

April 25th, 2023

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 25th, 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.

Colby Patnode, with Epoxy Brothers LLC, visited with the commissioners regarding the cement stairways on the north and east entrances of the courthouse. The steps need repairs and a new slip resistant coating. Epoxy Brothers LLC will provide a quote by next week's meeting.

Dave Owen, Morris County EMS Director, discussed the current a/c unit condenser at the EMS building. Quotes for a replacement condenser will be obtained. The item was tabled until next week's meeting. The week of May 21st- 27th is National EMS Week. Morris County EMS will be holding an open house on Saturday, May 27th at the new EMS Building from Noon to 4:00 p.m. Visitors will be able to tour the new EMS station, hot dogs and hamburgers will be served and there will be a bouncy house. Further details and information will be advertised in the newspapers and on social media.

Colleen Anderson, President for the Morris County Senior Citizens Inc., gave a report on the senior citizen services being provided within Morris County.

Mike Massaglia, with Mull Drilling Company in Wichita, visited with the commissioners via telephone regarding submitting a utility/easement permit application for 2D seismic drilling for oil and gas exploration.

The Appraiser's Office would like to have a wall removed and remodeling done to their current office space.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the quote from Shane's Handyman Service in the amount of \$2,850.00 for the remodeling of the Appraiser's Office. Funds are to be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the minutes from the April 18th, 2023 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$50,005.26. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 17,678.97
Road & Bridge:	\$ 10,635.54
Reappraisal:	\$ 44.27
Health Dept Flowthru:	\$ 2,000.00
Noxious Weed:	\$ 6.05
Solid Waste:	\$ 15,395.43
Morris County 911:	\$ 4,245.00

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve payroll liabilities in the amount of \$128,714.09. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regard the county's Capital Improvement Fund plans. Current expenditures and encumbrances for the Capital Improvement Fund were listed. Future priorities and projects for the next several years were discussed. A draft will be reviewed further at next week's meeting.

Gary Floyd visited with the commissioners.

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

- Rawhide Quarry road rock was hauled to H Ave. from 700-800, 1000 Rd. from A-B, A Ave. from 900-1000, 1175 Rd. from G-H and G Ave. from 1200-1300
- Casey creek gravel was placed on 1300 Rd. from M-R
- Mid States Materials Quarry (Wilsey location) road rock was patched in on 2000 Rd. from K-L, L Ave. from 3100-3200 and 1400 Rd. from Y-Z
- Shoulder ditch work was done on 500 Rd. from U-V, 700 Rd. from DD-FF, 300 Rd. from Q-R and DD Ave. from 200-400
- A fallen tree was cleared on 900 Rd. between V-X
- Used the boom mower to cut trees on R Ave. from 2200-2400, 2500 Rd. from T-U and T Ave. from 2200-2400
- Bridge planks were removed from the OS-82 (Sunflower Bridge)
- MSHA did an inspection at the Casey's mine site
- Shelly attended the Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting at the courthouse
- Jeff attended the Vulnerable Road User state meeting in Salina
- Submitted claim to insurance for the damages to the RS-340 Bridge
- The Dunlap River Bridge over the Neosho River will be closed in approximately 2 weeks for demolition and cut over to the newly constructed bridge. It is anticipated that the road will be closed for approximately four weeks.
- Rodney Whittaker complimented the county on the condition of 200 Rd.
- Wildcat Construction and Schillings would like to use 1100 Rd. and 1000 Rd. as hauling routes for the Hwy 77 and Hwy 56 construction projects; these roads are not on the approved hauling routes; the item was tabled.

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of L Ave., one mile west of Latimer; additional blading is needed.

Morris County received notification that the City of Council Grove has filed to appeal the latest Board of Tax Appeals ruling for the City Lake for tax years 2014, 2015, and 2016. Discussion was held.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 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