

Commissioner Meeting
August 21, 2017

Chairman Ben Fox called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were, Brian Hind, Kathy Robison, County Clerk, and Paul Dean, County Counselor. Paul Hodge was not present.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve August 8, 2017 minutes. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve August 14, 2017 minutes. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor, mentioned an approach on U Road north of 54 Highway, that crews are going to put on a 20 foot slab with extensions to keep gravel from washing out; Lowe said last week they sent the skidsteer to be looked at because the cutter isn't working right to cut trees; Commissioner Hind asked if a road in Fall River is going to get chip/seal this time. Lowe told commissioners no. Robert Graham, Fall River Volunteer Fire Chief, presented pictures of CC50 and 25th Road that has pot holes during the Road and Bridge report. Lowe said he was going to tear that strip by the highway and noted that a large part of the problem is that it doesn't have a base. Graham also had pictures of a bridge in that area. Commissioner Hind and Fox discussed various options for fixing the issues, then decided to let Paul Hodge check out the 2.5 mile section, as it is in his district. Commissioner Hind asked if we have been given funds for the September 2016 event and mentioned that they had told Amber Rayburn, Road and Bridge Office Professional, to deposit \$50,000 in the Special Bridge Fund. Levi Vinson, Noxious Weed/Emergency Preparedness Director, said they have received everything, in an approximate amount of \$130,000 and are in appeal for approximately \$20,000 more. Commissioner Hind said they want \$50,000 in Special Bridge and to remember to get the funds out of Federal Funds Exchange because there is approximately \$90,000 and put it in Special Bridge (Line 142). Commissioner Hind commented that the \$50,000 could also be put in Special Bridge (Line 142). Commissioner Hind asked if Michael Marris was ever going to come and look at Ladd Bridge. Lowe said he talked to Road and Bridge Office Professional, Janet Turner, and she said she wasn't able to get him. Commissioner Fox said we need to keep trying.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve payables, dated 8-21-17, in the amount of \$810.46. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The commissioners reviewed a General Liability Insurance for Mojo Adventures 8/18/17-8/20/17.

The commissioners reviewed a Certificate of Liability for A Home Expert, LLC Roofin Dogs.

The commissioners reviewed a fee report.

The commissioners viewed the weekly Treasurer's Report.

Commissioner Fox mentioned that Prairie Land Partners loaned the county two gators and a tractor.

Sheriff Heath Samuels said that one of their office trucks hit a deer recently and Undersheriff Randy Cox said they are working with the insurance company to resolve the problem. Cox also said the truck that was damaged is the oldest truck in the fleet.

Commissioner Hind asked what the difference is between a Class A CDL and Class B CDL. Sheriff Samuels said it had to do with the weight of the vehicle you can drive.

Levi Vinson, Noxious Weed/Emergency Preparedness Director, presented a Local Disaster Declaration (EP-17-02) for signature pertaining to the August 16th storms that caused wind damage and left many in Eureka without electricity. Vinson said the state would tie this event to other events from August 3rd until now, and with all of the storm events that have hit Kansas during that timeframe there is a chance that they will be able to meet the state threshold of \$4.2 million. He added for our county we are not out a lot of money but if we meet the threshold the money would help pay the wages of employees who set up barricades. The city of Eureka and USD 389 received more damage and would also be eligible for funding to help pay for debris removal, personnel, and would pay for the tonnage of debris removed. The funding could be used to pay out-of-pocket expenses associated with this storm. Commissioner Fox signed the declaration and asked if USD 389 had heard about their roof damage. Vinson said, as of Friday, they were waiting for a structural engineer. Vinson said from the damage he has seen, he thinks the county will easily exceed the \$23,000 threshold that we are required to meet.

