

April 11th, 2023

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 11th, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Jim Barber, David L. Fox and Wayne Kohler were present. Chelsey Schmidt, County Clerk, and Bill Kassebaum, County Counselor, were present.

Others present: Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church

Robert Bacon visited with the commissioners regarding rock that has been put on 1400 Rd. and CC Ave.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the minutes from the April 4th, 2023 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Chris Blackledge, Emergency Manager, gave a report on emergency management. Fire departments within Morris County have been very busy fighting out of control grass fires.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-04 declaring a state of local disaster emergency for Morris County, Kansas, due to damaging grassfires on April 7th, 2023, which has damaged or destroyed property throughout Morris County. Motion carried.

Corrine Blosser, Register of Deed's, gave a report on courthouse maintenance. The Register of Deed's staff completed demos for the two postal machines that were discussed during the March 28th commission meeting. It was recommended that the SMART-IX Postal Machine be approved.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the quote from Quadient to lease the SMART-IX Postal Machine. The lease payment is \$295.17 per month, for 60 months. Motion carried.

Two quotes were received for courthouse flooring and installation and are as follows:

| <u>Bidder</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Eldridge Flooring & Installation | Vinyl Tile | Downstairs Hallway | \$ 9,844.11 |
| | | Upstairs Hallway | \$12,624.60 |
| | | Meeting Room | <u>\$12,780.83</u> |
| | | | \$35,249.54 |
| Epoxy Brothers, LLC | Epoxy | Downstairs Hallway | \$ 6,496.00 |
| | | Upstairs Hallway | \$ 8,162.00 |
| | | Meeting Room | \$12,650.00 |
| | | Epoxy Base Trim | <u>\$ 9,502.00</u> |
| | | | \$36,810.00 |

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the bid from Epoxy Brothers, LLC in the amount of \$36,810.00. Funds are to be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund. Motion carried.

Colleen Anderson, President for the Morris County Senior Citizens Inc., gave a report on the senior citizen services being provided within Morris County. The van that is used to transport and deliver meals had broken down but they were able to pay for repairs with funds received from the county's appropriation. Colleen expressed their gratitude for the continued funding and support for services for the elderly within the county. The Morris County Senior Citizens Inc. Board currently has a vacancy for a member from District 3. The board is working to fill the vacancy.

Linda Eldridge, County Treasurer, presented quarterly financial reports.

Ryan Michaelis, County Appraiser, gave a report on the Appraiser's office. Discussion was held regarding an application for real property tax relief.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the disaster relief application for property tax due to tornado damage for the property located at 203 Plum Street in Parkerville. A property tax abatement will be applied for the 2022 tax year. Motion carried.

Jeff Falter and Shelly Lauth gave the following weekly road and bridge report:

- Rawhide quarry gravel was hauled to F Ave. from 2000-2100, 1200 Rd. from A-C, 1100 Rd. from A-C and 1000 Rd. from B-C
- Mid States Materials (Wilsey location) road rock was hauled to AA Ave. from 3000-3200, DD Ave. from 2800-2900, AA Ave. from 2450-2500, BB Ave. from 2700-2800, 1700 Rd. from Z-AA and spotted in on BB Ave. from 2200-2600
- Mid States Materials (Wilsey location) base rock was put on AA Ave. from 1700-1800 and BB Ave. from 2200-2450
- Casey creek gravel was put on Y Ave. from 200-300 and X Ave. from 300-400
- The reclaimer was run on 1200 Rd. from A-C, 1000 Rd. from A-C, A Ave. from 900-1000 and 1100 Rd. from A-C
- Shoulder/ditch work was done on 200 Rd. from T-Y, Y Ave. from 200-400, B Ave. from 1400-1600, 1200 Rd. from C-G, F Ave. from 1800-2100, 2200 Rd. from C-F, 2000 Rd. from F-G, 2500 Rd. from H-J, H Ave. from 2600-2700, Z Ave. from 3000-3100, 3000 Rd. from Y-Z, 1800 Rd. from X-Z, AA Ave. from 1800-1900, 1700 Rd. from X-Y and X Ave. from 1800-2100
- Culverts were cleaned out on Y Ave. between 200-400
- Dirt was hauled to install a culvert on F Ave. between 2000-2100 and to minimum maintenance roads K Ave. between 2300-2400 and P Ave. between 2200-2400 to fix bad spots
- Replaced a crossroad tube on 1100 Rd. between A-B, that collapsed due to heavy loads
- Removed old box and installed a culvert on F Ave. between 2000-2100 and a new pasture entrance on M Ave. between 400 and Old Hwy 4
- Boom mower was used on 2600 Rd. from U-V, T Ave. from 2400-2500 and X Ave. from 2400-2700
- Jeff Falter attended the North Central District 2 meeting at Milford on April 5th
- Bridges Inc. is pouring the last apron on the Dunlap Bridge today; the handrails are scheduled to be poured on Thursday
- MP27 and MP28 graders are both repaired and back in operation
- Discussion was held regarding the roads being used by Schillings and Wildcat Construction for hauling for the Hwy 56 and Hwy 177 road construction
- A guardrail was damaged on 2500 Rd. between Z-AA

