

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner Long, Commissioner Shapland and the County Clerk present. Commissioner Stewart was absent due to illness. Ulysses News Reporter, Bene Garcia was in attendance. Commissioner Long led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Terri Trotman, County Treasurer; Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds; Lance Babcock, Sheriff; O'Lavonne Michael, Senior Citizen Director; Paul Fort, EMS Director; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator; and Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, discussed a letter from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding Grant County's request for public assistance to clean up debris as a result of the May 1, 2017 snow storm. FEMA Region VII approved \$64,000.00 for the grinding of tree stumps. Kevin Shapland made the motion to allow Swank's Service to proceed with the grinding of tree stumps leftover from the snow storm. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The Public Works Supervisor relayed he would take any additional expense above the FEMA reimbursement out of the Road Department fund.

Lance Babcock, Sheriff, presented bids for one new deputy patrol vehicle from the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Contract. Kevin Shapland made the motion to allow the Sheriff's Department to purchase a Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle at a cost not to exceed \$29,986.90, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, the Sheriff visited about his jail conditions and the lack of space. The jail can house 37 prisoners and any additional prisoners have to be moved to another county. Grant County is seeing an overabundance of prisoners and the Sheriff is housing three inmates in Stanton County. Sheriff Babcock suggested the commissioners start putting monies aside to build a new jail in the near future.

Jim Rice, Kansas Natural Resource Coalition (KNRC) Member, explained the organizations accomplishments and relayed KNRC will continue land use planning and will actively engage the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on vacating listings that do not contribute substantially to conservation efforts. Mr. Rice asked commissioners to consider rejoining KNRC by paying dues of \$500.00 yearly.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to reappoint Don Button to the Regional Homeland Security Council for a two year term. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Martin Long made the motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2017 meeting along with the claims against the various funds of the county including the full receipt of a security system, payroll total \$132,177.60 dated November 22; voucher numbers ending 154665 totaling \$697,808.60. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion, on the recommendation of the auditors, to amend the 2017 Ambulance budget, increasing the budget authority by \$50,000.00. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to allow the Appraiser's Office to purchase two file cabinets at a cost not to exceed \$1,110.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Martin Long made the motion to adopt Resolution 17-05, a Resolution waiving the requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120(a) as they apply to Grant County, and resolving the financial statements and reports of the County be prepared on the basis and budget laws of the State. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to transfer the unexpended balances of the various funds to the special equipment funds as allowed by statute. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed a letter from Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS) requesting the County provide proof the care home and assisted living were sold. KPERS 457 deferred compensation plan participants could receive their distributions once proof was provided. Commissioners complied with the request.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to adjourn at 11:15 a.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on December 19, 2017. Martin Long seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Janet Stewart, Chairman