

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

Ulysses News Reporter, Kellie Euliss was in attendance.

Pastor Borthwick announced National Day of Prayer will be Thursday, May 4, and asked permission to pray on the steps of two county facilities, the Courthouse, and the Senior Center. Commissioners gave permission and thanked Pastor Borthwick for his continued support.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Terri Trotman, County Treasurer; Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds; Shaun Minks, Public Works Supervisor; John Crosby, Fire Chief; and Jeff Baier, EMS Director/EM Coordinator. Commissioner Long discussed budgets and 5-year plans and directed departments heads put a 5% increase in their budgets for raises.

Jeff Baier, EMS Director/Emergency Management Coordinator, met to discuss emergency trauma ambulance transfers per commissioner request. After discussion it was agreed to work with the hospital to try and find some resolution to this problem.

USD 214 Superintendent, Corey Burton and School Nurse, Ruby Romero, met with commissioners. Commissioners relayed Grant County received monies from the State of Kansas from an Opioid Abuse Settlement and decided to channel some of the funds to the school. Commissioners presented USD 214 with a check for \$14,542.91 to help support drug prevention programs.

At 10:00 a.m. bids were opened for a motor grader. Shaun Minks, Public Works Supervisor, and Rick Klein, Shop Foreman; Brett Simpson, Foley Equipment; Dustin Walker and Terry Stefan, Murphy Tractor, attended this portion of the meeting. Bidders were Foley Equipment bidding a 140-15J at a cost with trade in of \$289,197.67 with an August delivery date; Case bidding 856C at a cost with trade in \$197,250.00 no delivery date specified; Murphy Tractor bidding a John Deere 770G at a cost with trade in \$363,355.02 with an October delivery date. Commissioner Long asked the equipment dealers if they wanted to add anything to their sealed bids. They relayed delivery dates for their equipment. Commissioners relayed the bids would be reviewed to ensure specifications were met later in the meeting. Equipment dealers left the meeting and commissioners requested Shaun Minks remain. A long discussion was held on the minimum requirements specifications given to equipment dealers and that Caterpillar was low bid but did not meet the specifications sheet. John Martin motioned to accept the bid from Murphy Tractor for a John Deere 770G Motor Grader with trade in allowance of \$61,000.00 for an ending cost not to exceed \$363,355.02, and for this expense to be taken from the Road Machinery fund. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Kayla Janko, Cimarron Basin Community Corrections Director, presented their Comprehensive Plan and explained their program of rehabilitation after court probation sentencing. Mark McGaughey motioned to approve the Comprehensive Plan from Cimarron Basin Community Corrections. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. Next, Ms. Janko requested Grant County contribute \$25,000.00 in calendar year 2024 toward the purchase of new agency vehicles. All six counties in the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District are being asked to contribute the same funding. Commissioners relayed they will review the request at budget planning time.

Discussion was held on the complaint of tires being dumped in mass on private property in Grant County. The Sheriff has notified the Kansas Department of Health and Environment about the questionable illegal disposal of tires on Road N.

Mark McGaughey motioned to approve minutes for the March 21, 2023, meeting with correction of Road S to Road N, along with claims against various funds of the County including additional bills presented today, payroll total \$143,417.70 dated March 22, 2023, and voucher numbers ending 169367 totaling \$276,114.81. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Bids from Air Comfort Consultants and Weber Refrigeration & Heating were reviewed for replacing refrigeration equipment on an existing walk-in freezer at the Senior Center. John Martin motioned to accept the bid from Weber Refrigeration & Heating to replace refrigeration equipment at a cost not exceeding \$11,990.00, and for this expense to be taken from the Special Equipment fund. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed Lochner's recommendation from the bid letting on Project FAA AIP/BIL 3-20-0084-021/022-2023. Marty Long motioned to accept the Airport project bid from Strukel Electric for Base Bid plus Add Alternate No. 1, plus Add Alternate No. 2, which is to replace Runway 17-35 MIREL System and PAPI System and install REIL System for a total project cost of \$853,700.00, with County cost share at 10% of total project cost equaling \$85,370.00. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Bids were opened for cleaning the Courthouse from Caitlin Alexander at \$2,500.00 per month, Southwest Janitorial Service \$2,816.66 per month; and Pucket Housekeeping Services \$3,500.00 per month. John Martin motioned to accept Caitlin Alexander's bid to clean the Courthouse at a cost of \$2,500.00 per month. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Commissioners adjourned at 11:40 a.m. to reconvene at noon for lunch at Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital (BWMGCH) with Centura Health. Present were St. Catherine Hospital Executive Team, Twila Lee, CEO, Amanda Vaughn, CFO; and Centura/BWMGCH Kristy Meier, Co-Administrator. Ms. Lee gave an update on the facility; relaying February was not financially good for the BWMGCH but normally February is hard in the hospital world. They were pleased to announce a new cardiologist would be starting

next week and would cover St. Catherine and BWMGCH. Centura Health would finish decoupling AdventHealth and CommonSpirit Health by June 1, 2023. BWMGCH will run 100% under CommonSpirit but the change will only affect the upper level of Centura Health and BWMGCH should have no changes.

Commissioners convened at 1:40 p.m. in the Commissioner Room of the Courthouse.

The Engagement Letter for Commercial Appraisal Services was reviewed. Marty Long motioned to accept the proposal from Kubert Appraisal Group for appraisal services for the next three years, to appraise Birla Carbon, Scout Energy Group, and Linde dba Praxair at a total cost of \$85,500.00, and for this expense to be taken from the Appraiser fund. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

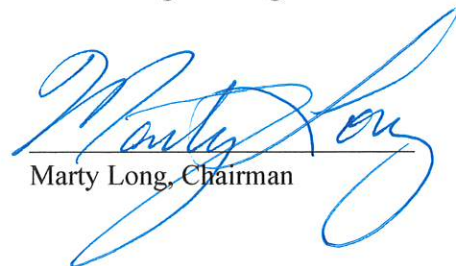
Ludivina Gonzales, Senior Center Director, met with commissioners. Commissioners inquired as to why Lifeline was costing more than revenue received. Ms. Gonzales relayed some seniors have fallen behind and some are not paying for the service at all. It was the consensus of commissioners, since this seemed to be an ongoing problem, to give 90 days' notice that Grant County will no longer host Lifeline. The Director was instructed to start helping seniors get their own accounts.

Marty Long motioned to recess into executive session for 30 minutes to hold discussion relating to the acquisition of real property. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. Commissioners requested the clerk stay for the executive session. After 30 minutes the meeting continued in open session. John Martin motioned to purchase a building owned by Family Practice Associates, LLC located at 202 W. Kansas Avenue at a cost of \$150,000.00, and for this expense to be taken from ARPA funds. Marty Long seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. The clerk was directed to contact the county attorney to prepare a standard real estate sales contract with Dr. Douglas Johnson for the property.

Mark McGaughey motioned to adjourn at 3:10 p.m. John Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. Commissioners will meet again in regular session on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Marty Long, Chairman