

The Board of County Commissioners met in special session at 8:00 a.m. with all members and the County Clerk present. The purpose of the meeting was to review proposals for partnering of Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital; and to finalize 2015 budget requests. Media representatives present: Lydia Kautz, Ulysses News.

In attendance for the hospital presentation was: Jeff Sommers and Kristina Hahn from Stroudwater Associates; Hospital Board of Trustees, Mary Moyer, Mike Brewer, David Higgs; Art Frable, Hospital Administrator; Rita Gee, County Treasurer; and Janet Stewart, City Council Member. David Winkle and Jonathan Kendall, Attorneys with Nelson Mullins, joined the meeting by conference call.

At 8.05 a.m. Linda McHenry made the motion to recess into executive session with Stroudwater Associates, the Hospital Board of Trustees, and the Hospital Administrator, for consultation with Nelson Mullins, which is deemed attorney client privileged, for 90 minutes. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 90 minutes the meeting resumed in open session. Linda McHenry made the motion to lengthen the executive session for an additional 30 minutes. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 30 minutes the meeting continued in open session, with no action taken.

Commissioners took a short recess and resumed at 10:15 a.m. with Steve Rice and Rod Hay, Auditors with Hay, Rice and Associates. Janet Stewart also rejoined the meeting.

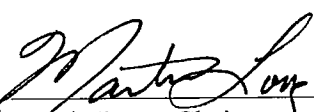
Auditors discussed the payback of ad valorem taxes to ExxonMobil/XTO. It was decided to budget the expense with the 2015 budget. Auditors advised the commissioners to move monies in the Oil and Gas Depletion Trust fund to the General fund per Senate Bill 206. Commissioners decided the fund will stay separate for now.

Commissioners reviewed budget amounts requested by all departments and entities along with their five year plans. The capital outlay in some departments moved to the special equipment fund. The decision was made to lower the budget requests of the County Attorney, Clerk of the Court, Sheriff's Department, Fair, and Road Department. The appropriation requests from the Conservation District and Museum were lowered. So payroll obligations would be met, the decision was made to increase the Senior Citizen budget. The Weather Modification Program was not funded. All remaining budgets were left as proposed by the various departments.

Linda McHenry made the motion to adjourn at 3:00 p.m., to meet again in regular session on August 5, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. Carl Higgs seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.


Sheila Brown, County Clerk




Martin Long, Chairman