

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. News Reporter, Tammie Hensley was in attendance. Commissioner Shapland led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Stewart provided prayer.

Jan and Bryson Stejskal, local citizens, met with commissioners. John Crosby, Fire Chief, attended this portion of the meeting. Bryson Stejskal is working on his Eagle Scout Project and requested approval to put a monument honoring first responders in front of the Fire Station. Mr. Stejskal also asked for help with the estimated \$4,000.00 cost of the project. Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve Bryson Stejskal's Eagle Scout Project to place a monument at the Fire Station contingent on funds being available for the project. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Later in the day commissioners discussed contributing to the scout project. Mark McGaughey made the motion to contribute \$500.00 towards the Eagle Scout Project. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Shapland moved the meeting to the Courtroom so social distancing could be maintained with the extra people attending. Those attending this portion of the meeting: Lynette Metcalf, Health Department RN; Lance Babcock, Sheriff; USD 214 School Board Members, Ron Smith, Mike Meyer, Margaret Nightengale and Jamie Kratzer; David Younger, School Superintendent; Chad Krug, Assistant Superintendent; and Katrina Benyshek, RN, School Nurse. Discussion was held on the discrepancies between Kansas Department of Health and Environment Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) quarantine/isolation general guidelines and how Grant County Health Department is administrating the exposures. Ms. Metcalf explained her views and relayed stories that related to the quarantine guidelines. Next, Commissioner Stewart asked if the school was concerned about the commissioners' decision to mandate face masks in Grant County and how that would affect schools. Mr. Meyers commented the school board had not met to discuss it but wondered if the problem was notification of close contacts with COVID positives more than it was the wearing of masks. After discussion, Mr. Younger stated the school would follow Kansas Department of Education guidelines and rules. Commissioner Stewart explained she was answering the Health Department cry for help due to rising positive exposures and that was the reasoning behind her decision to support mandatory wearing of face masks in Grant County. She was not motivated by the school board decision to start school. Thirdly, Sheriff Babcock shared law enforcement received an Attorney General's ruling on issuing violations for COVID-19 misconduct. He stated the only people that can file a case is the local county attorney or the Attorney General's Office, local law enforcement has no authority to enforce COVID-19 violations unless a County Resolution or City Ordinance is put into place. Lastly, Mr. Younger wondered if putting a joint statement to the public from the County and USD 214 addressing safety would help with support from the community. It was the consensus of the group to develop a letter.

Recommendations were reviewed for a new Fair Board Member. Janet Stewart made motion to appoint Jennifer Hegwood to replace Lorrie Munsell on the Fair Board. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Janet Stewart made the motion to approve the wages of a full-time jailer at the Sheriff Department. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to appoint Ludivina Gonzales to finish the term for retiree LaVonne Michael and reappoint Bill Stewart to serve a three-year term on the Southwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging Sub-Region Council. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Janet Stewart made the motion to approve minutes for the August 5, August 10, August 13 and August 14, 2020 meetings along with claims against the various funds of the County, payroll total \$147,770.92 dated August 12, 2020; voucher numbers ending 162327 totaling \$272,718.35. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, presented a quote to replace ductwork in Walker Auditorium to resolve sound issues. Commissioner McGaughey directed the Civic Center Manager to seek another bid before commissioners would consider the request. Next, pictures of the east side of the Civic Center Building were presented showing damage to the foyer. Ms. Honstead requested permission to seek bids for replacing the entire foyer. After discussion it was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Civic Center Manager to seek bids for both replacing or repairing the entry foyer.

Commissioners considered two copier bids for the Appraiser Office. Janet Stewart made the motion to approve the purchase of a MX-B476W copier from Southern Office Supply at a cost not to exceed \$3,095.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. Kevin Shapland seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Sheila Mason, citizen, met with commissioners. Kevin Shapland made the motion to recess into executive session for 30 minutes with Ms. Mason to discuss an employee's conduct under the justification of personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 30 minutes the meeting continued in open session with no action taken.

Commissioners adjourned at 11:45 a.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on September 1, 2020.

  
Sheila Brown, County Clerk



  
Kevin Shapland, Chairman