

## February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Jim Barber, David L. Fox and Wayne Kohler were present. Bill Kassebaum, County Counselor, and Chelsey Schmidt, County Clerk, were present.

Others present: Gary Floyd, Billy Kryger- Pastor Berean Baptist Church

Jamie Johnson, Morris County Health Nurse, gave a report on the health department. Discussion was held regarding the health department's COVID-19 IAP Supplemental 4 Vaccine Equity grant funding. The health department has already purchased vaccine coolers and vaccine refrigerators with the grant funding. The remaining funding in the amount of \$41,901.92 must be spent on something that is directly related to vaccine equity. If the remaining funds are not obligated by June of 2024 they must be forfeited and returned to the state. The health department has obtained two quotes for a double-faced LED electronic sign. The cheaper quote of the two is from Luminous Neon Inc. in the amount of \$39,450.00. The sign would be used to provide information regarding vaccinations, vaccination clinics, health clinics, etc. and would meet the requirement for providing vaccine equity. Jamie will discuss this information further with the Morris County Hospital Board; no decision has been made at this time. The health department is currently in the process of partnering with Wichita State University to conduct a community health assessment.

Jay Simecka, County Sheriff, visited with the commissioners regarding the sheriff's office and dispatch remodel project. No bids were received for the sheriff's office parking lot, stairs or sidewalk. Notice for Bids will be re-published in the county's official newspaper and sealed bids will be due Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 10:30 a.m. in the Morris County Commissioner Meeting Room.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve re-advertising the Notice for Bids in the county's official newspaper. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve the Annual Financial Report for calendar year 2023 for Township Seven, as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Barber (Kohler) moved to approve the County Attorney's Diversion Fund Request for a donation to the Council Grove After Prom Party in the amount of \$500.00. Funds are to be paid from the Diversion Fund. Motion carried.

Commissioner Barber (Kohler) moved to approve the County Attorney's Diversion Fund Request for a donation to the White City After Prom Party in the amount of \$300.00. Funds are to be paid from the Diversion Fund. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$39,719.60. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 10,989.75
Road & Bridge:	\$ 28,417.30
Noxious Weed:	\$ 7.65
Solid Waste:	\$ 304.90

Commissioner Barber (Kohler) moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$111,617.32. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve the minutes from the February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Travis Schweger, Noxious Weed & Waste Management Director, gave a report on the Noxious Weed and Waste Management Departments. The Transfer Station scale is currently being constructed. Ziegler Plumbing, Heating, Cooling and Electrical will begin trenching on Sunday and running the power lines on Monday. Discussion was held regarding the potential need for railings to be fabricated for the side of the scale.

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

- Routine maintenance on all blade routes was done across the county
- Rawhide Quarry 2-inch clean rock was placed on G Ave. from 700-800, 700 Rd. from D-G, F Ave. from 500-700 and G Ave. from 900-1175
- Mid States Materials (Wilsey location) base rock was hauled to the shop stockpile
- Air Capital Quarry (Delavan location) rock was hauled on L Ave. from 2000-2100, V Ave. from 2400-2500, 2300 Rd. from U-V, X Ave. from 2600-2700, 2600 Rd. from T-X, U Ave. from 2600-2700, 2700 Rd. from U-V, 2800 Rd. from T-U, 3000 Rd. from T-V and DD Ave. from 2800-3000
- Worked on rebuilding 600 Rd. and H Ave. that leads to a house driveway from the minimum maintenance road; ran the sheep's foot up and down the road
- Trees and brush cut on AA Ave. from 1700-1800
- Culvert entrance was reset on 2800 Rd. between C-D
- MSHA Safety Training was held at the county shop
- Took delivery from LyCox; the new retriever disc tractor mount and two scraper systems
- Design contracts were signed and sent to Kaw Valley Engineering for the OS-5 and OS-58 bridges
- Jeff and Shelly attended a pre-construction meeting at the Skiddy Rd. and B Ave. box culvert site with the Welborn rep and the engineer
- There was a mix up on the county's fuel delivery; 4,500 gallons of diesel and 3,500 gallons of unleaded gasoline was ordered but 4,500 gallons of unleaded gasoline and 3,500 gallons of diesel fuel was delivered; the county accepted 3,500 gallons of diesel and 3,000 gallons of unleaded gasoline

Commissioner Fox discussed the recent work that has been done on 600 Rd. and H Ave.

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of 2400 Rd. and Q Ave.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 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**

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**David L. Fox, Chairman**

**ATTEST:**

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**Wayne Kohler, Member**

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**Chelsey Schmidt  
Morris County Clerk**

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**Jim Barber, Member**