

Commissioner Meeting
October 23, 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, and Kathy Robison, County Clerk. Paul Dean, County Counselor arrived at 9:15 a.m.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve October 16, 2017 minutes. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioners received an email from Tammy Seimears, with Madison News, that shared information saying they did not get any grant funding from the bridge applications recently submitted to KDOT.

Undersheriff Randy Cox notified commissioners of an ongoing problem with a cattle owner, who's cattle have gotten out 15 times in the last two weeks, and the Sheriff's Department receives calls because they are wandering out into the ditch and road. Commissioner Hind asked if the fence is bad. Cox told him "it is in bad shape." The property is located at the southeast corner of Hwy 54 and Hwy 99 South Intersection (3-mile junction). Cox said the property/cattleowner lives in Augusta. Levi Vinson, Emergency Management/Noxious Weed Director also added that the landowner has a Noxious Weed problem. Cox told commissioners that the landowner has been contacted numerous times by officers and dispatchers and told his cows were out and told he needs to fix the fence. The landowner tells them it will be at least an hour before he would be there and the Sheriff's Department is left to put the cows back in. Commissioner Hind asked if he was feeding them. There was some discussion about that and what type of cattle are on the property and some of the other issues associated with that topic. Cox said by state statute they have the authority to seize the cattle and have them sold at the sale barn. The proceeds would first go to reimburse the Sheriff's Office for expenses and anything additional would go to the cattle owner. Commissioner Hind told Cox next time it happens, they should load the cattle up and take them to the sale barn and call the owner and tell him he can pick them up from there. Commissioner Hodge agreed. One of the officer's at the property relayed over the radio that they had just put the cows back in and they just walked back out, the fence is "basically gone." The commissioners said they would go look at it after the meeting before going to the other fence viewing.

Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor, told commissioners that he received a call this morning regarding the bid for the Norwegian Church bridge project, and King Construction was awarded the bid. Lowe said our amount should be approximately \$139,000 and the rest will be covered by KDOT grant funding. Lowe said he spoke to John Talkington about the bridge project at H & 270th, his rate is \$100 per hour, and is starting the project today. Lowe also reported that Brandon Escareno is trimming trees east of Ladd Bridge and crews are hauling rock around 390th. Commissioner Hind shared that he had a conversation with Lowe and several Road and Bridge employees last week regarding loading gravel into trucks at a rock quarry. Commissioner Hind relayed that he wants the drivers to load and leave the quarry right away instead of waiting for all of the drivers to get loaded up. Commissioner Fox and Hodge agreed. Commissioner Hind asked Lowe if he thought the employees understood the point he was making and Lowe said that he did.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve payroll in the amount of \$92,769.31. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hind made a motion to approve payables in the amount of \$379,978.94. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The commissioners viewed a certificate of liability from Frank Bills Trucking, Inc.

Commissioner Fox gave County Clerk, Kathy Robison, a contract from Mediacom for a 50mg modem, which is the service the courthouse had before recently switching to a 1mb connection. Commissioner Fox asked if they have hooked it up yet. Robison told him that a technician came and tested the 1mb and said it should have been running faster and was going to contact his supervisors.

Kathy Robison, County Clerk, asked commissioners if it was okay for the PTA and students to come to the courthouse and decorate the lawn for Christmas, as they have done in the past. The commissioners said it was fine. Also Clerk Robison asked the commissioners if it was okay for the county to donate \$50 for "Trick or Treat Main Street" for Halloween. The commissioners said that was fine with them too.

Curtis Winter and Derek Miller, with Trane came to the meeting to discuss replacing the courthouse chiller. The current chiller is over 60 years old and has had multiple mechanical issues in recent years. The initial bid presented earlier this year from Trane was \$245,000. Former Maintenance Supervisor, and Consultant for this project, Vic Delpine has been in contact with Trane about the operating system and the building requirements. To get a more accurate bid amount, Trane has been in contact with contractors for construction, plumbing and electrical work necessary for the installation. The representatives explained that the new bid is about \$14,000 lower than they were anticipating, bringing it to \$231,115. Commissioner Hind asked what the cost would be for a system upgrade that heats and cools, instead of switching between the heater and the chiller each season. The Trane representatives relayed that a comprehensive system would be closer to \$1 million. The commissioners plan to think about it for a week and discuss it at next week's meeting. The bid is good for 30 days. If the commissioners accept the proposal, the new unit should be installed in 6-7 weeks.

The commissioners viewed the weekly Treasurer's Report.

Levi Vinson, Emergency Management/Noxious Weed Director, reported that the damage done to an employee's personal vehicle last weekend, as he was assessing storm damages in the southern part of the county, was not covered by the county's insurance. Vinson said another option would be to "fix it ourselves". Vinson said the cost of the parts will be between \$800-\$1,000 and a couple of the inmates are mechanics and have already started repairing it. Vinson also reported that the inmates involved in the inmate work program have donated 151 man-hours to the county and have done a good job. Vinson remarked, "It's a great program. It's definitely helped us out." The costs to repair the vehicle will be taken out of the Road and Bridge fund.

Commissioner Hind made a motion for a 10 minute executive session for personnel for employee performance with Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor and Paul Dean, County Counselor. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. An additional 5 minutes was added to the session. An additional 5 minutes was added to the session.

No decision was made.

Kathy Robison, County Clerk, reminded the commissioners that the election is coming up November 7, 2017 and they discussed that the Board of Canvass will be the following Monday, November 13, 2017. Robison said she was looking for an enclosed trailer to haul election equipment. Robison said she may have one that she can borrow and they will drive it for her. There was some discussion about checking at the impound lot to see if there was one to use there. Commissioners asked Levi Vinson if he knew if there was one at the lot. Vinson said he thought there was one there and he wasn't sure if it belonged to the Sheriff's Department yet. It may need some work, but the inmates could do the repairs necessary. The commissioners asked Vinson to check the status of the trailer. Vinson also said that Fire Chief Williams has a trailer that is sitting at the city department that no one is using.

At 10:03 a.m. Commissioner Hind made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The commissioners adjourned and decided to do a fence viewing at the property Undersheriff Randy Cox brought up earlier in the meeting, located around the 3-mile junction, on their way to the scheduled fence viewing already set for 10:30, located at X & 40th.

Calendar:

- October 26th – GW Co. Hosp. Board Mtg @ 5:30p.m. – GW Co. Home Health Conference Room
- October 30th – Next Commission Meeting – 9:00 a.m.
- November 4th – Cattlemen's Day - Eureka
- November 7th - General City/School Election
- November 13th – Board of Canvass following the Commission Meeting

ATTEST: Kathy Robison
Kathy Robison, County Clerk



Bén Fox
Bén Fox, Chairman

Paul Hodge
Paul Hodge, Vice Chairman

Brian Hind
Brian Hind, Member