

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, Kelli Medrano was in attendance. Commissioner Shapland 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; Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds; Lance Babcock, Sheriff; Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator; LaVonne Michael, Senior Center Director; Paul Fort, EMS Director; Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator; and Richard Banes, City/County Inspector.

Richard Banes, City/County Inspector, presented City Ordinance 1285 and explained following the recommendation of the Ulysses-Grant County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, the City of Ulysses Council Members approved amending the Zoning District Map from agriculture to highway commercial on 11.3 acres of land located at 1407 E. Oklahoma. After discussion, Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve City Ordinance 1285 to rezone 11.3 acres from A-L (agriculture) to C-3 (Highway Commercial). Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Scott Strom with Iconergy, explained his company was an engineering, construction management firm which fixes and modernizes existing buildings. Mr. Strom approached commissioners about working on a plan to see if Iconergy could help Grant County. Commissioners relayed the next building needing work would be the Law Enforcement Center and Jail. Iconergy will develop a plan with the help of the Sheriff at no obligation and present the ideas at a later meeting.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor and Chad Minks, Road Department Mechanic, requested permission to purchase an upgrade to the software used for diesel truck and off highway diagnostics. Mark McGaughey made the motion to purchase Texa Diesel level 2 and 3 software for vehicle diagnostic support at a cost not to exceed \$1,745.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Road & Bridge fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Next, road crossing permits were presented, which were reviewed and approved. Lastly, the Public Works Supervisor presented a Road Sign Grant verification letter from the Kansas Department of Transportation for commissioners' approval. The grant will pay 100% of signage on major collector roads north of Highway 160 in Grant County. The verification letter was reviewed and approved.

Commissioner Shapland reported that Alan Olson from the City of Ulysses approached him regarding the building located at 118 E. Nebraska. The building is used for Alcoholic Anonymous Meetings and the caretakers of the property are asking for help to re-

roof the building. Mr. Olson said the City of Ulysses will pay half the cost and proposed Grant County consider paying half. After discussion, it was the consensus of commissioners to allow bids to be solicited for a new roof.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, talked about having trouble with alcohol at private security events. The Civic Center Manager shared pictures and suggestions on changes that could include higher rates or cancellation of events. It was the consensus of commissioners to update the policies for private security events: increase the deposit; increase security officers from two to four at all events; and shut doors when scheduled event capacity is met. Secondly, bids were presented to get power switched from the Grant County Recreation to the Civic Center for the stock barns. Since separating and re-metering services would be costly, Pioneer Electric recommended separating the cost of the electric usage by setting deduct meters on the Civic Center's portion of the load and recalculate the Grant County Receptions bill based on the information provided by the deduct meters. Janet Stewart make the motion to accept the bid from Goossen Electric for 4 meters at a cost of \$800.00; \$325.00 to install a switch on the pole for the tractor pull; accept the bid from Anixter for 4 single phase 200 amp meter cans at a cost of \$1,421.88, and for this expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Thirdly, Ms. Honstead requested permission to seek bids for repairing or replacing the Civic Center outdoor cooker. Commissioner Shapland said the cooker could not be repaired. After discussion, it was the consensus of commissioners to seek bids to replace the existing cooker. Lastly, the Civic Center Manager reported the water leak had not been found during the project and they were continuing to search for the leak in the Civic Center Complex.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve Sheriff Babcock's request for a pay raise for a Sheriff's Deputy. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Janet Stewart made the motion to renew the Principal Life Insurance current life policy for employees and their families. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The group term life renewal rate is 8% higher than prior year.

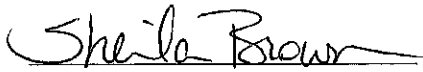
Janet Stewart made the motion to renew the current Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas health insurance plan for 2020. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The new rates will be: employee only \$826.29; employee/child \$1,663.11; employee/spouse \$1,775.33; and family \$2,612.14, which is an increase of 33.7% from prior year.

Discussion was held on the upcoming City/County Appreciation Dinner. It was the consensus of commissioners to give full time employees \$100.00 in Ulysses Bucks; all active part time employees \$50.00 in Ulysses Bucks; and allow \$300.00 for prize drawings.

The email from the County Attorney concerning the ongoing opioid litigation class action suit was considered. It was the consensus of commissioners to stay in the class action suit.

Janet Stewart made the motion to approve minutes for the October 15, 2019 meeting along with claims against the various funds of the County, payroll total \$138,787.37 dated October 23; voucher numbers ending 160133 totaling \$532,091.98. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner adjourned for the day at 12:25 p.m., to meet again in special session at 9:00 a.m. on November 11, 2019 as the board of canvassers.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Kevin Shapland, Chairman