

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. Pastor Randy Parks provided prayer and Commissioner McHenry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners held a conference call with Jes Pfannenstiel, Adjuster for KCAMP Insurance, concerning the Grant County Museum interior damage as a result of the roof leaking. Mr. Pfannenstiel reviewed the cost estimate and damage report with the commissioners. He will contact A-Lert Roofing and request they cover the damage.

Marty Long nominated Linda McHenry to be Chairman of the Commission for 2012. Carl Higgs seconded the nomination, and it passed.

Marty Long made the motion to approve items 1-15 of the organizational agenda for county business. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

1. Meeting Dates and Times for the Year
1st and 3rd Tuesday of month, start at 9:00 a.m.
2. Designate Official Depositories
 - a. Grant County Bank
 - b. Western State Bank
 - c. Bank of Ulysses
3. Designate Official Newspaper
Ulysses News
4. Give the Treasurer authority to invest County Funds to the best interest of the County.
5. Appoint the Clerk as Chief Purchasing Agent, Federal & State Withholding Tax Agent, Social Security Agent, Kansas Public Employees Retirement System Agent and Insurance Agent for the County, as well as Public Information Officer, Freedom of Information Officer, and the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator.
6. Appoint Randy McCauley as Road and Bridge Administrator
7. Appoint Ramon Clinesmith as Noxious Weed Director
8. Appoint David Graber as Transfer Station Manager
9. Appoint JD Neufeld as Civic Center Building and Grounds Manager
10. Appoint Kristy Frazee as Health Department Administrator
11. Appoint Dr. Douglas Johnson as County Health Officer
12. Appoint Don Button as Emergency Management Coordinator
13. Appoint Jerry Jo Deckert as Emergency Medical Services Director
14. Appoint John Crosby as Fire Chief
15. Appoint De De Lane as Purchasing Agent/County Website Administrator

Marty Long made the motion to approve items 16 and 17 of the organizational agenda for county business. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

16. Mileage is paid at current IRS rates throughout the year when using your personal vehicle for county business.

17. Appoint the Following Administrative Heads for Approving Claims Against the Various Funds of the County:

- a. Lance Babcock for the Sheriff's Department and Juvenile Justice
- b. Jerry Jo Deckert for Ambulance Funds
- c. John Crosby for Fire Department Funds
- d. Randy McCauley for Road & Bridge and Noxious Weed Funds
- e. David Graber for the Transfer Station Fund
- f. Tom Fuhrmann for the Appraiser Fund
- g. Mary K. Sullivan for the Register of Deeds Funds
- h. Rita Gee for Treasurer and Treasurer's Special
- i. David Black for Attorney Funds
- j. Don Button for the Emergency Management Fund
- k. Kristy Frazee for the Health Department Fund
- l. JD Neufeld for the Park Maintenance Fund
- m. Chairman of the Airport Board for the Airport Fund
- n. Sheila Brown for all Other Funds

18. Make Board Appointments.

- a. Care Home Board - Linda McHenry made the motion to reappoint Larry Kepley to the Care Home Board and appoint Kathy Olson to fill the vacant position made by the resignation of Larry Rumburg. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- b. Board on Aging – Carl Higgs made the motion to reappoint Betty Burns to the Board on Aging and to fill the vacant position of Betty Warner by appointing Janet Stewart. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- c. Fair Board – Marty Long made the motion to reappoint the entire Fair Board, Daron Cowan, Kevin Shapland, Terri Trotman, Dennis Deyoe, Antonio Cavazos, and Lorrie Munsell. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- d. Mental Health Board of Directors – Marty Long made the motion to appoint Robert Passini to fill the vacant position made by the resignation of Larry Rumburg. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- e. Economic Development Board – Marty Long made the motion to reappoint Shanda Swinehart and Cathy Tyler to the Economic Development Board and appoint Mandy Fox to fill the vacant position made by the resignation of Ray Velasquez.

Commissioner McHenry presented a suggestion from Chuck Hacker to have the Courthouse, Library, and Law Enforcement staff park in the parking area to the north of the Library unless they were handicapped. This would save the parking behind the Courthouse for the handicap patrons. Mr. Hacker would also like to have the parking area paved across the street to the southwest of the Courthouse for the Senior Citizen Center parking. Discussion was held and no action taken.

