

January 5th, 2021

The Morris County Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 5th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Diana Jost, David Fox and Wayne Kohler were present. Bill Kassebaum, County Counselor, was present.

Others present: Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church

Ryan Michaelis, County Appraiser, provided a report on the Appraiser's office. Discussion was held regarding the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan that was implemented in 2017. The plan was only open for applications for a period of 3 years. Commissioners discussed implementing a new Neighborhood Revitalization Plan.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to hold a hearing on January 26th at 2:00 P.M. to discuss implementing a Neighborhood Revitalization Plan. Motion carried.

Corrine Blosser gave report on Register of Deeds office.

John Lee attended via telephone and provided a report on the Noxious Weed and Waste Management departments.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the annual renewal with KCAMP for property, liability, crime and surety coverage for 2021 in the amount of \$86,245.00. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the Coronavirus Relief Funding (SPARK) Report as presented. Motion carried. Morris County received \$1,132,545.00 in relief funding that was to be spent by December 30th, 2020. The following is a breakdown of how the funds were spent:

➤ City of Council Grove	\$ 2,141.63
➤ City of White City	\$ 207.59
➤ Morris County Hospital/EMS/Clinic	\$132,446.83
➤ Council Grove Assisted Living	\$ 9,134.54
➤ Morris County Health Department	\$ 60,198.96
➤ CrossWinds Mental Health	\$ 2,433.96
➤ U.S.D. 417	\$249,262.15
➤ U.S.D. 481	\$399,800.53
➤ Small Business & Non-Profit Grants	\$163,000.00
➤ Morris County	\$ 78,809.63
➤ Contracted CPA Services	\$ 35,109.18

Healthcare/Mental Health- 19%

Schools- 57%

Small Business & Non-Profit Support- 14%

County- 7%

CPA Services- 3%

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2021-01 setting salaries and county holidays for 2021. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve and pass Resolution No. 2021-02 authorizing the county to waive the requirements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP) for the year ended December 31, 2020. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2021-03 pertaining to the county's participation in the Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) Student Loan Repayment Program. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the minutes from the December 29th, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

Jeff Blosser, County Road Engineer, gave the following weekly road and bridge report:

- Performed winter operations last Friday on all the blacktops. We did plow snow on some of the gravel routes on the CG and Dwight routes. The other routes did not have enough snow to warrant working on the gravel roadways. The county also plowed the courthouse, north 10th Street, and Donnon Street on Saturday.
- Screening creek gravel at the 4 Mile site
- Hauling creek gravel to 2000 Rd. south of V Ave.
- Hauled crushed rock on 2500 Rd. between G and H Ave.
- Hauling crushed rock on 2800 Rd. south of BB Ave.
- Replaced a cross-road culvert on V Ave. west of 2600 Rd.
- Replaced a cross-road culvert on 2300 Rd. south of R Ave.
- Adding a 36" cross-road culvert across 100 Rd. south of AB Ave.
- Burnt tree piles around the Kelso area
- Working on cross-sections and design for the Big John Creek and Rock Creek low water crossings- The Kansas Department of Water Resources wants to evaluate the existing and proposed low water crossings.
- Meeting tomorrow with Kaw Valley Engineering to discuss the "Field Check" for the plans on the Neosho River Bridge replacement south of Dunlap
- Mini-excavator discussion

Discussion was held regarding the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) that was passed in March of 2020. The FFCRA required that certain employers, including government entities, provide up to 80 hours of paid sick leave to full time employees and a two-week equivalent for part time employees who must take leave for COVID-19 related reasons. The recently signed COVID-19 Economic Relief bill no longer requires that employers provide COVID-19 paid leave after December 31st, 2020.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve Morris County to voluntarily continue providing paid COVID-19 leave for county employees who are subject to quarantine and isolation orders related to COVID-19. Employees are to provide a copy of their quarantine/isolation orders to the County Clerk's office for documentation. Motion carried.

Following discussion concerning department budget and cash balances, Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the following 2020 year-end transfers and encumbrances. Motion carried.

- Encumber \$35,000 from the 2020 Noxious Weed Fund budget for the purchase of chemical in 2021.
- Encumber \$35,000 from the 2020 Solid Waste Fund budget (*Recycling- Capital Outlay*) to go towards the purchase of a new recycle pick-up in 2021.
- Encumber \$150,000 from the 2020 Road & Bridge Fund budget for the purchase of road materials in 2021.
- Transfer \$100,000 from the 2020 Road & Bridge Fund budget to the Equipment Reserve Fund.
- Transfer \$500,000 from the 2020 General Fund budget to the Equipment Reserve Fund.
- Transfer \$100,000 from the 2020 General Fund budget to the Capital Improvement Fund.
- Encumber \$35,000.00 from the 2020 General Fund budget (*Sheriff- Capital Outlay*) for the purchase of a new sheriff office vehicle in 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF MORRIS COUNTY, KANSAS

Diana K. Jost, Chairman

ATTEST:

David L. Fox, Member

Chelsey Schmidt
Morris County Clerk

Wayne Kohler, Member