Commissioner Hind asked Commissioner Fox about the internet issues the courthouse has been dealing with. Commissioner Fox verified that the four Department Heads present had received a copy from AT&T regarding upgrading the current internet system with AT&T fiber optic. Donna Olson, Treasurer, asked if the state was paying for the Sheriff Departments' recent fiber optic. Sheriff Samuels said it is paid out of their E911 fund. Olson asked if the courthouse could splice into the Sheriff Departments fiber optic connection before it goes into their security system. Commissioner Fox said he didn't know if that was possible because they are tied into their 911 system. Undersheriff Cox said the AT&T technician he talked to said no because the technician said they had to have a whole new line because of a state mandate. The current internet system, with Mediacom, being used at the courthouse serves seven departments and has a 50 meg connection. Fox continued by saying the 50 meg is down and 5 megabits up and it costs the county approximately \$315 per month. Commissioner Fox discussed the different plans offered by AT&T for fiber optic. County Appraiser, Jami Clark, reported that our current system is down a lot. Commissioner Fox said he knows about that issue, but asked if the Department Heads' budgets could afford \$200 per month to upgrade to fiber optic. Treasurer, Donna Olson, said she thought she could afford the \$200 a month out of her MV (Motor Vehicle) fund. County Appraiser, Jami Clark, and County Clerk, Kathy Robison, said they did not have the budget for \$200 per month. Commissioner Fox asked County Register of Deeds, Marsha Ramsey, if she uses the internet much. Ramsey reported, mostly for email, but she would be glad to try to pay some money out of her budget for fiber optic. Levi Vinson, Noxious Weed/Emergency Management Director, said he would be glad to pay for fiber optic here too. Commissioner Fox said another possibility would be to split our connection and allow District Court to use it, as well, to help pay on the monthly bill. Commissioner Fox suggested that they not select anything less than 100 megabits. County Counselor, Paul Dean, and Undersheriff Randy Cox, discussed that District Court is required to use internet service for a lot of their day-to-day duties, like the rest of the courthouse departments. Commissioner Fox asked how many departments we would have if we counted District Court. County Counselor, Paul Dean, said eight, which also would count Emergency Preparedness/Noxious Weed Director, County Attorney, and Maintenance Department along with the regular four departments. County Clerk, Kathy Robison asked if the upstairs would count as two departments because of District and Magistrate Court using the service. The monthly cost includes installation, but does not include tax. AT & T wants a three year contract signed, but Commissioner Fox planned to see if the term could be shortened to 12-24 months if it is figured at a locked-in-rate. Fox also consulted with Steve Prasko, of Advantage Computers and Prasko said the amount and terms AT&T quoted are not unusual. After more discussion, commissioner Hind asked the four department heads present what they would be able to pay monthly for fiber optic. County Clerk, Kathy Robison; Appraiser, Jami Clark;

Register of Deeds, Marsha Ramsey; and Treasurer, Donna Olson all agreed they would be able to pay \$100 per month. Commissioner Hind said he thought they should move forward with obtaining fiber optic with AT & T and they should get the 150 meg connection. Commissioner Fox said he would contact AT & T and try to shorten the contract with them to 12-24 months. Sheriff Samuels said he would email Commissioner Fox a contact he worked with.

Commissioners decided to make corrections to the Greenwood County Handbook and revisit this issue before making a decision.

A letter was submitted to the Eureka Herald last week, by former Commissioner Stanley Skaer, in regard to the quote presented earlier this month to replace 24 windows that open in the courthouse. Skaer was commissioner approximately nine years ago and was concerned that the proposed new windows will be left open, reducing efficiency and safety. Commissioners Fox and Hind explained their concerns are more about the safety of employees in the event of an emergency, i.e. a fire. Currently no windows in the courthouse open from the inside. The letter mentioned that a window in the Appraiser's office opened for ventilation while making maps, but Appraiser, Jami Clark, confirmed that they did not get a window that opens. Vic Delpine, former Maintenance Supervisor and current Consultant noted how security issues have changed since the last windows were installed. Commissioner Hind and Fox have decided to wait until the end of the year to make a decision on the windows until they know more about the cost of a new courthouse chiller unit.

Vic Delpine, former Maintenance Supervisor and current Consultant informed the commissioners that next week Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday all of the contractors that are going to do the chiller are going to come to the courthouse to go through the building so they can make a bid. Delpine said he would let the commissioners know which day the contractors choose to be here, in case the commissioners decide to come.

County Clerk, Kathy Robison, asked Sheriff Heath Samuels about the removal of the Mactrometer metal detector at the top of the stairs in the courthouse. Sheriff Samuels said it was removed after several court employees noted their concerns about not being able to see around the machine when coming up the stairs. Samuels added that when court is in session, a deputy uses a metal detecting wand for individuals coming up the stairs. Samuels added he would like to put the Mactrometer metal detector back, and is looking for different options.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve paying the 2018 SCKEDD membership dues in the amount of \$1,137.13 and signing a resolution pledging participation by the counties in the South Central Kansas Economic Development District, Inc. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried. SCKEDD (South Central Kansas Economic Development District) helps with beneficial projects for public and private sector.


Commissioner Hind made a motion for a 10 minute executive session for personnel to discuss the performance of employees with Paul Dean, County Counselor. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried. An additional 5 minutes was added to the executive session.

No decision was made.


At 10:48 a.m. Commissioner Hind made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:

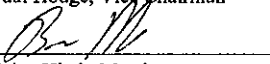
August 24th -- GW Co. Hosp. Board Mtg @ 5:30p.m. -- GW Co. Hosp. Conference Room
August 28th-- Next Commission Meeting -- 9:00a.m.
September 4th -- Courthouse Closed in observance of Labor Day
September 5th -- Next Commission Meeting -- 9:00 a.m.



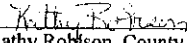
Ben Fox, Chairman



Paul Hodge, Vice Chairman



Brian Hind, Member

ATTEST: 

Kathy Robison, County Clerk