

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

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

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, presented a right of way easement and a road crossing permit, which were reviewed and approved. Next, he requested permission to hire seasonal mowers. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Road Department to hire four seasonal mowers. Thirdly, the Public Works Supervisor discussed problems with the pump on the Road Department unleaded fuel tank and requested permission to take the expense from another fund. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the repair to the fuel pump costing \$10,586.97, and to take the expense from the Special Equipment fund. Fourthly, he requested permission to purchase two foam filled tires for the landfill backhoe. Janet Stewart motioned to purchase tires at a cost not to exceed \$4,940.00, and for this expense to come from the Road Department fund. Kevin Shapland seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. Lastly, the Supervisor requested permission to seek bids for a big overhead door replacement at the Transfer Station. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow him to pursue bids.

At 10:00 a.m., Kelly Premer Chavez, County Attorney, presented a real estate agreement for the commissioners' approval. The contract would allow Quality Hay, LLC, owner Darin Smith, to purchase 24.75 acres of County owned land located in Kearny County. Kevin Shapland motioned to approve a land sale of 24.75 acres to Darin Smith, owner of Quality Hay, for the purchase price of \$31,000.00. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. The County Attorney will set up a closing date for the transaction.

Grant County Library, Holly Mathes, Director; Board of Trustees, Mary Neatherlin, Shirley Wilson, Steve Swann, and Tammie Hensley, presented their 2023 appropriation request of \$406,298.00 for the Library Operating fund and \$130,696.00 for the Library Employee Benefit fund, which is \$35,005.00 more than given prior year. The Library Director conveyed they had lost one employee and will not be replacing the position. Next, discussion was held on the capital improvement line item for replacing air conditioning units. Commissioner Stewart directed the Library Board to seek bids and get them back to commissioners for consideration using ARPA funds.

Kevin Shapland motioned to approve the wage increases as recommended by the Public Works Supervisor and approve the wage and hire as recommended by the Civic Center Manager. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed amended By-Laws and Agreements for cooperative oversight of the Kansas Workforce Area I Board. Janet Stewart motioned to approve the amended Local Workforce Development Area I Chief Elected Official Board Agreement. Kevin Shapland seconded motion, and it passed unanimously.

Bruce Howard, local farmer, met with commissioners to request the Road Department build up the intersection of Road O and Road 7 for two miles going east. Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, attended this portion of the meeting. Mr. Howard stated he would provide dirt, culvert, and manure needed, if the county could furnish the labor and equipment. The landowners adjacent to the intersection have been contacted and are in agreement the work needs to be done. The Public Works Supervisor concurred the Road Department could do the work when time allowed. Discussion was held on a couple more intersections in that area needing work. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the repair of all the intersections discussed.

Ginger Anthony, Museum Curator, presented the 2023 appropriation request of \$132,450.00, which is \$7,450.00 more than given prior year. Ms. Anthony said the budget does not reflect building insurance and requested the expense be paid by the County again this year. Next, Ms. Anthony relayed Hotel Edwards porch roof or underneath of second floor balcony needed attention and requested permission to seek bids for repair. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow her to seek bids for replacement or repair.

Margaret Obholz, and Shayla Hernandez-Jacquez, IMPACT Ulysses, and Kristi Anderson, Grant County Recreation Director, asked for the Commissioners support on the outdoor fitness center project and requested \$50,000.00 from the County. Commissioner Shapland stated the commissioners would support the project in writing but will wait for Commissioner McGaughey to be present before committing monetarily.

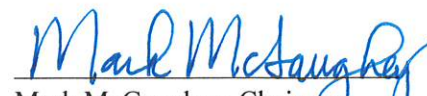
Jeff Baier, EMS Director/EM Coordinator, presented an agreement from Nex-Tech to continue IT services and provide firewall protection at the EMS facility. Kevin Shapland motioned to renew the contract with Nex-Tech for a period of 60 months at a cost of \$1,431.15 monthly, and for this expense to be paid from the Ambulance fund. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Janet Stewart motioned to approve minutes for May 17, 2022, meeting along with claims against various funds of the County, payrolls totaling \$276,084.93 dated May 18 and June 1, 2022, and voucher numbers ending 167135 totaling \$515,611.60. Kevin Shapland seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Commissioners adjourned at 11:35 a.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 21, 2022.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Mark McGaughey, Chairman