

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. Commissioner Long led the Pledge of Allegiance. Media representatives were: Laci McCarter, Ulysses News; and Kellie Euliss, KULY Radio. Also present were Jessica Akers, County Attorney, and Rita Gee, County Treasurer.

Linda McHenry made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 2 and the April 8, 2013 meetings along with the claims against the various funds of the county. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Jessica Akers, County Attorney, met with commissioners. Commissioner Long requested Ms. Akers look into logistics and matters associated with the sale of a hospital such as a bidding process and bond payoff. The County Attorney agreed to investigate the request and return with information on May 21st. Commissioner Long further explained the county has not decided to sell the hospital but was exploring the option.

The commissioners unanimously approved Cary Binney's request to have the National Day of Prayer on the Courthouse steps May 2nd.

Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator, discussed the inspection of the County radio tower that holds the Road Department and Fire Department repeaters. It was the consensus of commissioners to get quotes for repairs needed to bring the tower into compliance.

JD Neufeld, Civic Center Manager, presented bids for a new mower. Mr. Neufeld will dispose of two mowers on the internet auction site, Purple Wave. Linda McHenry made the motion to purchase a Z920M Commercial ZTrak John Deere Mower at a cost of \$9,897.65, and for this expense to be taken from the special equipment fund. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Discussion was held on an alternative method to repair rusted metal on the outside of the Civic Center building. It was the consensus of the commissioners to have Mr. Neufeld request bids on wainscot for the outer building.

John Alig, Economic Development Director, and Tom Fuhrmann, County Appraiser, met to review the proposed Neighborhood Revitalization Plan and make decisions on the criteria for eligibility. After 45 minutes the County Appraiser, County Treasurer, and County Attorney left the meeting and will return after lunch to continue working on the plan. Mr. Alig told commissioners in an update on Economic Development activities, they had set aside \$50,000 to improve store fronts and each business can apply for up to \$5,000.

Marieta Hauser, Chamber of Commerce Director, requested permission for Carson and Barnes Circus to set up on the show grounds at the Civic Center, May 12 and 13th. A clause in the contract addressed inclement weather and the County must agree to allow the Circus to set up on asphalt or cement, if needed. It was the consensus of the commissioners to provide suitable show grounds. Ms. Hauser thanked the commissioners for the helpful staff and Civic Center facility during Spring Fling.

Sheila Ellis, Stillwater Technical Solutions presented information on the plan to prevent the listing of the Lesser Prairie Chicken as a threatened species. Stillwater Technical Solutions believes this listing will over

time, burden this region and destroy economy. Ms. Ellis proposed a 3-month strategy to build the coalition of counties, establish a conduit to proactively contribute to the Range Wide Conservation Plan process, and prepare a comprehensive Land Use Coordination Plan to be adopted by participating counties. The Stillwater Technical Solutions group proposed a not-to-exceed budget to fund implementation and each county is asked to contribute \$785 per month for 3-months. Linda McHenry made the motion to participate with Stillwater Technical Solutions in this endeavor. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

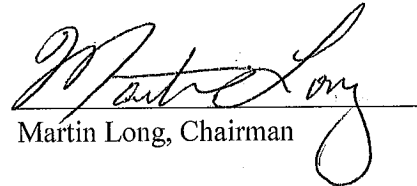
The commissioners recessed for lunch with the City of Ulysses Officials at Park View Assisted Living. Those attending from the city were: Mayor, John Battin; Council Members, Janet Stewart, Tim McCauley, Jerry Jo Deckert; City Clerk, Margaret Perez; and Interim Administrator/Police Chief, Alan Olson. Discussion was held on the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan. The Mayor also discussed the billing from the County to the City of Ulysses for shared services. The City requested they receive the budget turned in by the Sheriff to help them with budgeting for the dispatchers.

After lunch the County Appraiser, County Treasurer, and Economic Development Director returned to continue working on the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan. Commissioner Long conveyed a draft plan needed to be ready by the next City Council Meeting.

The commissioners adjourned at 3:05 p.m., to meet again in regular session on May 7, 2013.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Martin Long, Chairman