

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

Mark McGaughey made the motion to approve Sheriff Babcock's request for a Deputy's starting wage. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The monthly department head meeting was held with the following in attendance: Terri Trotman, County Treasurer; Dana McDaniel, Register of Deeds; Lance Babcock, Sheriff; Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor; Mari Honstead, Civic Center Manager; John Crosby, Fire Chief; Don Button, Emergency Management Coordinator; LaVonne Michael, Senior Center Director; Paul Fort, EMS Director; and Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator. Commissioners expressed their appreciation for all the hard work and dedication of all county employees especially the emergency services.

John Crosby, Fire Chief, met with commissioners. Mark McGaughey made the motion to recess into executive session for 15 minutes with the Fire Chief to discuss an employee medical issue under the justification of personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. After 15 minutes the meeting continued in open session with no action taken.

Paul Fort, EMS Director, met with commissioners to discuss patient non-emergency ambulance transfers. The EMS Director explained he didn't have enough staff to accommodate non-emergency transfers out of town and would prefer Midwest from Scott City, Kansas be called when Critical Care Transport (CCT) was unavailable. He further stated Grant County could make money on short distance transfers if he had the staff to make them. Commissioner McGaughey stated taxpayer dollars pay the wages and keep the lights on, so his opinion was EMS should take transfers if CCT isn't available. The EMS Director was encouraged to recruit more part time EMT's if staffing is the issue. Commissioner Shapland counter argued his worry was 911 calls, the ambulance shouldn't jump on everything that comes through because the budget wouldn't allow it. Also, he voiced it isn't the county's problem after patients are delivered to the hospital. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Stewart stated her opinion was Grant County EMS should transport to Garden City since it is affiliated with Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital but was against transfers to any other hospital for non-emergency patients. Commissioner Shapland said he had visited with the hospital prior to the meeting and they have plans to expand their emergency room services. He directed the County Clerk to set up a joint meeting with the hospital administration, commissioners, CCT, and the EMS Director to try and work out a plan of action on transfers.

Mark McGaughey made the motion to allow Ross of Ulysses to repair a freezer at the Senior Center at a cost not to exceed \$1,545.00, and for this expense to be paid from the Special Equipment fund. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed the email and agreement proposal from Darrell Phillips, DPI Benefits Representative for Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital's (BWMGCH) Retirement Plan. Kevin Shapland made the motion to terminate Cambridge Investment Research Advisors managed account services for BWMGCH employee retirement plans; and to affiliate with ProNvest, Incorporated to manage account services for BWMGCH employee retirement plans. Janet Stewart seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The billing for the water project two meters from the City of Ulysses was reviewed and Commissioners Shapland reported he had spoke with Ruben Flores, City Water Superintendent and the bill would be changed to reflect no labor and backhoe use. Commissioner Shapland tabled the issue until the bill was updated.

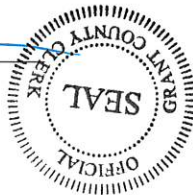
Toni Irvin, Health Department Administrator, reported the Grant County Health Department would no longer have a Child Licensing Supervisor. The Kansas Department of Public Health (KDPH) decided to incorporate several counties and Grant County will fall under Ford County's Child Licensing Supervisor. The Health Department Administrator stated the KDPH felt the counties were not complying with the requirements needed to fulfill the grant funding. Commissioner Stewart requested the Health Department Administrator appeal the decision as we were more inclined to take better care of our children's welfare. Ms. Irvin stated it was not an option.

Randy McCauley, Public Works Supervisor, requested permission to seek quotes for three new computers with Microsoft Windows 10 Pro on them. Mr. McCauley relayed he received a letter stating Microsoft Windows 7 will no longer be supported. After discussion on updating computers, it was the consensus of commissioners to allow the Public Works Supervisor to seek quotes for new computers.

Janet Stewart made the motion to approve minutes for the November 19, 2019 meeting along with claims against the various funds of the County, payroll total \$139,380.44 dated November 20; voucher numbers ending 160346 totaling \$277,057.96. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Kevin Shapland made the motion to adjourn for the day at 10:50 a.m., to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on December 17, 2019. Mark McGaughey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

  
Sheila Brown, County Clerk



  
Kevin Shapland, Chairman