

Commissioner Meeting
August 28, 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, Paul Hodge, Kathy Robison, County Clerk, and Paul Dean, County Counselor.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve August 21, 2017 minutes. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor, reported the crews are finishing a bridge approach on 160th and U Roads; hauling rock north of 240th on P Road just north of town; going to start hauling rock on 220 going towards 99; will be trimming trees east of Piedmont for someone that is putting a doublewide in; Pete Titus contacted Lowe about APAC doing main street in Virgil. Commissioner Hind said that yes they are going to do it. Lowe said he would call Titus and talk to him about it. Amber Woodie, Road and Bridge, Office Professional, discussed the easements for the Norwegian Church Bridge project. Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve the purchase of the easements for the Norwegian Church Bridge project. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. Woodie also reported that they have been working on the Federal Funds Exchange and it's almost done, they are waiting on Michael Marris to come up with a couple more projects to collect as much money as possible. Commissioner Fox asked how Ladd Bridge was coming along. Lowe said he spoke to Michael Marris and Mitchell Construction is supposed to do the work on the Ladd Bridge project; however, they have been detained for personal reasons, but are still planning on doing the project as soon as possible. Commissioner Fox said that one thing they need to do at Road and Bridge is safety meetings and they need to do them quarterly. Commissioner Fox asked County Clerk, Kathy Robison, to give Amber Woodie, Road and Bridge, Office Professional, the person to contact with our worker's compensation insurance company for information on free programs they provide on safety meetings. Commissioner Hodge asked about a low water bridge at Fall River. Lowe said he checked it and it was fine. Woodie said she talked to Jeff Walker regarding the Solid Waste 5-year plan. Walker said it was due back in January, but he would give Road and Bridge 6 months to get it done. Woodie mentioned she knew there was supposed to be a Solid Waste committee. County Clerk, Kathy Robison, told her that she has that information. Commissioner Hodge said he went and looked at a road at CC25 and it's a little rough, needs some tree trimming, and the bridge isn't really very wide to get a combine through there. Lowe agreed, said there are quite a few cattle trucks that drive through. Commissioner Fox asked about the 850 John Deere Bulldozer that is needing repair. Lowe discussed the equipment issues briefly. Then Commissioner Fox said he had visited with the mechanic regarding the bulldozer. The mechanic said the equipment has enough hours on it and the best solution would be to rebuild the engine and that would cost approximately \$15,000. No decisions were made.

The commissioners viewed the weekly Treasurer's Report.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve payroll in the amount of \$93,044.66. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve payables in the amount of \$309,720.51. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Jami Clark, Appraiser asked the commissioners permission to attend two conferences. Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve Appraiser Jami Clark attending both conferences. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Undersheriff Randy Cox presented commissioners with a bid for two 2016 Dodge "special service" pick-ups from Davis-Moore Wichita. Cox explained he wasn't planning on purchasing trucks at this time but the dealership ordered them for promotional purposes and is selling them at a discounted rate of \$29,320 each and they are already outfitted with some of the equipment and features Cox would normally have to pay extra for. Cox also mentioned that we have a suburban to trade in valued at \$11,000, which would make the total of the two trucks \$47,640. Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve the purchase of the two 2016 Dodge pick-ups from Davis Moore Wichita for the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. Cox also mentioned that next year he will want to replace the K9 vehicle, but may be able to get 50% of the funds reimbursed by a USDA grant.

Brian Mongeau, EMS Director, said he would like to talk to the county auditor regarding the year-end audit. Mongeau said he spoke to their computer company and was told they can get specific reports, so he was wanting to know exactly what was needed to keep them from hand writing documents for the audit, since it's already in the system. Also Mongeau asked Commissioner Fox about an off-site storage. Commissioner Fox said that you have to have decent internet, which is difficult. There was some discussion about different options. Tammy Seimears, with Madison News said she would send him information on the backup system they use.

At 9:35 a.m. Commissioner Fox announced it was time for the Greenwood County Budget Hearing. No one attended the budget hearing to contest it. Commissioner Fox made a motion to close the Budget Hearing. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. Commissioner Hind made a motion to adopt the 2018 Greenwood County Budget, as presented. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Fox mentioned he was supposed to receive a contract from the A T & T representative for fiber optic internet in the courthouse but he has not received it.

The commissioners discussed allowing employees faced with certain unforeseen circumstances to "cash out" their vacation and sick leave time pay calculated as if the employee were retiring. Commissioners stressed that this would be on a case-by-case basis and noted several reasons including an emergency or "act of God". County Counselor, Paul Dean, presented a copy of the new provision for the commissioners to review. Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve a new policy provision allowing this for employees. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sheriff Heath Samuels mentioned a concern he has with the updated sick leave policy. The previous limit was 720 hours and Samuels has at least a couple of employees who are at that limit. The new sick leave policy allows employees to be capped at 480 hours. Samuels is concerned that the employees with 720 hours are unable to accrue any more hours until they use up 240. Commissioners noted his concern, but no changes were made at this time.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve a 15 minute executive session, to discuss a legal matter between an individual and the county, with Paul Dean, County Counselor. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. An additional 5 minutes was added to the session.

No decision was made.

Levi Vinson, Noxious Weed/Emergency Management Director, updated the commissioners on the local disaster declaration they signed last week. Vinson said the state tentatively reached the \$4.2 million threshold. Seven counties qualified right now. KDEM representatives are coming to Greenwood County this week to begin a preliminary damage assessment. Then Vinson said within a week or two we should know whether we get the Presidential declaration. Commissioner Fox said as far as the county is concerned we really didn't have much damages, it was really more in the city. Vinson confirmed that was true, he said the county was involved with some emergency protective natures, like barricading, and stopping traffic. Commissioner Fox asked if our guys helped the city guys with clean-up. Vinson said Road and Bridge Department sent one dump truck the next day after the storm. Also the county opened the landfill the next day, all day long and Friday for brush.

Sandy Dickerson, Greenwood County Hospital CEO, presented an unaudited balance sheet and income statement for 2016. Dickerson mentioned she doesn't anticipate many adjustments from the auditors, as they just finished meeting with them. According to figures Dickerson shared, there was a total amount increase of \$644,441 in salaries and benefits for hospital employees, and from September of 2015 and 2016. They had a loss of revenue and increase in operating expenses, for a net loss amount of \$992,438. Dickerson reported that they have cut expenses in several areas including medical supplies, repairs and maintenance, and drugs. Despite their overall revenue amount being down, the hospital did see an increase in several revenue sources including home health and routine revenue. Dickerson said after the 2017 figures are ready next month, the hospital should be on track to provide monthly financials, which was a condition mentioned by the commissioners, necessary for the hospital to receive mill levy funding.

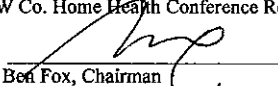
At 10:25 a.m. Commissioner Hind made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

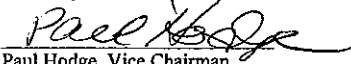
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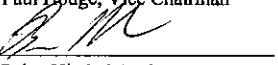
September 4th – Courthouse Closed in observance of Labor Day

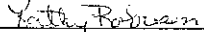
September 5th – Next Commission Meeting – 9:00 a.m.

September 25th – GW Co. Hosp. Board Mtg @ 5:30p.m. – GW Co. Home Health Conference Room


Ben Fox, Chairman


Paul Hodge, Vice Chairman


Brian Hind, Member

ATTEST: 
Kathy Robinson, County Clerk