

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 Commissioner McGaughey provided prayer.

Ulysses News Reporter, Kellie Euliss was in attendance.

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; Ludivina Gonzales, Senior Center Director; John Crosby, Fire Chief; and Cindy Wellbrock, County Appraiser.

The 2023 Noxious Weed Management Plan, Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report, and a Road Crossing Permit were reviewed and approved by commissioners.

Janae Arriola, Sales Representative for the Ulysses News, announced the newspaper is doing a tab insert for 145-year anniversary of Grant County. John Martin motioned to run a half page color ad in the 145th year anniversary Ulysses News tab at a cost of \$264.00. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Ludivina Gonzales, Senior Center Director, reported the Senior Center had an inspection and the automatic gas valve shut off is defective on the hood system. After discussion, the Director will seek help in getting the valve shut off fixed. Next, the Director requested permission to purchase a new walk-in freezer due to condition an age and relayed Elder Care would contribute funds for replacing it. After presenting a sole bid Commissioner Long requested the Director seek other quotes and stated there is local dealers selling walk-in freezers. The Director will seek additional bids and return at a later meeting.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, requested permission to purchase LDH 5" fire hose and presented bids. Marty Long motioned to allow the Fire Department to purchase 5" hose from Casco Industries at a cost not to exceed \$4,992.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Fire Equipment fund. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mark McGaughey motioned to approve minutes for the February 21, and February 27, 2023, meetings along with claims against various funds of the County including additional bills presented, payroll total \$140,757.97 dated February 22, 2023, and voucher numbers ending 169184 totaling \$491,234.74. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

An Airport Hangar Lease Agreement was reviewed. Mark McGaughey motioned to approve Airport T-Hangar Lease Agreement with Shawn Massey for Unit 8-6. John Martin seconded motion and it carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on the two architect proposals for a remodel or new jail facility. John Martin motioned to retain HMN Architects to prepare a Pre-Referendum Study for a new Justice Center at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.00, and for this expense to be paid from the General fund. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. Commissioner McGaughey remarked if the project moves forward HMN will credit Grant County the preconstruction dollars.

Commissioner McGaughey informed everyone he and the Public Works Supervisor were looking at other manufacturers for the Transfer Station trash trailers and asked for the request to be tabled until next meeting.

After reviewing a letter from the Kansas County Commissioners Association, it was commissioner consensus not to pay 2023 association dues.

The letter from Kansas Silver Haired Legislature was reviewed, no action was taken on the request for funds.

Mark McGaughey motioned to recess into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss employee wage increases under the justification of matters of non-elected personnel. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. After 20 minutes the meeting continued in open session. Mark McGaughey motioned to approve the Sheriff's Department wage increases as adjusted and indicated on payroll change record sheets. John Martin seconded motion and it carried unanimously.

Marty Long motioned to recess into executive session for 20 minutes to hold discussion relating to the acquisition of real property. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. After 10 minutes commissioners requested the County Clerk join the executive. Commissioners came out of executive session after 20 minutes with no action taken.

Mark McGaughey motioned adjourn at 12:15 p.m. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. Commissioners will meet again in regular session on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Marty Long, Chairman