

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and County Clerk present. Commissioner McGaughey led the Pledge of Allegiance and provided prayer.

Marty Long motioned to approve minutes for the January 6, 2023, meeting along with claims against various funds of the County, payroll total \$143,428.97 dated January 11, 2023, and voucher numbers ending 168776 totaling \$503,623.17. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

John Martin nominated Marty Long to be chairman of the commission for 2023. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mark McGaughey motioned to set meeting dates and times for 2023 on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month starting at 9:00 a.m. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Marty Long motioned to designate Grant County Bank, Dream First Bank, and Bank of Ulysses as the official depositories. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

John Martin motioned to designate the Ulysses News as the official newspaper. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mark McGaughey motioned to give the County Treasurer authority to invest County funds to the best interest of Grant County. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

John Martin motioned to appoint the Clerk as Chief Purchasing Agent, Federal & State Withholding Tax Agent, Social Security Agent, Kansas Public Employees Retirement System Agent and Insurance Agent for the County, Public Information Officer, Freedom of Information Officer, and the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Marty Long motioned to approve organizational agenda items 7 through 15. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

7. Appoint Shaun Minks as Public Works Supervisor;
8. Appoint Christopher Burdette as Noxious Weed Director;
9. Appoint Marilea Honstead as Civic Center Building and Grounds Manager;
10. Appoint Denise James as Health Department Administrator;
11. Appoint Dr. Douglas Johnson as County Health Officer;
12. Appoint Jeff Baier as EMS Director/Emergency Management Coordinator;
13. Appoint Dr. Douglas Johnson as Medical Director for EMS;
14. Appoint John Crosby as Fire Chief;
15. Appoint Ludivina Gonzales as Senior Center Director.

Marty Long motioned to set mileage at 65.5 cents per mile when using personal vehicles for county business for the entire year of 2023. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mark McGaughey motioned to approve administrative heads for approving claims against the various funds of the County, item 17, a-n of the organizational agenda. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

- a. James Biddle for Sheriff's Department, and Juvenile Justice funds;
- b. Jeff Baier for Ambulance, Ambulance Equipment funds;
- c. John Crosby for Fire and Fire Equipment funds;
- d. Shaun Minks for Road & Bridge, Special Highway Improvement, Road Machinery, Noxious Weed, and Noxious Weed Equipment funds;
- e. Cindy Wellbrock for Appraiser fund;
- f. Dana McDaniel for Register of Deeds, and R.O.D. Technology fund;
- g. Terri Trotman for Treasurer, Treasurer Technology, Motor Vehicle fund;
- h. Kelly Premer-Chavez for Attorney, Prosecutor Training, and Diversion fund;
- i. Denise James for Health Department fund;
- j. Marilea Honstead for Park Maintenance fund;
- k. Chairman of Fair Board for Fair fund;
- l. Ludivina Gonzales for Senior Center fund;
- m. Chairman of Airport Board for Airport fund;
- n. Sheila Brown for all Other funds.

Board Appointments:

- a. Board on Aging – moved appointments to next commissioner agenda.
- b. Economic Development Board – John Martin made the motion to appoint Rachel Thooft to the Economic Development Board replacing the expiring term of Jeff Pffingsten. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.
- c. Airport Board – moved appointment to next commissioner agenda.
- d. Rodeo Board – consensus of commissioners look into Bylaws of Board before making appointments. Commissioner Long directed the County Clerk to ask for the Ulysses Stampede Rodeo Board Bylaws.

Terri Trotman, County Treasurer, requested signatures from commissioners on County accounts - checking, money market, and two care home memorial accounts. It was the consensus of commissioners to remove Janet Stewart and Kevin Shapland from all County accounts and place Marty Long, John Martin and Mark McGaughey, residing commissioners on all County accounts.

