

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner Shapland, Commissioner McGaughey and the County Clerk present. Commissioner Stewart was absent due to illness. News Reporter, Jantz Becker was in attendance.

The monthly department head meeting was moved to the Courthouse Courtroom to observe 6' social distancing. Commissioner Shapland led the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor George Devora provided prayer. Those in attendance: Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Terri Trotman, County Treasurer; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager; Lance Babcock, Sheriff; Paul Fort, EMS Director; Ludi Gonzales, Senior Center Director; Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator; Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator; and Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds.

After the department head meeting the commissioners reconvened in the Commissioner Room.

Lance Babcock, Sheriff, requested permission to carry one week of vacation time to the next calendar year for an employee in his department that was hired in August, per the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. Mark McGaughey made the motion to grant special permission for Tanaya White to carry over five days of vacation to 2021 as provided by the policy manual. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented the 2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant Fund Application, which was reviewed and approved.

Terri Trotman, County Treasurer presented the delinquent severed mineral and real estate taxes that qualify for a tax sale. After discussion, Kevin Shapland made the motion to turn the list over to the County Attorney to have a letter sent to delinquent real estate and severed mineral property owners and in November revisit the delinquent list to see if a tax sale will be needed. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Steve Brom, Silver Haired Legislator, updated commissioners on the last Silver Haired Meeting. Mr. Brom stated he intended to apply through Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) for a 5310 KDOT Grant which will provide transportation services to meet the special needs for elderly and persons with disabilities. He planned for scheduled trips on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to Garden City for health issues. The grant would purchase a bus at 80/20 cost share and then cost share \$10,000.00 for five years. Mr. Brom requested a letter from commissioners with comments to go in the grant application. Commissioner Shapland asked where the remaining funds would come from to purchase the bus and pay an employee to drive it. Mr. Brom stated the money wasn't needed now and

could be organized if the grant was awarded. Commissioners tabled the letter request until there was more information to plan costs of having another bus.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, and Rick Klein, Shop Foreman, presented bids to crush cement. Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve the proposal from S&S Rock Crushing to crush 4,000 tons of concrete at a cost not to exceed \$43,700.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Highway Improvement fund. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, Mr. McCauley requested permission to purchase a used sheep foot roller. Commissioner Shapland asked the Public Works Supervisor to seek bids to rent or lease the equipment.

Commissioners reviewed bids for a computer and copier for the County Attorney's Office. Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve the bid from Dell for an OptiPlex 3070 Computer at a cost of \$1,100.00, and for this expense to be paid from the County Attorney fund. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After discussion it was decided to wait on the copier until the County Attorney could attend a meeting and answer questions.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to accept the new hire wage for a Road Department full-time employee. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed a letter from Great Plains Development, Inc. (GPDI) which encouraged Grant County to continue partnering with them. It was the consensus of commissioners to pay the GPDI Annual Membership dues of \$1,981.00.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve minutes for the September 15 and September 21, 2020 meetings along with claims against the various funds of the County; payroll total \$142,969.38 dated September 2 and voucher numbers ending 162668 totaling \$399,163.40. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to distribute \$357,378.67 of SPARK funding. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. State Recovery Task Force approved direct aid allocations are as follows: Grant County Economic Development \$317,148.00; and Pioneer Communications \$40,230.67.


Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator, requested permission to hire another person to help contact trace during the COVID-19 Pandemic. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the hiring of a temporary employee. Next, the Health Department Administrator gave an update on the meeting between Dr. Douglas Johnson, County Health Officer, and David Younger, USD 214 School Superintendent, and Katrina Benyshek, School Nurse. Dr. Johnson made the decision, on an experimental basis, not to quarantine all the students around a positive case of COVID-19.

Bob Dale Passini, Economic Development Director, Marieta Hauser, Chamber of Commerce Director, Co-Administrators for SPARK; and Rhandi Rexroat, APRN for Genesis Health, met with commissioners. The Health Department Administrator stayed for this portion of the meeting. Mr. Passini explained they had created a program using rapid testing for business owners and worked with Genesis to perform the testing. The program was intended to keep the business open if one of the employees tested positive for COVID-19 and avoid business quarantines. They dedicated \$14,500.00 in SPARK funding and wanted to figure out a way to use the funds effectively. The Health Department Administrator stated that a negative test will not allow a patient to end quarantine early, period. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to re-appropriate the funds to another area.

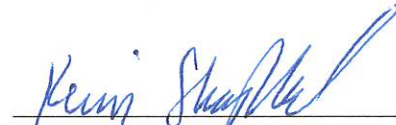
Judy Keusler, Ken Keusler, Dixie Flowers, Kelli Medrano, Grant County Community Foundation Members, and Susanne Borthwick, Office Manager, presented a Proclamation for the 9th Annual Grant County Gives Week. Commissioner Shapland proclaimed November 1st through November 7th as Grant County Gives Week.

Commissioner Shapland and Commissioner McGaughey joined a Zoom meeting with Centura Health Executive Team and Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital Board of Trustees.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 1:30 p.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on October 20, 2020.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Kevin Shapland, Chairman