

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; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Jeff Baier, EMS Director/EM Coordinator; Denise James, Health Department Administrator; and James Biddle, Sheriff.

Ulysses News Reporter, Sarah Loewen was in attendance.

Commissioner McGaughey shared with Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds, he had received a phone call from an upset citizen concerning his treatment from her office. Ms. McDaniel stated she was the one who had taken his call and did not feel there was a problem on her side.

Commissioner Long requested the Senior Center Director stay to discuss maintenance needs. Discussion was held on using the Senior Center maintenance person at the Courthouse to change filters on furnaces, clean around outside air conditioning units, and change bulbs on the walkway lights. The Senior Center Director was receptive to allowing her staff do the needed maintenance. Next, commissioners asked the Director to bring bids for replacing the Senior Center ice machine to the next meeting.

Commissioners held a conference call with Bob Dale Passini, Economic Development Director, concerning his billing to the County for a housing study. Mark McGaughey motioned to approve paying 1/3 of the housing study cost which is \$3,288.00. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Mark McGaughey motioned to approve minutes for the April 18 and April 24, 2023, meetings along with claims against various funds of the County, including additional claims submitted late, payroll total \$147,700.96 dated April 19, 2023, and voucher numbers ending 169615 totaling \$601,891.98. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Don Rivera, Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center (WKCAC), gave a presentation on the services provided by his agency. Grant County had 110 clients served by WKCAC in 2022. WKCAC requested a 2024 appropriation of \$12,000.00, which is same as prior year.

Sarah Loewen, Ulysses News, relayed they are preparing an insert tab for emergency services - Law Enforcement, Emergency Medical Service and Fire. Ms. Loewen asked commissioners if they would sponsor an ad in the tab. Mark McGaughey motioned to approve

a color full-page ad for the Hometown Hero's insert at a cost not exceeding \$464.00. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Mark McGaughey motioned to approve the wage increases for the County Clerk's staff as recommended. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

John Martin motioned to recess into executive session with the County Clerk for 10 minutes for discussion on an employee employment status under the justification of personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued in open session. Mark McGaughey motioned to give the Civic Center Manager the authority to move a secretary from part time to full time. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on the County Attorney wages and billings. The Clerk shared 16 other comparison wages for the County Attorney in other counties. The discussion was tabled until more data could be researched.

Grant County Extension Agent, Monica Walker; and Council Members, Ryan Rice, Denise James, Diana Gallagos, Brittney Phelps, and Marcus Matkin, met to present their 2024 appropriation request of \$170,000.00, which is \$20,000.00 more than received prior year. Ms. Walker gave a presentation on extension programs for kids, adults and seniors.

Bob Wetmore and Arturo Amaro from Great Plains Development, Inc. presented information on their granting programs and encouraged commissioners to continue participating by paying 2023 membership dues of \$2,090.30. No action was taken on the request.

Commissioners reviewed a letter and bids from Jean Lamatsch, Chief Court Services Officer, requesting a credenza cabinet for their office. John Martin motioned to purchase a credenza from Key Office Products at a cost not exceeding \$1,796.36 for the Court Services Office, and for this expense to come from the Special Equipment fund. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual section 5.2 Employee Wage Schedule. Marty Long motioned to amend the policy 5.2 Employee Wage Schedule to read:

- a) Employees hired with 0-1 years of related experience/skills/training/formal education, wages may begin at ~~75%~~ 80% of the maximum rate of pay for the position and may be raised to ~~80%~~ 85% of the maximum rate of pay for the position after 6 months if he/she is meeting the expectations of the job.
- b) Employees hire with 2+ years of related experience/skills/training/formal education, wages may begin at ~~85%~~ 90% of the maximum rate of pay for the position and may be raised to ~~90%~~ 95% of the maximum rate of pay for the position after 6 months if he/she is meeting the expectations of the job.

and for this change to be effective immediately. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on repairs at the new building located at 202 W. Kansas. It was decided to seek sealed bids for the concrete and roof work and for bids to be opened at the next regular meeting.

James Biddle, Sheriff, requested permission to get bids for carpet and flooring. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Sheriff to seek bids for carpeting in the Law Enforcement hallway and dispatch, and flooring for the jailer's office.

Mark McGaughey motioned to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss concerns about an employee wage under the justification of personnel matters of non-elected personnel. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued in open session. Mark McGaughey made the motion to increase a Transfer Station employee wage by \$1.00. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Commissioners held a conference call with Shaun Minks, Public Works Supervisor, to ask questions about commercial dumping during Spring/Fall Clean Up. The Public Works Supervisor was directed to review tonnage that came in during clean up week and send figures to commissioners. Commissioner Long directed the Public Works Supervisor to come up with guidelines to clarify commercial dumping before the next community clean up week.

Mark McGaughey motioned to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. Commissioners will meet in regular session on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.



Sheila Brown, County Clerk





Marty Long, Chairman