Randy McCauley, Road Department Administrator, presented bids for a new pickup. Lewis Automotive Group bid \$25,731.07; Burtis Motor Company bid \$25,952; Western Motor bid \$26,957; and Riley Ford bid \$35,333. Marty Long made the motion to accept the bid from Lewis Automotive for a 2012 Chevrolet Silverado 3500 Cab for \$25,731.07. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mr. McCauley updated the commissioners on the progress of the County Road 21/State Project. The project is considered high priority under the state high risk rule. Commissioner Long agreed the intersection was dangerous and would like this project started soon.

Rod Northway, Development Manager, and Brice Barton, Project Manager, with Trade Wind Energy, met with commissioners to review the Buffalo Dunes Wind Project PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) Agreement. David Black, County Attorney and Randy McCauley, Road and Bridge Administrator, attended this portion of the meeting. A map was reviewed showing the placement of the wind turbines and transmission lines. It is projected Grant County will have 56 wind turbine generators which equals 95 megawatts of nameplate electric power capacity. County roads will be upgraded to facilitate the traffic to the site of the turbines. After the project is complete the County will have the option of returning the roads to their original condition or leaving them enhanced. When the agreement is approved, it will exist for 20 years and then must be renegotiated; the original PILOT Agreement will never change through the life of the project. Mr. Northway would like for all parties involved to make necessary changes and return to the table no later than February 7th to approve the PILOT Agreement.

Marty Long made the motion to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2012 meeting along with the claims against the various funds of the county. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

De De Lane, Purchasing Agent, presented three bidder list examples that she would like to have each office supply vendor fill out and return to her. If the county ordered office supplies in bulk it could save county dollars. Ms. Lane would like to have a meeting with the department heads to present her idea. Commissioners gave their permission to have the meeting and set the date for 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 19th. De updated the commissioners on the county websites' news and announcements section and informed them the information also goes to Facebook and Twitter.

Lance Babcock, Sheriff, presented bids from the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) contract for a Chevrolet, Dodge, and Chrysler pickup. Carl Higgs made the motion to purchase the K1500 Chevy pickup at a cost not to exceed \$25,265.15. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Sheriff Babcock presented Resolutions 12-01, a resolution establishing the Grant County 911 fund, a fund to receive revenues relating to emergency communication services. Marty Long made the motion to approve Resolution 12-01, as pursuant to the Kansas 911 Act. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.


JD Neufeld, Civic Center Manager, met with commissioners to request approval to repair the south room men and women restrooms and tile the west hallway floor and walls. The staff will do all the work with the exception of laying tile. Mr. Neufeld also plans to use a door and a stool from the project to update the commercial building restroom. Marty Long made the motion to allow the Civic Center to spend \$20,000 for the repair of the south room restrooms and to let the staff do the work except for the tile and wall plumbing. Also Commissioner Long's motion includes purchasing wall and floor tile for the west hallway, to be installed by others, not to exceed \$6,047. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.


The commissioners recessed for lunch with the City of Ulysses Officials at Park View Assisted Living. Those attending from the city were: Mayor, John Battin; Council Members, Tim McCauley, John Duran, Larry Velasquez; City Clerk, Margaret Perez; and Administrator, Daron Hall. General discussion was held.

The clerk explained the need for her office to have an alternate printer since the present one is considered obsolete. The Road and Bridge Department has offered their copier and they would upgrade to a color copier. The copier can be networked and would be used for printing, coping, faxing and a scanner. Marty Long made the motion to purchase a new color copier at a cost not to exceed \$8,650 for the Road and Bridge Department and allow their copier to move to the Clerk's Office. The cost will be divided, \$4,650 from the Road and Bridge fund and \$4,000 from the Special Equipment fund. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The clerk also discussed the purchase of two new desks in her office. The desks had been purchased out of the 2011 budget and will need a corner unit to make them usable. The corner unit for both desks will cost \$860. It was the consensus of the commissioners to allow the clerk to purchase the units out of the Clerk's fund.

Leslie Mangels, Economic Development Director, presented information from the wKREDA meeting; gave an update on the Sunflower Plant Expansion and their final ruling from the EPA; explained the Economic Developments part in the Rural Opportunity Zone Program and the need for it to come to our community; gave details on how the Economic Development Incentive Loans work and the effort of her board to make changes. Ms. Mangels informed commissioners she will be reviewing the abatement policy and requesting changes to get it up to date. Lastly, Ms. Mangels presented a Letter of Support for commissioners to sign.

Carl Higgs made the motion for adjournment at 2:55 pm, to meet again in regular session February 7, 2012. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk


Linda McHenry, Chairman

