

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

Terri Trotman, County Treasurer, requested renewing the current postage meter lease. Kevin Shapland made the motion to enter into a new lease agreement for 63 months with Quadient Leasing USA for \$330.87 a month. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, the County Treasurer presented the delinquent severed mineral and real estate taxes that qualify for a tax sale. After discussion, Kevin Shapland made the motion to send the list to the County Attorney to have a letter sent to all delinquent real estate and severed mineral property owners. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. It was consensus to revisit the delinquent list at the November 16, 2021, Commissioner Meeting to see if a tax sale was needed.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to add Rae Borthwick, Clerk's Deputy as a signature on the County bank accounts effective immediately. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, presented a bid for an Echo Pole Saw. Mark McGaughey made the motion to purchase a pole saw from T & J Small Engine Repair for an amount not to exceed \$600.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, a sole proposal from Air Comfort Consultants was presented for six roof top heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units for the Civic Center Auditorium. It was the consensus to wait on this project until it could be researched whether ARPA funds could be used. Thirdly, the Civic Center Manager explained a chain link fence on the west side of Extension Office is falling and requested permission to take it down and put up a guard rail fence. After a lengthy discussion it was consensus of commissioners the chain link fence could be taken down but other options for fencing should be researched. Lastly, Commissioner McGaughey inquired what is being done to improve the park area at the Civic Center Complex. Ms. Honstead relayed the Civic Center staff drag the walking sprinkler around, but it is cumbersome and does not water evenly, which has caused the goat head and sandbur stickers to be so bad. It is her opinion a sprinkler system was needed to evenly water the lawn and the area should be burned to get rid of sticker seeds. She also recommended putting a barrier around the area to protect from blow over from the parking area. It was consensus to get prices and return at a later meeting.

Unified School District Board Member, Clay Scott, and Margaret Nightengale; Dr. Douglas Johnson, County Health Medical Director and Lynette Metcalf, Director of Nursing at the Health Department met with commissioners to discuss options besides quarantine for students with COVID exposures at the Middle School and High School. Ms. Nightengale stated the option of masking was taken away from the school system by the Health Department. She conveyed the only option given to school board members at the last meeting was to purchase testing kits to test each student with an exposure and as long as they had a negative rapid test,

they would be allowed to go to school that day. The concern is the school is not in a position to start implementing a testing procedure and trying to figure out a way to logistically carry it out. This would also have to be completed by 8 am to get students in their class on time. It was requested to mask the students that have an exposure and rapid test if they show symptoms. Ms. Metcalf said the Health Department was trying to follow CDC guidelines and the COVID Delta Variant was easier to transmit. She turned the decision over to Dr. Johnson. Dr. Johnson expressed masks could help prevent transmission and agreed the option was available to mask when having a close contact/exposure and not quarantine unless student is having symptoms. Ms. Nightengale and Mr. Scott thanked commissioners for being allowed to visit on the masking issue.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve a new hire wage for Sheriff's Deputy as presented by the Sheriff. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve minutes for the September 7, 2021, meeting along with claims against the various funds of the County: payroll total \$140,682.92 dated September 8, 2021, and accounts payable voucher numbers ending 165196 totaling \$296,455.34. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

10:20 a.m. commissioners recessed.

10:30 a.m. commissioners reconvened at the Airport Terminal.

Darrin Figgins, Airport Board Member joined this portion of the meeting.

Steve Rice, Airport Manager, proposed modifying areas of the reception area of the Airport Terminal to meet his current needs.

Change 1, add a wall in the pilots' lounge which would cut the room in half. The divided space would be changed into one side pilots lounge and one side office space.

Change 2, add a wall to enclose the conference area making it more private. The wall would be glass to coordinate with the entry doors from the runway.

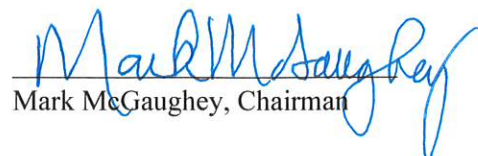
Change 3, remove the large display cabinet and desk to make room for a reception desk and place an employee at the desk to help incoming pilots.

Mr. Rice relayed all changes would be funded by North Star Aviation. It was consensus the changes were acceptable, and commissioners asked Steve to present a written plan before he started. Lastly, Mr. Rice requested permission to put a sign at the entry of Airport from Highway 160. He proposed the sign cost will be co-shared by County, North Star Aviation and Thrush Dealer. It was consensus to seek bids for the signage.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 11:40 a.m., to meet again in special session at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, for review of City/County Agreements.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Mark McGaughey, Chairman