he had budgeted in 2023's budget for the extra equipment needed on the ambulance and asked if ARPA funds could be used for the extra equipment since the ambulance is arriving this year. After discussion, it was consensus of commissioners not to use ARPA funding to instead use ambulance equipment funds. Next, the Director relayed no applications have been received for the opening of Paramedic. He has decided to advertise for an AEMT and after reviewing scheduling was certain he could make it work. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the change.

Commissioners reviewed bids for air conditioning units with installation at the Library from Air Comfort Consultants and Weber Refrigeration. It was the consensus of commissioners the bids were not comparable and instructed the county clerk to ask Weber Refrigeration to only bid two units, the basement unit, and the main lobby unit. The revised bid will be reviewed at a later meeting.

Kevin Shapland motioned to adopt Resolution 22-04, a Resolution to exceed the revenue neutral rate and hold a public hearing on September 6, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in the County Commissioner Room of the Courthouse, and to allow the budget hearing to follow immediately after. Mark McGaughey seconded motion and it passed unanimously. The vote was two for and one no vote.

Commissioners reviewed the County Alcohol and Drug Testing Program. After discussion on the overage charges beyond \$30.00, it was consensus of commissioners to drop the random breathalyzer for non-DOT new hire and random testing. The breathalyzer will remain for Commercial Driver's License employees as required by U.S. Department of Transportation regulations.

Casey Finlay of Frazee Abstract and Title, presented the closing documents for the sale of parcel SW 10-25-36 of Kearny County, Kansas to Quality Hay, LLC., owner Darin Smith. Kelly Premer-Chavez, County Attorney joined this portion of the meeting. The Master Settlement Statement was reviewed and approved by commissioners.

Reid Borchetta, Clerk of the District Court, met with commissioners to discuss their request for detailed attorney billings when submitting payment vouchers to the County. The Clerk of the Court presently does not submit the original attorney billing, instead gives a list of cases and total charge by attorney for court proceedings and sites confidentiality as the reason. The County Attorney stayed for this portion of the meeting. The Court Clerk relayed she could submit the attorney original billings with white out on the details of juvenile cases. Commissioner McGaughey stated that would be acceptable and the commissioners only want to see billings and are not interested in the individual cases.

Kevin Shapland motioned to approve minutes for the July 5, 2022, meeting along with claims against various funds of the County, payroll total \$146,742.70 dated July 13, 2022, and voucher numbers ending 167423 totaling \$355,645.50. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Commissioners adjourned at 10:41 a.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 3, 2022.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Mark McGaughey, Chairman