

January 17th, 2023

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, January 17th, 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 minutes from January 10th, 2023 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Chris Blackledge, Morris County Emergency Manager, gave a report on Emergency Management.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to accept a donation in the amount of \$50,000.00 from Diamond Creek Ranch. The funds are to be used for the purchase and programming of 800mhz radios for all fire departments within Morris County. Motion carried.

Jan Kimbrell, Sharmon Richardson, Kelley Judd, Sharon Haun and David Cosgrove with the Morris County Historical Society discussed the CCC Building. The CCC Building is located east of Council Grove at the county shops. There has been very little historical attraction or use of the CCC Building. The location is not ideal and seems to add to the congestion of the area. Discussion was held regarding whether or not to keep the building. Potential alternative historical plans for the area was discussed, if the building were to be removed. The item was tabled. Further discussion will be held at a later date.

Gary Floyd visited with the commissioners and thanked them for attending the public open forum this past Saturday morning.

Travis Schweger, Noxious Weed and Solid Waste Director, gave a report on the Noxious Weed and Solid Waste departments. Commissioner Barber toured the Geary County Transfer Station last week. Commissioner Barber reported that Geary County has a 40-foot scale and it is adequate for all trucks and loads that are weighed at their transfer station.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the County Attorney's Diversion Fund request in the amount of \$41.82 from Ray's Apple Market for the December MDT Meeting. Funds are to be paid from the Diversion Fund. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve payroll liabilities in the amount of \$42,458.49. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$55,079.16. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 6,957.54
Road & Bridge:	\$ 12,643.08
Reappraisal:	\$ 137.98
Health Dept. Flowthru	\$ 5,922.00
Noxious Weed:	\$ 6.05
Solid Waste:	\$ 18,680.64
Morris County 911:	\$ 111.44
Equipment Reserve:	\$ 10,620.43

Commissioner Kohler did not attend the afternoon session.

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

- Stockpiled Mid States Materials gravel, from the Wilsey location, at the county shop
- Mid States Materials gravel, from the Wilsey location, was placed on 1600 Rd. from Z-AA, 1400 Rd. AA-BB, J Ave. from 1800-1900, 400 Rd. from Y-CC and Diamond Creek Rd. from DD-FF
- 2 ½ inch base rock from the Wilsey location was placed on 2900 Rd. from H-J and on 2400 Rd. from Q-R
- Reshaped and rebuilt roads on 2400 Rd. from Q-R and on 400 Rd. from AB-DD
- Removed a downed tree on 1700 Rd. between U-V
- Installed a culvert on Dunlap Rd. between Y-Z and added to a culvert on J Ave. between 1800-1900
- Employees took a defensive driving course by instructor Jes Pfannenstiel of KWORC

Jeff Falter was able to locate old bridge inspection reports for the OS-82 Sunflower Bridge; it was determined to have a super structure rating of 2, it was determined to be a fracture critical bridge, the load rating was less than 3 ton and it was required to be closed by KDOT until repairs were made. Discussion was held regarding methods for repairing and re-opening the bridge. The item was tabled.

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of 2800 Rd. and F Ave.; reported it needs more gravel.

Commissioner Fox commented on the gravel roads that were previously used as detour routes for the Hwy 177 project; they all seem to be in very good condition.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 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