A bid summary was reviewed for polymer bridge deck overlays that were opened during last week's commission meeting.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the bid from PBX Corporation for the (4) polymer bridge deck overlays in the total amount of \$295,066.60. Funds are to be paid from the Special Bridge Fund. Motion carried.

A bid summary was reviewed for 2023 chips that were opened during last week's commission meeting. The county will be chip/sealing approximately 30 miles for 2023.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the chip bid from Hamm's at \$24.00/ton with an additional hauling fee of \$30.00/ton to 2400 Rd. and G Ave., \$11.75/ton to the Corp and \$11.75/ton to Z Ave. and 4 Mile Rd. The total cost for chips and delivery to 2400 Rd. and G Ave. is \$38,100.00; the total cost for chips and delivery to the Corp is \$39,325.00; the total cost for chips and delivery to Z Ave. and 4 Mile Rd. is \$26,812.50; the grand total to Hamm's for chips and hauling is \$104,237.50. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the chip bid from Mid States Materials at \$18.35/ton with an additional hauling fee of \$13.50/ton to Delavan, \$13.50/ton to the Council Grove Fire Station, and \$13.50/ton to the county shop. The total cost for chips and delivery to Delavan is \$19,100.00; the total cost for chips and delivery to the Council Grove Fire Station is \$54,145.00; the total cost for chips and delivery to the county shop is \$25,480.00; the grand total to Mid States Materials for chips and hauling is \$98,725.00. Motion carried.

The total cost for the 30 miles of road that will be chip/sealed in 2024 (chips and oil) is \$817,752.20.

Commissioner Barber discussed ditches that will need cleaned out on the east side of 3000 Rd., one mile south of L Ave.

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of 1400 Rd. and CC Ave.; rock in the area needs to be cleaned up.

Jeffrey Bender, Region Supervisor for the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Parks Division, visited with the commissioners regarding interest in acquiring the property located at 1550 Dunlap Rd. in Council Grove. KDWP will be investing upcoming RAISE grant funding in Morris County for the Flint Hills Trail. KDWP plans to develop a large trailhead with amenities at the west side of Council Grove and a shop/office area at the east side of Council Grove. Further discussion will be held.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the County Attorney's Diversion Fund request for an invoice to Rays Apple Market for the March MDT meeting in the amount of \$124.31. Funds are to be paid from the Diversion Fund. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve payroll liabilities in the amount of \$40,977.95. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$381,469.28. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| General: | \$ 26,129.23 |
| Road & Bridge: | \$ 14,859.53 |
| Special Bridge: | \$ 10,000.00 |
| Reappraisal: | \$ 791.81 |
| Health Dept Flowthru: | \$ 5,922.00 |
| Noxious Weed: | \$ 528.64 |
| Ambulance: | \$ 321.80 |
| Solid Waste: | \$ 1,729.84 |
| Morris County 911: | \$ 955.58 |
| Capital Improvement: | \$ 97,160.00 |
| Bridge Bonds 2020A: | \$ 223,070.85 |

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

--Meeting minutes can also be found on the county website: www.morriscountyks.org

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF MORRIS COUNTY, KANSAS

Jim Barber, Chairman

ATTEST:

David L. Fox, Member

Chelsey Schmidt
Morris County Clerk

Wayne Kohler, Member