

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

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, presented a Road Crossing Permit which was reviewed and approved. Next, Mr. McCauley requested permission to seek bids for crushing concrete at the Transfer Station. It was consensus of commissioners to allow bids. Thirdly, one of the Road Department equipment operators is quitting and the Public Works Supervisor requested permission to advertise for the position. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the position to be advertised. Lastly, a department update was given on roads repairs.

Lance Babcock, Sheriff, discussed hiring a person to help the new incoming Sheriff be adequacy staffed when Sheriff Babcock retires. It was consensus of commissioners to allow the hire of a part-time, but no benefit packages are available for full time until the Sheriff's retirement.

Discussion was held on the farmland surrounding the Transfer Station. The land has been accepted for another round of cost share through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the tenant's contracts will need to be revised to reflect the new rate of CRP cost share. Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve the Farm Lease Agreements with Cecil Wright and Bruce Howard splitting the CRP cost share yearly payment in a two-third owner and one-third tenant method and to cost share any maintenance costs on the property at the same rate. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to nominate Mark McGaughey to be Grant County Voting Delegate for business meetings of Kansas Association of Counties, Kansas Counties Association of Multiline Pool, and Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties; and Janet Stewart to be the 1st Alternate Voting Delegate if Mark is unable to attend. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

After thoughtful consideration, it was the consensus of commissioners to decline participation in the social security tax deferral program offered due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Employees will continue to have their portion of Social Security tax withheld on their taxable wages.

Per commissioners, Ludi Gonzales, Senior Center Director, joined the commissioners meeting. After discussion on the invoice from Lowe's Pay and Save for refreshments, it was the consensus of commissioners to approve the invoice.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve minutes for the September 1, 2020 meeting along with claims against the various funds of the County, payroll total \$139,829.85 dated September 9, 2020; voucher numbers ending 162528 totaling \$121,951.25. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Randy Dick, Derek Dick and Dustin Dick, Kaw Valley Insurance Inc., explained the third-party services provided by KAW Valley and presented a county employee health insurance proposal. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow KAW Valley Insurance to proceed with an updated proposal.

Jes Pfannenstiel, Kansas Workers' Risk Cooperative for Counties (KWORCC), presented commissioners with a plaque for exceptional loss ratios in 2018 per premium size.

Commissioners reviewed the motion made at the August 14, 2020 meeting mandating the wearing of masks for all citizens in Grant County due to COVID-19. No action was taken on the mandate set to expire at midnight.

Commissioners adjourned at 11:20 a.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on October 6, 2020.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Kevin Shapland, Chairman