

July 11th, 2023

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, July 11th, 2023 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.

Greg Vahrenberg, with Raymond James & Associates, Inc. visited with the commissioners regarding the 2020A Bond Issue. The bond was issued in June of 2020 for \$3,300,000.00 for bridge repairs to the two Skiddy bridges, the Kelso bridge, and the Dunlap River bridge. Since the issue of the bond, Morris County has received cost-share grant funding for part of the Kelso bridge and the Dunlap River bridge for approximately \$1,000,000.00. Discussion was held regarding plans for the unspent bond proceeds. The bonds cannot be redeemed until 2027. The county has several options for holding the unspent bond proceeds until they may be redeemed, or they may allocate additional bridge projects to be completed with the unspent bond proceeds. Further discussion will be held.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve payroll as presented, in the amount of \$102,206.02. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the minutes from the July 3rd, 2023 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Linda Eldridge, County Treasurer, presented the quarterly financial report.

The Morris County service/maintenance contract with KVK Inc. is up for renewal on August 1st, 2023. The annual contract amount will have approximately a 10% increase from \$12,041.00 per year, to \$13,248.00 per year. The contract and premium have not been updated nor increased since 2014.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the service/maintenance contract with KVK Inc. as presented, in the amount of \$13,248.00 per year. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$152,201.55. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 31,178.43
Road & Bridge:	\$ 109,476.89
Special Bridge:	\$ 2,080.00
Reappraisal:	\$ 444.38
Noxious Weed:	\$ 265.88
Ambulance:	\$ 545.66
Solid Waste:	\$ 4,054.73
Morris County 911:	\$ 4,155.58

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

- Mid States Materials Quarry road rock (Wilsey location) was hauled on R Ave. from 1300-1400, 1000 Rd. from R-U, P Ave. from 1700-1800, 1600 Rd. from Q-R and Z Ave. from 1500-1900
- Mid States Materials Quarry base rock (Wilsey location) was placed on R Ave. from 1300-1400, 1400 Rd. from AA-BB and P Ave. from 1700-1800
- Rawhide Quarry rock was placed on Parkerville Rd. from 1300-1400, D Ave. from 1000-1100, 1100 Rd. from D-F, U Ave. from 1200-1250, 1250 Rd. from T-U and V Ave. from Dunlap Rd.-525

- Creek gravel was hauled to 2600 Rd. from Z-AA
- Fallen trees were cut on M Ave. between 1100-1200, 1600 Rd. between X-Y, T Ave. between 1900-2000, D Ave. between 400-500 and 2700 Rd. between H-J
- Culverts were cleaned out on 2600 Rd. from U-X and R Ave. from 2600-2700
- Shoulder and ditch work was done on Z Ave. from 2900-3000, X Ave. from 300-400, DD Ave. from 200-400 and Dunlap Rd. from DD-FF
- Mowing was done on the Dwight, White City and Council Grove routes
- Boom mower was used on 1850 Rd. from V-X and 1900 Rd. from U-Y
- Coordinated information on recent rainfall in Morris County with the National Weather Service
- Attended a meeting with the KAW Nation representatives regarding the Sacred Red Rock

Discussion was held regarding contracting with Mid States Materials Quarry for crushing more 1- 1/4" road rock at the Wilsey location. The minimum to be contracted would be 50,000 tons of rock at \$9.25/ton. The item was tabled, further discussion will be held.

Darren Booth, with Theel Insurance and Financial Services, gave a presentation regarding an insurance renewal alternative with Freedom Claims Management.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00PM.

--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