

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 McGaughey provided prayer.

The monthly department head meeting. Those in attendance: Cindy Wellbrock, County Appraiser; Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Terri Trotman, County Treasurer; Lance Babcock, Sheriff; and Paul Fort, EMS Director.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, presented a road crossing permit which was reviewed and approved.

Kayla Janko, Cimarron Basin Community Corrections Director, requested commissioners appoint an advisory board member. Janet Stewart made the motion to reappoint Lance Babcock to serve until his retirement; and to appoint James Biddle upon the retirement of Sheriff Babcock to fill the remainder of the term on the Cimarron Basin Community Corrections Board. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to enter into a Cash Farm Lease Agreement with Cecil Wright for the E/2 of SE/4 of Section 25, Township 28 South, Range 37 West, 76.64 total acres. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Janet Stewart in observance of the Presidential General Election proclaimed Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> as Election Worker Appreciation Day, thanking all workers on their selfless personal commitment to protect the right of every citizen to cast a secret ballot. Mark McGaughey seconded the Proclamation, and it was acknowledged unanimously.

Commissioners discussed the abandoned house and unusable bus at the old Fire Station. Fire fighters used them for training several years ago and then abandoned the site when they moved to the new station. It was the consensus of commissioners to ask the Fire Chief to clean out the house and move the bus by the 30<sup>th</sup> of November; and after the house is cleaned out, ask the Public Works Supervisor to have his crew haul the house to the Transfer Station and destroy it.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to enter into an Airport Consultant Agreement with H.W. Lochner at a cost of \$60,000.00 for engineering design services to install a AWOS System and Primary Wind Cone, and for the monies to come from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Division of Aviation Grant Funds and US Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration Cares Act Funds. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

After discussion on the County Attorney billing, Janet Stewart made the motion to approve minutes for the October 20, 2020 meeting along with claims against the various funds of the County; payroll total \$138,671.84 dated October 21, and voucher numbers ending 162883 totaling \$593,961.06. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator, relayed they had been doing the COVID-19 testing for Genesis Health since staff had been in quarantine due to one employee testing positive. They were notified Genesis Health will start testing again on November 5, 2020. Next, the Health Department Administrator reported she nor the Director of Nursing will be able to use their vacation by the end of year and requested being paid for the time. Ms. Irvin stated she was placing a help wanted ad in the Ulysses News for a temporary employee to contact trace COVID cases and hoped that would help with the workload. Commissioners will take the request under consideration.


Steve Brom, Silver Haired Legislator, requested commissioners sign a document saying he showed up and explained his plan for a transportation bus for medical appointments. It was the consensus of commissioners to sign the document. Next, Mr. Brom requested the Road Department do maintenance on the bus. Commissioner Stewart explained the County had enough work eternally without taking outside maintenance work.

Robert Moore, Moore Agency, went over Principal dental and vision group rates and asked commissioners if they had any question about the plan. He relayed they would start open enrollment in two weeks.

Lance Babcock, Sheriff, requested permission to carry one week of vacation time to the next calendar year for two employees hired after August, per the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. Kevin Shapland made the motion to grant special permission to Craig Hampton and Derrick Kester to carry over five days of vacation to 2021 as provided by the policy manual. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Julie Yarmer with Freedom Claims Management met with commissioners to answer any questions before the County decided on employee health insurance plan. After discussion, Mark McGaughey made the motion accept Freedom Claims Managements Proposal for third party administration of a Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Health Insurance Plan starting January 1, 2021. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 11:25 a.m., to meet again in special session at 9:00 a.m. on November 10, 2020 as the Board of Canvassers.

  
Sheila Brown, County Clerk



  
Kevin Shapland, Chairman