

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, Tammie Hensley was in attendance. Commissioner McGaughey led the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Larry Borthwick provided prayer.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Terri Trotman, County Treasurer, Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator; James Biddle, Sheriff; Ludivina Gonzales, Senior Center Director; and Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve the new hire wage for a deputy clerk as presented by the County Clerk. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on a grant sub awardee notification from Thrive Allen County. The grant award allows Grant County to hire a navigator to help anyone in the community needing assistance with insurance. After speaking with Senior Center Director, it was the consensus of commissioners to contact Troy Unruh, Grant Consultant, and relay the Extension Service and Grant County Bob Wilson Memorial Hospital both have insurance navigators and request the funds be directed to them.

Janet Stewart made the motion to approve a Land Lease Agreement with North Star Aviation, Inc. for Lots 1-7, a parcel located next to the Airport Terminal. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed a funds request letter from ESH, Inc. a local non-profit organization with the mission to assist any individual needing assistance with alcohol or drug excessive use. Janet Stewart made the motion to allow 1/3 allocation equaling \$2,333.33 of the Alcoholic Treatment fund to ESH as allowed by the Kansas Statute. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to nominate Mark McGaughey to be Grant County Voting Delegate for business meeting of Kansas Association of Counties, Kansas Counties Association of Multiline Pool, and Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties; and Janet Stewart to be the 1st Alternate Voting Delegate if Mark is unable to attend the annual conference. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kelly Premer Chavez, County Attorney, met with commissioners and requested an executive session. Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess into executive session with the County Attorney for 15 minutes to consult on a pending lawsuit which is deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 15 minutes the meeting continued with no action taken.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, and Rick Klein, Shop Foreman, met with commissioners. Mr. McCauley presented a Road Resolution to put a stop sign on the south side of Road G and Road 3. After discussion on the need for a stop sign at that location, it was the consensus of commissioners the stop sign is not needed. Next, an Agreement with Kirkham and Michael for engineering services to inspect nine bridges at a cost of \$1,800.00 was presented, the agreement was reviewed and approved. Thirdly, the Public Works Supervisor presented the Kansas Department of Transportation federal fund distribution letter and requested trading all the allocation to state transportation dollars. Kevin Shapland made the motion to move federal funds of \$71,120.66 to state transportation dollars at a 90% rate, exchange \$64,008.59. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Fourthly, a Road Crossing Permit was presented, which was reviewed and approved. Lastly, Mr. Klein presented quotes for a new transmission and clutch for a semi-truck. Kevin Shapland made the motion to allow the Road Department to get a remanufactured transmission from Western Brake and Gear for \$3,950.00 with a 1-year warranty; and clutch from the same vendor at a cost of \$770.26. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

At 10:05 a.m., a public Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing was held to allow comment from the general public of the County's intention to levy a property tax rate of 66.320 mills for Tax Year 2021. No one from the public attended. Kevin Shapland announced Grant County finds it necessary to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate and then motioned to adopt Resolution 21-06, a Resolution to exceed the RNR of 60.542 mills. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

At 10:10 a.m., a public Budget Hearing for the 2022 Grant County Budget was held. No one for the general public attended. Kevin Shapland made the motion to adopt the 2022 budget, as prepared, in the amount of \$14,435,554.00. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Chandra Burks, Coffman Associates, met with commissioners to present the final Airport Master Plan for approval. Airport Board Members, Darrin Figgins and Mark Faulkner; along with Steve Rice, Airport Manager, attended this portion of the meeting. Ms. Burks relayed the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires airports to update their Master Plan every 10 years, or as needed, and Grant County's last update was 2001. Discussion was held with the Airport members concerning approval of the plan. Janet Stewart made the motion to approve the 2021 Airport Master Plan and advise Ms. Burks to move forward delivering the plans to the FAA. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Janet Stewart made the motion to engage the consultation services of Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk and Loyd for the utilization and reporting of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) at a cost not to exceed 5% of the ARPA allocation, which is \$69,440.20. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Larry Sharp, Member Service Representative with Kansas County Association Multiline Pool (KCAMP), met with commissioners and reviewed the usage report for 2020.

Mr. Sharp explained the rate increases are due to the last four years weather and claims against for law enforcement across Kansas.

Commissioner Shapland started discussion on a new County jail advisory question for the City/School General Election ballot. After discussion it was decided to wait on the question.

James Biddle, Sheriff, voiced disappointment that he was not included in the negotiations of the City/County Law Enforcement and Emergency Management Agreement. The Sheriff urged commissioners to make some changes to the wording concerning booking fees. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Sheriff to work with the County Attorney on revisions to the agreement.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve minutes for the August 17, 2021, meeting along with claims against the various funds of the County: payroll total \$146,730.13 dated August 25, 2021, and voucher numbers ending 165080 totaling \$598,046.80. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners adjourned at 12:25 p.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 21, 2021.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Mark McGaughey, Chairman