

## **April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 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

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the quote from Epoxy Brothers, LLC to strip and polish the courthouse flooring entryways in the amount of \$848.25. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the minutes from the April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Nate Butler, State Representative for the 68<sup>th</sup> District, visited with the commissioners regarding the current legislative sessions. Ryan Michaelis, County Appraiser, was present for the discussion.

Travis Schweger, Noxious Weed and Waste Management Director, gave a report on Noxious Weed and Waste Management departments. The Noxious Weed Department's herbicides have arrived. It is recommended to contact the Noxious Weed Department prior to arriving to purchase chemical.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the contract with Dickinson County Jail for Morris County inmate housing; the contract will increase the daily inmate housing rate by \$10.00; from \$45.00 to \$55.00. Motion carried.

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

- 1200 Rd. from A-B was rocked with Rawhide Quarry road rock
- Casey creek gravel was placed on 500 Rd. from T-U, H Ave. from 1175-1200, 400 Rd. from L-P, 100 Rd. from Q-R, Q Ave. from 100-200, 300 Rd. from R-U, 200 Rd. from Q-T and P Ave. from Kelso Rd-1400
- Gravel bar was cleaned at the Casey creek gravel site and hauled for screening
- Bridge OS-87 (1500 Rd. between Z-AA) had a guardrail repaired from fire damage; installed new posts, concrete and hardware
- Shoulder ditch work was done on 200 Rd. from R-T, R Ave. from 200-300, 500 Rd. from T-U, Z Ave. from 1500-1600, 1500 Rd. from Y-AA, 1800 Rd. from V Ave.-Wilsey, Z Ave. from 1500-1600, 1600 Rd. from Z-AA, 1700 Rd. from X-Y, Z Ave. from 1900-2000, 1900 Rd. from X-Z, 2700 Rd. from X-Y, AA Ave. from 2700-2800 and R Ave. from 2300-2400
- A fallen tree was cleared on Four Mile and Dunlap Rd.
- A new field entrance culvert was installed on 1800 Rd. and V Ave., at the Wilsey corner, to help with drainage
- Brine pumps were removed, cleaned and put away for the season
- Jeff Falter submitted the 2022 Annual Engineers Report to the state
- Handrails on the Dunlap Bridge were poured on Thursday

Discussion was held regarding the approved hauling routes for Shillings and Wildcat Construction for the Hwy 56 and Hwy 177 projects. 1100 Rd. has been used for hauling but is not on the approved haul route. Schillings has asked that 1100 Rd. be added to the approved hauling route. There are potential concerns for local traffic on 1100 Rd. and the safety of travel due to the narrow nature of the road. The item was tabled.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve utility permits for Rural Water District #1 for right of way road crossings to install waterlines at 500 Rd. and Old Hwy 4, 1066 Old Hwy 4, and along the north side of A Ave. Motion carried.

Concerns have been reported to the Road and Bridge Department regarding the following:

- Vehicles traveling at high speeds through the area of 2700 Rd. both east and west of Burdick; 30 mph speed limit signs are posted as well as children at play signs before entering the town of Burdick.
- Stop signs at 2800 Rd. and C Ave.; the stop signs will remain as the intersection was determined and designated as a dangerous intersection from the High-Risk Rural Road Sign Project and Study
- Corner needing widened off Hwy 56 and 2600 Rd.; this issue would be in KDOT's jurisdiction, not the county

Commissioner Fox discussed the area of 1175 Rd. going north towards G Ave.; needing some more gravel.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$105,214.75. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$34,472.12. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 12,356.11
Road & Bridge:	\$ 21,706.64
Reappraisal:	\$ 195.00
Morris County 911:	\$ 111.37
Bridge Bonds 2020A:	\$ 103.00

Morris County's General Public Transportation grant application was approved by the Kansas Department of Transportation for State Fiscal Year 2024 as follows:

- Capital Funding- Not Requested
- Federal Funding for Operating Expenses- \$66,000.00
- Federal Funding for Administrative Expenses- \$12,160.00
- State Funding for Operating Expenses- \$26,400.00

The remaining local match estimated for the county for SFY 2024 is \$58,715.00.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the Public Transportation Grant Funding from KDOT for State Fiscal Year 2024 as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the SLFRF Compliance Expenditure Report to be submitted to the Treasury, as presented. Morris County has currently expended \$83,323.30 of the American Rescue Plan Act Funds. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

--Meeting minutes can also be found on the county website: [www.morriscountyks.org](http://www.morriscountyks.org)

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**OF MORRIS COUNTY, KANSAS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jim Barber, Chairman**

**ATTEST:**

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**David L. Fox, Member**

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**Chelsey Schmidt**  
**Morris County Clerk**

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**Wayne Kohler, Member**