

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the Deputy County Clerk present. Pastor George Devora provided prayer and Chairman Long led the Pledge of Allegiance. Media representatives present: Lydia Kautz, Ulysses News; and Kellie Euliss, KULY Radio.

Linda McHenry made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2013 meeting, along with the claims against the various funds of the county, payroll totaling \$134,563.69 dated September 4; voucher numbers ending 142187 totaling \$276,682.96. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Marty Long, Commissioner Chair, asked if there were comments about the Audit Report. There were none.

Marty Long, Commissioner Chair, asked if proposals have been received for the hospital advisor services. Interest has been expressed but only one proposal has been received. All firms are to be notified that October 1 is the firm deadline for proposals.

Carl Higgs made the motion to approve ambulance write-offs in the amount of \$13,335.60. Linda McHenry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Marty Long, Commissioner Chair, proclaimed September 16 through September 23, 2013, as Constitution Week, in the hope all residents remember our shared political heritage.

Marty Long, Commissioner Chair, spoke about the Board of Health Workshop in Garden City that commissioners attended with Kristy Frazee, Health Department Administrator. Commissioners took part in discussion about the health assessments that are being gathered by health departments and were refreshed about the commissioners' role as "County Health Board". He shared that assessments are to be gathered by October, compiled by November, and ready for review and action by the Grant County Health Board by December. The commissioners plan to meet every six months, during regular commissioner meetings, to evaluate actions and results.

Marty Long, Commissioner Chair, recognized Bob Dale Passini, Economic Development Director. Mr. Passini advised that he has researched the current economic development program which includes a "payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT)" for new businesses, to see how the old plan works in conjunction with the Neighborhood Revitalization Program". He is not requesting any changes to the old policy and believes the plans are not in conflict with each other. He also advised that the dairy currently falls under the agriculture classification and gains business benefits from that classification. They could change to a manufacturing classification but would lose tax breaks and have to comply with different wage laws. He also advised that change of business owners of a business qualifies as a "new" business. He attended the Stanton County School Board meeting for their public

hearing for the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. The school board members voiced concern that the decreased valuation from the ongoing gas plant demolition will be perceived as a result of this NRP. Commissioner Long said the decrease should have already happened. Mr. Passini also updated commissioners about the status of the Western Prairie property and the dairy acquisition. He is also working on the Rural Housing Incentive District Plan with the city.

Lee Wright, Transfer Station employee, met with commissioners to request he be considered for the Transfer Station Manager position. Linda McHenry made the motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued, no action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Ginger Anthony, Museum Curator, met with commissioners to explain how the Grant County Museum will meet their reduced budget in 2014. Plans include reducing hours the museum is open, cutting staff hours, reduced commodity and capital improvement budgets and using other sources for funding. Mrs. Anthony also updated the Commissioners on carpet installation at the museum and asked the commissioners to consider painting the west side of the old maintenance building behind the museum. A quote of \$2,230.00 from Bill Purnell was considered. Linda McHenry made the motion to approve the building improvement at a cost not to exceed \$2,230.00, and for this expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The concession/restroom building project at the Rodeo Arena was discussed. Lori Deyoe, Anita Wendt, Mari Honstead, JD Neufeld and Randy McCauley were present. Following discussion, the Commissioners decided to reject the bid at this time due to the estimated project cost and current budget cuts, and seek better alternatives in the future.

JD Neufeld, Civic Center Manager, requested consent to sell approximately 300 chairs through Purple Wave. Linda McHenry moved to sell the chairs. Carl Higgs seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Neufeld advised they will probably need to purchase chairs again next year.

De Lane, Purchasing Agent, met with commissioners for personnel matters. Linda McHenry made the motion to recess into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued, no action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Randy McCauley, Road Department Administrator, asked for approval to do the annual bridge inspection which is to be done by Kirkham Michael. Linda McHenry moved to accept the proposal at a cost of \$1,065.00 for the inspections. Carl Higgs seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. McCauley also asked the commissioners for approval to seek options for the drainage problem in ditches along Stubbs Road which could include replacing

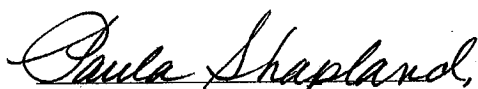
the railroad crossing. Commissioners asked him to follow up with Henry Hale and bring back a solution and estimated cost for the problem.

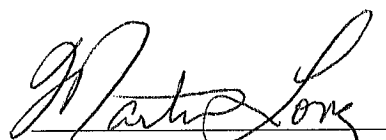
Linda McHenry made the motion to recess into executive session for 45 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 45 minutes the meeting continued, no action was taken as a result of the executive session.

The commissioners adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Commissioner McHenry and Commissioner Higgs reconvened for lunch with the City of Ulysses Officials at Park View Assisted Living. Those attending from the city were: Mayor John Battin; Council Members, Janet Stewart, John Duran, Jerry Jo Deckert, Warren Devore, Tim McCauley; and City Clerk, Margaret Perez. General discussion was held.

The commissioners adjourned at 1:15 p.m., to meet again in regular session on October 1, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

  
Paula Shapland, Deputy Clerk

  
Martin Long, Chairman

