

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 Commissioner Stewart provided prayer.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Terri Trotman, County Treasurer, Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator; Ludivina Gonzales, Senior Center Director; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Paul Fort, EMS Director; Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager; James Biddle, Sheriff; and Richard Banes, City/County Inspector.

During the department head meeting Commissioner McGaughey presented longevity service awards to county employees. Service award honorees were Road Department, Robert Russell 35 years; Transfer Station, Delessa Lane 15 years; Emergency Management, Donald Button 20 years; County Treasurer, Terri Trotman 10 years and Teresa Ochoa 20 years. Next, Butch Post, Kansas Emergency Management Association President, presented Don Button with the Life Membership Award and thanked him for his dedication and willingness to help others. Rodney Kelling, Steve Phillips, Rex Beemer, Anthony Cruz, Emergency Management Coordinators, and Jeff Hutton, Dodge City Coordinator for the National Weather Service, attended the presentation.

Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator, announced to commissioners he would be retiring in March of 2022.

Richard Banes, City/County Inspector, presented a replat for the SW1/4 of 29-28-37. Commissioners reviewed and approved a replat for Lot 3, Block 1 of the Webber West Addition.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, explained Judge Peterson has decided to move the jury trail to the Civic Center. When readying the facility, she found two microphone and receivers needing replaced. During the conversation with the salesperson, she learned T-Mobile has recently purchased the 600 MHZ frequency range for their 5G merchandise. Grant County has five microphone and receiver sets and could be fined if found using the frequency. The Civic Center Manager requested permission to purchase five new sets at \$650.00 each. Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve purchasing five microphone receiver sets at a cost of \$3,250.00 from Sweetwater Audio, using \$750.00 donation dollars and the remaining \$2,500.00 will come from the Park Maintenance fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on the tax sale. The County Treasurer presented an updated list showing \$10,969.82 qualifying for a tax sale. Mark McGaughey made the motion to discontinue progress on the sale. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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

Janet Stewart made the motion to adopt Resolution 21-07, 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.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to adopt Resolution 21-08, a Resolution to approve joining the statewide litigation regarding an Opioid Epidemic. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed a letter from Great Plains Development, Inc. (GPDI) which encouraged Grant County to continue partnering with them. Janet Stewart made the motion to maintain the GPDI dues at a cost of \$1,985.04. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve the new hire wage for a Deputy Register of Deeds as presented by the Register of Deeds. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The County Clerk shared an email concerning the IBM AS400 Operation System for the Courthouse. The equipment needs replaced since IBM is dropping support with a hard stop date of March 2022. Janet Stewart made the motion to purchase a new AS400 Operating System with a three-year warranty for service and support at a cost not to exceed \$27,714.81 from Aumentum Tech, and for this expense to be paid from the Data Processing fund. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

James Biddle, Sheriff, presented a bid for a Dodge Durango and relayed he had been researching for several months and was unable to get any other bids. Janet Stewart commented due to the environment for vehicle purchases a sole bid was acceptable and made the motion to purchase a 2021 Dodge Durango from Davis Moore at a cost not to exceed \$35,856.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners held a conference call with the City of Ulysses Administrator concerning the water bills for the Law Enforcement Center. The water bills were part of a new contract with the City of Ulysses and errors were found on the bills. The City Administrator relayed they were looking into the bills and making corrections. Commissioners were concerned since a delinquent notice was sent to the County. The Administrator said not to pay the bills until adjustments were made and a new billing could be sent to the County.

Robert Moore, Moore Agency, presented the new Principal dental and vision premiums, dental increased 3% and vision remained the same. New monthly rates for dental - employee, \$36.71; employee/spouse \$74.17; employee/children \$85.35; family \$122.81 and reoccurring rates for vision - employee \$9.50; employee/spouse \$19.59; employee/children \$18.39; family \$28.48.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, informed commissioners Seward County is raising rates beginning first of year. The fees will be adjusted at the Transfer Station to accommodate the increase. Next, surrounding counties permit fees for road services were

discussed. No action was taken for Grant County permits. Lastly, the Public Works Supervisor asked permission to have the Annual Bean Feed on December 22. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the event. Lastly, Mark McGaughey made the motion to recess into executive session with the Public Works Supervisor for 10 minutes to discuss an employee request under the justification of personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. After 10 minutes the meeting continued in open session with no action taken.

Luie Diaz, citizen, explained a problem with speeding on Rose Lane. The Public Works Supervisor attended this portion of the meeting. The road is signed for 20 miles per hour. Mr. Diaz suggested putting a light on the street or publishing in the Ulysses News tickets would be issued. After discussion it was suggested, the Sheriff should be contacted for help.


John Crosby, Fire Chief, presented quotes for a super vac fan. Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve purchasing a demo shop super vac Milwaukee fan from Weis Fire at cost not to exceed \$3,850.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Fire Department fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, the Fire Chief relayed the Fire Department has \$8,200.00 in donations and requested permission to purchase thermo systems for two of the fire trucks; four body thermo systems; and four gas detectors. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the purchase. Lastly, Garden City Coop requested permission to use the Fire Station Meeting Room on January 27<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 pm and they would donate to the department. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Garden City Coop to use the facility.

John Crosby, Ross of Ulysses, explained a solution to the cold temperatures in the Senior Center break room would be to disconnect the duct work from the Health Department system and add duct work to the Senior Center system at a cost of \$650.00. Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve Ross of Ulysses fixing the duct work at the Senior Center at a cost of \$650.00, and for this expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.


Kevin Shapland made the motion to nominate Mark McGaughey as Grant County Voting Delegate for a Kansas Association of Counties Special Election to be held January 5, 2022, through virtual vote; and Kevin Shapland for 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate and Janet Stewart for 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve minutes for the November 16, 2021, meeting along with claims against the various funds of the County excluding the City of Ulysses water bills for the Law Enforcement Center: payroll total \$276,989.91 dated November 17, and December 1, 2021, and voucher numbers ending 165760 totaling \$430,971.27. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners adjourned at 11:55 a.m., to meet again in regular session as board of canvassers at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 21, 2021.

  
Sheila Brown, County Clerk



  
Mark McGaughey, Chairman