

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. Pastor Larry Borthwick provided prayer, and Commissioner Long led the Pledge of Allegiance. Media representatives present: Lydia Kautz, Ulysses News.

Commissioners reviewed and approved the 2013 County Department Inventory Asset Book.

Linda McHenry made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2014 meeting, along with the claims against the various funds of the county, payroll total \$128,209.53 date June 11; voucher numbers ending 144611 totaling \$105,173.55. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, met with commissioners to accept bids for a new loader and informed commissioners he will be trading two loaders, a 644E and 950G, in on this purchase. Kevin White, Sales Representative with Foley Equipment bid a Caterpillar 950K for \$192,673.00 with trade in; Ron McFarlane, Sales Representative with Murphy Tractor and Equipment bid a John Deere 644K for \$147,001.00 with trade in; and Chauncey Graham, Sales Representative with G.W. Van Keppel bid a Volvo L110H for \$158,840.00 with trade in. Linda McHenry made the motion to accept the bid from Murphy Tractor and Equipment for a 2014 John Deere 644K Loader at a cost of \$147,001.00 with trade in. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The clerk reported the city/county inspector was contacted and it is considered normal maintenance to replace ballasts, so the County won't need a licensed electrician to do the work. Linda McHenry made the motion to approve the purchase of 134 ballasts and bulbs to upgrade the remaining Courthouse lighting at a cost of \$3,419.68, with the Civic Center staff doing the work, and for this expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The commissioners discussed repair to an oven at the Senior Center. Linda McHenry made the motion to reimburse \$1,571.00 to the Board on Aging for the repair of an oven, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Carl Higgs made the motion to accept the Airport Improvement Project No. 3-20-0084-014-2014, an agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration to cost share 90/10 on a design for T-Hangar Taxi lanes and T-Hangars. Linda McHenry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Jennifer Hittle, Communities in Schools Director; and staff members, Sandy Duran, Astacia Diaz and Angela Higgs met with commissioners. Ms. Hittle gave a report on current programs and conveyed their volunteers are a big part of the program. They requested an appropriation in 2015 of \$11,900.00.

Lance Babcock, Sheriff, presented a 2015 budget request of \$963,314.00 for the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Babcock explained due to an increase in prisoners the meals line item is near depletion and shared his concerns with this year's budget allotment.

Bob Dale Passini, Economic Development Director and Robert Kreutzer, President of the Economic Development Board, presented the financials and requested \$100,000.00 unrestricted monies for the 2015 appropriation. They also discussed a board member that is moving. The member intends on keeping their business here and returning three days a week to work, but will move residency to another town. Mr. Kreutzer inquired if the member could stay on the Economic Development Board until the term is up. The commissioners will consider the board member term at a later date.

Erik Berg, Builders Development Corporation, explained their new vision for using the old care home property. Bob Dale Passini remained for the discussion. Builders Development Corporation would like to proceed with a different phase of the project and shift from senior low income housing to moderate income housing. Mr. Berg requested commissioners continue to support their endeavors for using the property. Commissioner McHenry relayed the County Attorney will need to republish the land sale notice due to the prior stipulation that bids could only be for senior low income housing. It was the consensus of commissioners to support Builders Development Corporation and sign their grant application for federal funding.

Ginger Anthony, Museum Curator, and Sherry Annis, Museum Board Member, presented the 2015 appropriation request of \$147,500.00. The board budgeted for two employees to move back to full time in the 2015 request. Ms. Anthony stated the Museum is starting an exhibit for migrations in Grant County. In other matters, the commissioners requested Ms. Anthony research prices for a new computer and compare them to an upgrade of an existing computer. Commissioners requested she return with the information before a decision would be made on funding for upgrading computers.

Marilea Honstead, Civic Center Manager, discussed an air conditioning unit needing immediate repairs and asked if the expense could come from the County Building fund. It was the consensus of the commissioners to allow the unit to be fixed and for the expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Commissioner McHenry conveyed those minor repairs needing immediate attention could be completed without prior approval from the commissioners.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, requested permission to get bids for a new fire truck. One of the fire trucks has mechanical issues and the repairs will be costly. Mr. Crosby purposed purchasing a demo fire truck. The commissioners directed the fire chief to get written information before a decision would be made.

O'Lavonne Michael, Senior Citizen Director; Board on Aging Members, Betty Burns, Ronnie Young, Ray Velasquez, Bill Stewart, Charles Hacker, and Janet Stewart, presented the Senior Citizen 2015 budget request of \$362,317.70. Mr. Hacker shared a transition overview spreadsheet; a five year plan; a strategic plan for grants and donations monies; and updated commissioners on the status of the round top building owned by the Board on Aging. The board plans to name the building after the late Flodene Hertel and call it "Flodene Hertel Memorial Activity Center". The Board on Aging will continue to run the activity center with fundraisers and donated monies. Commissioners applauded the board for presenting a well-organized and thought out budget, and for giving full disclosure of donated monies. In other business, the board presented an insurance policy to commissioners for the small and large bus at the Senior Center. The policy will cover recreational travel out of town, and was paid for with non-county monies.

Commissioner Long gave a summary of the conference call June 10th between the Western Kansas Development Organization (WEKANDO), Port Authority of the Southwest (PASW), and Cimarron Valley Railroad (CVR). The CVR negotiated an agreement with WEKANDO and PASW to forego the rehabilitation project until railcar business increases. There will be zero dollars budgeted in 2015 for the project. The County will still budget for administration fees to support WEKANDO and PASW.

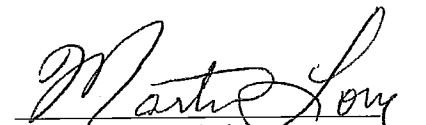
The commissioners recessed for lunch at Park View Assisted Living with the City of Ulysses Officials. Those attending from the city were: Council Member, Janet Stewart; City Clerk, Sarah Britton; and Interim Administrator/Police Chief, Alan Olson. General discussion was held.

Art Frable, Hospital Administrator, reported on the status of the electronic medical records at the hospital. Mr. Frable would like to start implantation of Centura's medical records program. Centrua was questioning whether working with them would be a conflict of interest at this point, due to the possible transition of the hospital. The clerk was instructed to contact Stroudwater Associates and ask for direction for Mr. Frable.

Linda McHenry made the motion to adjourn at 1:50 p.m., to meet again in regular session on July 1, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Martin Long, Chairman