

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. News Reporter, Tammie Hensley was in attendance. Commissioner Shapland led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Stewart provided prayer.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, requested permission to rent the Kansas Forest Service a room at the Fire Station for their area employee. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Kansas Forest Service to rent a room at a cost of \$400.00 monthly. The Fire Chief was directed to ask the County Attorney to draft a yearly renewable lease. Next, discussion was held on SPARK funds being used for handheld radios.

Janet Stewart made the motion to adopt Resolution 20-08 as presented by the Emergency Management Coordinator, a Resolution declaring there continues a state of local public health emergency in Grant County resulting from COVID-19 Pandemic and therefore extending the emergency Resolution and allowing it to remain in effect until rescinded. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator, met with commissioners to discuss the workload at the Health Department. Ms. Irvin expressed her fatigue at an earlier meeting. Commissioner Shapland suggested using the Kansas Department of Health to assist with contact tracing on COVID-19 patients. Commissioner McGaughey conveyed the commissioners wanted to help with resources if needed and expressed concern with the health of the employees being worked additional hours. The Health Department Administrator stated she would check with the State on contact tracers.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve the wages of three seasonal employees at the Road Department. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Janet Stewart made the motion to approve the position changes for two Senior Center employees. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve minutes for the July 7, 2020 meeting along with claims against the various funds of the County, payroll total \$150,882.63 dated July 15, 2020; voucher numbers ending 162054 totaling \$295,554.71. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

A revised 2021 budget submitted by Rod Hay, CPA with Hay, Rice and Associates was reviewed. The following decisions were finalized by commissioners - reduce personal services in most department budgets by 2%; cut various line items in individual department budgets; take health insurance out to bid and reduce Employee Benefits; reduce requested appropriations to Extension Council, Conservation District, Compass Behavioral Health,


Southwest Developmental Services, Russell Child Development Center, Economic Development, Tigers in Action, and Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center, and lastly no appropriation to Cimarron Basin Community Corrections Authority. The budget cuts of \$1,363,345.00 allow Grant County to stay under the max levy limit as required by the Kansas Property Tax-Lid Law.

Bob Dale Passini, Economic Development Director, and Marieta Hauser, Grant County Chamber Director, met with commissioners to discuss funding from the Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) CARES Recovery Act. Others attending Terri Trotman, County Treasurer; Alan Olson, City Administrator; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Marcy Fierstein and Shelly Harris, High Plains Educational Cooperative; and David Younger, USD 214 Superintendent. Mr. Passini explained public institutions, city, schools, and county are required reimbursements in Phase I of the SPARK funding. The funding must run through the County in Phase I, but Phase II and Phase III will be administered through the State. Discussion was held on wages for administering the funds. Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess into executive session with the Economic Development Director and the Chamber of Commerce Director for 10 minutes to discuss contracts under the justification of confidential data relating to financial affairs. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued in open session. Janet Stewart made the motion to hire Bob Dale Passini and Marita Hauser to co-administer the Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) funding from the State of Kansas; to allocate up to 5% of SPARKS funding for the services of an administrator and CPA; and to set up a noninterest bearing checking account at the Grant County Bank for the funds. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, and Rick Klein, Shop Foreman, presented quotes to program injectors on a 2014 John Deere 6140D and requested permission to do the work in-house. It was the consensus of commissioners to approve the request.

Rhonda Fernandez and Noel Servais Leach, Agents for PIC Benefit Service, explained the services provided by PIC and requested to be considered for the County's exclusive insurance broker. Commissioners will take the request under advisement.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Commissioners will meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on August 5, 2020.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Kevin Shapland, Chairman