

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:45 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. Commissioner Stewart led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ulysses News Reporter, Bene Garcia was in attendance.

Terri Trotman, County Treasurer, and Jessica Akers, County Attorney, met to discuss continuing with a county tax sale. Martin Long made the motion to continue with a tax sale for all delinquent mineral and real estate taxes with the exception of Nexsun Ethanol LLC due to pending litigation on the property. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Martin Long made the motion to recess into executive session for 5 minutes to consult with the County Attorney about pending litigation under the justification of privileged attorney-client relationship. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 5 minutes the meeting continued in open session with no action taken.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, met with commissioners. Bids were presented for rewiring the barns to add 28 receptacles for cattle blowers and fans. Goossen Electric bid \$10,540.00; Dave's Electrical bid \$8,460.00. Discussion was held on whether the project had been budgeted for in 2017. Commissioners were informed the Fair Board had received a donation from the Carlton Waechter Memorial for \$8,780.00; a grant from CoBank for \$3,000.00; and a grant from Pioneer Electric H.U.G.S. for \$3,675.00. The Fair Board would like to use some of the money to help with rewiring of the cattle barns. Martin Long made the motion to award Goossen Electric the bid at a cost not to exceed \$10,540.00; and for the County portion of the expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Next, the Civic Center Manager relayed the Fair Board was seeking permission from commissioners to pursue a grant or donation to build a Milking Parlor at the fairgrounds. Commissioners would need to give their blessing to locate the building on county owned land. The metal building would be located in an open space between the Commercial building and the cattle barns. Kevin Shapland made the motion to allow the Fair Board to pursue building a dairy barn on county property. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, informed commissioners Seward County fees will be going up a \$1.00 on transfer trash and asked for guidance for Grant County's fees. It was consensus of commissioners when Seward County raises their fees Grant County should also raise to maintain a \$19.00 difference, and gave the Public Works Supervisor permission to do so without asking. Commissioner Long asked the Public Works Supervisor to check with the surrounding counties and find out what they are doing on Construction and Demolition fees. Next, discussion was held on rotten grain dust from the local elevators and grass clippings from local mowing services. The Transfer Station presently isn't charging for disposal and Mr. McCauley asked if they should be charging. It was the consensus of commissioners if Grant County is being charged to haul it off, the Transfer Station should be charging for disposal. Kevin Shapland made the motion to charge a flat rate of \$49.00 a ton/\$8.00 minimum for any

trash that goes into the semi-truck for disposal at Seward County. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Lastly, the Noxious Weed Director position will be vacant in December and the Public Works Supervisor asked permission to hire within. Commissioners discussed his options and gave him full reins to hire within or advertise the position.

Martin Long made the motion to allow the Appraiser's Office to dispose of a 1988 Mylar cabinet and map table. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Tina Carson, local citizen, requested commissioners lower her past tax debt. Commissioners explained they were not able to arbitrarily lower taxes of one citizen of the county. Ms. Carson discussed problems with theft on her property. Commissioners recommended visiting with the County Sheriff.

Commissioners reviewed a draft set of By-Laws for the Fair Board as submitted in writing by Daron Cowan, Board Member. It was the consensus of commissioners changes were needed in sections: Article III, Section 1; Article V, Section 1; Article VI, title and Section 1; Article VIII, Section 1 and 3; Article IX, Section 4. Commissioners instructed the clerk to research the board appointment laws associated with Fair Board.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve the minutes of the November 7 and November 13, 2017 meetings along with the claims against the various funds of the county, payroll total \$131,235.87 dated November 8; voucher numbers ending 154587 totaling \$297,546.90. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Martin Long made the motion to adjourn at 10:45 a.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on December 5, 2017. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Janet Stewart, Chairman