

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

Margaret Obholz and Troy Unruh, IMPACT Ulysses Consultants, met with commissioners. Tyson Flores, Kim Flores, Krista Anderson, Judy Keusler, and Ken Keusler joined this portion of the meeting. Ms. Obholz announced Tyson Flores, Junior at Ulysses High School was selected to serve on the Kansas State Resist Youth Council representing western Kansas. The 13-person youth-led, statewide movement empowers students to educate their peers about the dangers of tobacco use. Next, Mr. Unruh, reviewed drawings and explained an Impact Ulysses project to install an outside fitness court in the Swimming Pool Park.

Spreadsheets were reviewed on estimates for premium pay for county employees through the American Relief Plan Act (ARPA) funding. The calculations were based on a prior decision to consider nineteen pay periods in 2021. It was consensus of commissioners to allow anyone considered full time or year-round part time and employed with Grant County on December 31, 2021, to receive premium pay dollars. After reviewing the different levels of pay the discussion was tabled until next meeting.

Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager, joined the meeting and requested an executive session. Mark McGaughey made motion to recess into executive session with the Civic Center Manager for 10 minutes under the justification of matters of non-elected personnel. Janet Stewart seconded motion and it carried unanimously. After 10 minutes meeting continued in open session. Commissioner Shapland informed the County Clerk the Civic Center would be hiring a new part time employee starting February 23, 2022, and the employee would become fulltime with the start of summer. Next, the Civic Center Manager requested permission to replace cabinets used for fair displays. It was consensus of commissioners to allow bids.

Kevin Shapland made motion to give two employees raises at the Civic Center per recommendation of the Civic Center Manager. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made motion to approve minutes for February 1, 2022, meeting along with claims against various funds of the County: payroll total \$140,712.57 dated February 9, 2022, and voucher numbers ending 166335 totaling \$293,089.96. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on an email concerning President Biden's executive order to commit to conserving at least 30% of land and water by year 2030. The email urged Grant County to adopt a resolution opposing the federal governments 30x30 land preservation goal. The clerk was asked to research how much property the federal government owned in Grant County.

A letter from the Grant County Fair Board relaying Gabe Rodriquez moved out of county and a recommendation for new member was considered. Kevin Shapland made motion to accept

Gabe Rodriquez's resignation and to appoint Kevin Hecht to the Fair Board effective immediately. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to approve the pay plan wage increase for a Deputy Clerk as presented by the County Clerk. Mark McGaughey seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Jeff Baier, EMS Director/EM Coordinator, and John Crosby, Fire Chief, voiced concerns on local bids for the Ambulance and Fire Truck that were wrecked in the December 15, 2021, dirt storm. They requested permission to take them back to the manufacturer for an estimate of repairs. It was the consensus of commissioners if the insurance would allow it, they would consent to the request. Lastly, the EMS Director was instructed to get bids on a new ambulance. The ambulance would be considered through ARPA funding after April 1, 2022.

Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator, was contacted via phone regarding the inventory turned in by his department. After discussion the inventory list was accepted.

Kevin Shapland made motion to approve disposal of obsolete: electronic poll books, a flatbed scanner, paper burster, and discarded time system server from the County Clerk's Office. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, and Chris Burdette, Noxious Weed Director met with commissioners. Bids were presented for 2022 road materials. Kevin Shapland made motion to approve a bid from Huber Sand for approximately 3,000 tons of ½ inch crushed rock at \$21.00 a ton. Janet Stewart seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. Next, the Public Works Supervisor presented two road crossing permits, which were reviewed and approved. Lastly, the Noxious Weed Director presented the State Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report and Director Certification; and the Noxious Weed Program Management Plan, which were reviewed and approved.

A letter from KONE Elevators was reviewed. Janet Stewart made motion accept the cost increase of 4.78% from KONE Elevators to service the Courthouse elevator. Kevin Shapland seconded motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to adjourn at 11:15 a.m. and reconvene at the Grant County Health Department. Kevin Shapland seconded motion, and it carried unanimously. Denise James, Health Department Administrator, and Ludi Gonzales, Senior Center Director, joined commissioners for a tour of the facilities. Discussion was held on space needed by the Health Department to provide Women and Children's Services and get them out of the hallway. It was the consensus of commissioners to review space needs at the next meeting.

Commissioners adjourned at 12:18 p.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

Sheila Brown
Sheila Brown, County Clerk



Mark McGaughey
Mark McGaughey, Chairman