

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. Commissioner Long led the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Kelly Gindlesberger provided prayer. Media representatives present: Lydia Kautz, Ulysses News. Janet Stewart and Kevin Shapland joined the meeting to observe.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Kristy Frazee, Health Department Administrator; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Marilea Honstead, Civic Center Manager; O'LaVonne Michael, Senior Center Director; Lance Babcock, Sheriff; Jerry Jo Deckert, EMS Director; and Rita Gee, County Treasurer. After department reports, three recommendations from the Pay Plan Committee were presented to commissioners for consideration. The commissioners discussed employee performance reviews and instructed the clerk to request training from KCAMP for department heads. Linda McHenry made the motion to 1. Adopt a \$4.00 increase to the maximum of each job position in the Grant County Pay Plan Schedule; 2. Adopt changing the Grant County Pay Plan Schedule final median salary to final maximum salary, allowing the position to go 100% of the salary range when applicable; 3. Adopt the updated Compensation section in the Grant County Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual; 4. Accept using the revised job descriptions. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Bob Dale Passini, Economic Development Director, joined the meeting.

Rita Gee, County Treasurer, presented a list of delinquent real estate and severed mineral properties that met criteria for a tax sale. The Treasurer also reviewed the statute related to tax sales. Jessica Akers, County Attorney, joined this portion of the meeting. The County Attorney recommended to proceed with a tax sale, and commented each year the commissioners' delay will raise the expense of handling it. Carl Higgs made the motion to proceed with a County Tax Sale and list all eligible delinquent real estate and severed mineral properties. Linda McHenry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, Ms. Gee asked if commissioners wanted to dissolve the Oil and Gas Valuation Depletion Trust fund per Senate Bill 206. The commissioners would like to keep the fund separate, but Commissioner McHenry relayed the statute does say the Treasurer shall, so the Treasurer should do whatever she feels necessary. After that, Commissioner Long shared a conversation with Doug Smith the Attorney for the Western Kansas Development Organization (WEKANDO). They will be returning the Railroad Project funds to the counties since the project has been put on hold; Grant County will receive \$267,000.00. Last, the Treasurer informed commissioners \$6,753.33 personal property taxes remain unpaid. Kansas allows the Treasurer's Office to flag vehicle renewals that have delinquent personal property taxes and require payment before the renewals will be completed. It was the consensus of commissioners to review this procedure next year.

Kevin Shapland, Terri Trotman, Daron Cowan, Fair Board Members; Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager; and Anita Wendt, Pioneer Electric H.U.G.S. Team Leader, met with commissioners to reintroduce a project plan for the Fair information booth, and the Civic Center main office. Mr. Shapland discussed the poor condition of the present information booth. The Fair Board assessed the plan from the earlier commissioner meeting and for numerous reasons decided the arena corner was not the appropriate place for a building. Ms. Wendt made a grant commitment of \$10,000.00 from the Pioneer Electric H.U.G.S. Program towards the stand alone building. The commissioner reviewed the bids and Commissioner Higgs was concerned the proposed building was not adequate for their needs. The Fair Board assured commissioners the Civic Center staff and Fair Board members would finish the interior of the building and it would meet their needs completely. Linda McHenry made the motion to approve a pole building from the Barn Guys with the total project cost not to exceed \$25,000.00; and for this expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, the Fair Board informed commissioners no one had submitted a bid on the drainage project, but they will continue to look for solutions. Commissioners thanked Ms. Wendt and Pioneer Electric for their support to the County.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, met with commissioners. The snow removal and ice maintenance for the Courthouse was discussed. Mr. McCauley presented information on Icenator Classic 2.0, an anti-icing and deicing liquid that was all-natural. It was the consensus of the commissioners to get enough for a trial on the Courthouse sidewalks and back parking. Next, Mr. McCauley relayed he had met with Pioneer Communications concerning the trash bin/utilities island behind the Courthouse. The cement and trash bins can be removed, but not the utilities slab. The commissioners tabled the issue for a later meeting. Last item, Mr. McCauley requested permission to get a sole bid for a motor grader from Caterpillar. The commissioners waived the bidding process and agreed to a sole bid from Caterpillar.

It was the consensus of the commissioners not to name voting delegates this year since no one was attending the Kansas Association of Counties Annual Meeting.

Bob Dale Passini, Economic Development Director, updated commissioners on the undertakings of some businesses in the community, and informed commissioners the Economic Development Board is seeking grants to install sidewalks in Ulysses.

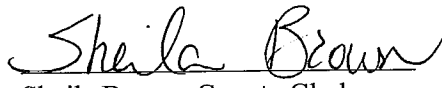
Carl Higgs made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2014, September 19, and September 29, 2014 meetings, along with the claims against the various funds of the county, payroll total \$266,642.06 dates September 17 and October 1; voucher numbers ending 145577 totaling \$182,764.14. Linda McHenry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

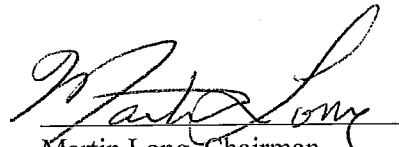
An employee sick leave donation request was reviewed. Linda McHenry made the motion to approve the request. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

After reviewing, Linda McHenry made the motion to approve the 2015 Grant County observed holiday and commissioner meeting dates calendar as presented. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The commissioners reviewed an Agreement to participate in the Rate Stabilization Program offered by Kansas County Association Multiline Pool (KCAMP). To participate the County agrees to remain a member of KCAMP's Risk Management and Insurance Program for a continuous period of three years and in exchange receives a \$14,504.00 contribution credit and a rate cap of 2% for the 2015 through 2017 coverage periods. Linda McHenry made the motion to participate in the Rate Stabilization Program. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Carl Higgs made the motion to adjourn at 12:30 p.m., to meet again in regular session on October 21, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. Linda McHenry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

  
Sheila Brown, County Clerk

  
Martin Long, Chairman

