

Chairman Roy Ballard called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were Ben Fox, Paul Hodge, Mac Obourn, Preston Evenson, County Counselor Paul Dean and County Clerk Kathy Robison.

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners opened the floor to allow those in attendance to voice their concerns/opinions regarding the Revenue Neutral Rate/budget hearing. Several Greenwood County residents voiced their opposition to the rate increase. Commissioners reassured the public that they are listening and doing the best they can do to keep the RNR rate as low as conceivably possible.

Evenson moved to approve Resolution 23-13, authorizing the RNR Rate for 5 mills for Rural Fire. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0. (JE 23-21)

Fox moved to approve Resolution 23-12, authorizing the RNR for 81.055 mills Greenwood County. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0. (JE 23-22)

Ballard moved to approve a five-minute executive session to discuss legal matters. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened at 9:54 a.m. No decisions were made.

Obourn moved to approve a ten-minute break. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Fox moved to approve August 21, 2023 Minutes as written. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Road and Bridge report:

- There is a 'pre-pour' meeting for the Tadpole Creek Bridge project today at 1:30 p.m.; once poured, per KDOT, it will need to cure for at least 30 days
- Chrisman is looking into a different scrap buyer for the metal at the landfill
- It was reported that 7th Street Bridge is in good shape except for a few necessary repairs

Evenson moved to approve an option 2 for bridge repair in the amount of \$34,331 with the stipulation that the County furnish the fill and labor for digging for the project. Obourn seconded. Motion carried. (JE 23-23)

Fox moved to approve a five-minute executive session with Road and Bridge employee John Schouten to discuss personnel. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened at 10:37 a.m. No decisions were made.

Fox moved to appoint John Schouten as Interim Road and Bridge Supervisor. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Commissioners will review Schouten's salary.

Commissioners reviewed Treasurer's report.

Fox moved to approve Resolution 23-14; GWCH Sales Tax Revenue Bond. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0. (JE 23-24)

Evenson moved to approve special payables in the amount of \$573.33. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Fire Chief Glen Campbell informed commissioners that he needs to order a starter and a radiator for a fire truck in the amount of \$2,350.62.

Evenson moved to approve a starter and a radiator in the amount of \$2,350.52. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Evenson moved to approve the purchase of tires for Eureka Lake's fire truck in the amount \$1,650. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

It was noted that the firehouse in Fall River is in need of repair as the columns are twisted and pulling away from the structure. The city of Fall River has received a bid for repair in the estimated amount of \$7,500. A fundraiser to raise those funds was mentioned. Commissioner Hodge suggested that the county pitch in if the fundraiser doesn't raise the entire amount needed. Following a brief discussion, the decision was made send letters to the surrounding residents regarding the situation in hopes of community involvement of raising the necessary funds. The Fire Department is slated to take on this task.

Ambulance Director Brian Mongeau presented employee status changes for the following employees;

Evenson moved to approve a pay increase for Johnathan Andrews; as Andrews is now an entry level EMT, he will move \$14.79 per hour to \$16.50 per hour.

Fox moved to approve moving SunKoda Ledford from part-time employment with the EMS Department to full-time employment. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Emergency Management Director Levi Vinson provided commissioners with a brief update regarding the mapping project he was tasked with. Vinson noted that County Counselor Paul Dean is looking into the matter and he has not heard back from the Corps of Engineers.

Commissioner Fox asked Vinson to look into an inquiry from Federal Surplus. Vinson agreed to respond to said inquiry.

Vinson informed commissioners that the State of Kansas will mandate AES compliant radios beginning January 1st, 2024. The current equipment will still have functionality after the January 1 date as they are grandfathered in. Greenwood County will have to purchase AES compliant radios moving forward. These mandated radios range anywhere from \$7,000 to \$12,000 per radio.

Commissioner Obourn moved to adjourn at 11:07 a.m.. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

ATTEST: Kathy Robinson
Kathy Robinson, County Clerk

Roy Ballard
Roy Ballard, Chairman

Ben Fox
Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

Paul Hodge
Paul Hodge, Member

Malcolm Obourn
Malcolm Obourn, Member
Preston Evenson
Preston Evenson, Member