Ginger Anthony, Museum Curator, and Museum Board Members, Susan Britton and Sheryl Deyoe met with commissioners. Discussion was held on repairing the Museum's Old Hotel Edwards. Commissioner Long called Mike Winner and asked him to join the meeting to get clarification on the roofing part of the bid. Mike Winner joined the meeting. After discussion and clarification, John Martin motioned to accept the bid from Winner Construction to repair the hotel balcony at a cost not to exceed \$48,745.00, and for this expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. Next, John Martin motioned to accept the bid from Winner

Construction to remove and replace shingles on the old schoolhouse and hotel at a cost not to exceed \$14,875.00, and for this expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. Lastly, John Martin motioned to accept the bid for painting the hotel at a cost not to exceed \$3,945.00, and for this expense to be paid from the County Building fund. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. Mr. Winner relayed he would start and complete the project this spring. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the project timing.

James Biddle, Sheriff, and Lance Babcock met with commissioners to discuss the possibility of building a new jail. Sheriff Biddle encouraged the commissioners to consider overbuilding and house Department of Justice prisoners along with surrounding county prisoners to generate revenue. Discussion was held on where to build a new jail, number of beds, and researching sales tax as a possible source for dollars to build. The County Clerk was directed to research sales tax; architects who build jails in Kansas; and call City of Ulysses to get on Council agenda. The Sheriff was directed to research possible prisoner housing revenue; housing prisoner contracts; develop a spreadsheet with breakout of cost to house a prisoner; and find counties that have a new jail in last few years. Commissioner Long stated commissioners will have a meeting January 31st at 9:00 am to review collected information.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, relayed Garden City Coop is once again asking to use Fire Station for their Annual Meeting February 14, 2023. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow Garden City Coop use of the facility. Next, the Fire Chief gave an update on the new fire truck. The part to finish the truck will be in next week and will be immediately repaired. As soon as it is finished a third party will inspect the truck and give Grant County a report. Once everything clears, the Fire Chief will go and do a final inspection and train on the fire ladder truck. He requested permission to take two others with him, the Fire Captain, and a Road Department Mechanic. Mark McGaughey motioned to allow John Crosby and two others to travel to New Philadelphia, Ohio to inspect the ladder truck for final purchase at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.00. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mark McGaughey motioned to allow the purchase of a sound system with three horn speakers and a power amplifier from Pro Acoustics at a cost not to exceed \$14,000.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

John Martin motioned to adopt Resolution 23-01, a Resolution authorizing participation in a Rural Opportunity Zone Student Loan Repayment Program. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Shaun Minks, Public Works Supervisor, presented Kansas Department of Transportation Bureau of Maintenance County Agreement to treat noxious weeds, which was reviewed and approved. Next, he relayed MARZ a mixture that goes into cold mix for asphalt is only being made at Klotz Sand. It is \$11.00 a ton and the Road Department needs 1,000 ton. It was the consensus of commissioners to allow the purchase. Next, Mr. Minks gave an update on fees at the Transfer Station and ask if they should continue taking power poles. It is a worry the large volume will fill the pit. After discussion, Commissioner Long directed the Public Works Supervisor to talk to Pioneer Electric and return at a later meeting.

The contribution request letter from Southwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging was reviewed. John Martin motioned to allow an appropriation of \$1,490.00 to Southwest Kansas Area Agency. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Marty Long motioned to approve the purchase of three Lenovo laptop computers for commissioners at a cost of \$4,004.82, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.


Discussion was held on Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital Pension Plan G93195. Centura Health turned the administration of the participants back to Grant County in December of 2022. A Service Agreement was reviewed and approved moving administration of participants to Grant County, Kansas and removing Centura Health.

Commissioner McGaughey left the meeting.

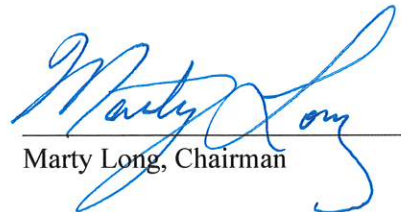
The County employee pay plan schedule was discussed. Marty Long motioned to hire Austin Peters Group to review the pay plan scale and give commissioners a report. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Marty Long motioned to enter into an Agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration for required land rights at the Ulysses Airport at no cost. The land will be used to relocate existing FAA equipment used for backup emergency communications. John Martin seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Commissioners adjourned at 1:00 p.m. to meet again in special session on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Marty Long, Chairman