

July 18th, 2023

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, July 18th, 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.

Others present: Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church

Commissioner Kohler discussed the dumping fees for various materials at the transfer station. Every resident in the county pays an annual special assessment landfill fee; this fee is for the disposal and hauling of household trash and the operation of the transfer station. Additional non-household trash items such as construction/demolition materials that are dumped at the transfer station require an additional fee based off of the weight and the type of materials being disposed.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel matters for 5 minutes, with Chelsey Schmidt and Bill Kassebaum present. Motion carried.

The commission entered executive session at 9:14 a.m.

The commission returned to open session at 9:19 a.m.

No action was taken.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the minutes from the July 11th, 2023 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve payroll liabilities as presented, in the amount of \$42,457.10. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$289,380.34. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 4,689.87
Road & Bridge:	\$ 225,179.32
Reappraisal:	\$ 474.97
Solid Waste:	\$ 3,106.05
Morris County 911:	\$ 111.37
Equipment Reserve:	\$ 35,495.00
Bridge Bonds 2020A	\$ 17,723.76
ARPA:	\$ 2,600.00

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the 2024 health insurance renewal with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas in the amount of \$1,017,084.00. This is a 0.58% decrease from last year's premium. Motion carried.

Jeff Falter, Shelly Lutt, and Skyler Mathews, with the KAW Nation, discussed the storage of the Sacred Red Rock at the county road and bridge department.

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

- Mid States Materials Quarry base rock (Wilsey location) was hauled on J Ave. from 2850-2900

- Mid States Materials Quarry road rock (Wilsey location) was spotted in on Z Ave. from 1800-1900 and on 1900 Rd. from V-Z
- Mid States Materials Quarry AB-3 rock was placed on 2600 Rd. from D-F
- Fallen trees were removed from the road on J Ave. between 800-900 and 1100 Rd. between F-G
- Work was done on 1500 Rd. from Y-Z to reshape the road; excess dirt was removed and culverts were cleaned out; Mid States Materials base rock (Wilsey location) was added to the road
- Shoulder and ditch work was done on Z Ave. from 2900-3000 and 2900 Rd. from Y-Z
- Cold mix was hauled from APAC in Emporia to stockpiles at the county shop and the White City mixing strip
- Mowing was done on routes in Dwight, Wilsey, Latimer, White City and Council Grove
- Routine grading was done across the county
- Representative from Purple Wave was here to video equipment for an upcoming auction on August 8th
- Waterline issues at the fairgrounds are being fixed; will have everything operational for the fair
- Polymer overlay bridge deck work is complete; Contract with PBX was for \$295,066.60; final bill was for \$240,046.60, a reduction of \$55,020.00.

Discussion was held regarding a motorcycle accident on 2000 Rd. between B and C Ave.

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of B Ave. west of 1800 Rd.; there are erosion and drainage issues that need to be addressed.

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of 2000 Rd. between B and D Ave.; there are trees that need to be trimmed.

Corrine Blosser, Register of Deeds, gave a report on courthouse maintenance issues. Discussion was held regarding condensation and dripping from piping in the ceilings; KVK has recommended that the county consider dehumidifiers for certain areas of the courthouse.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve setting the Morris County 2024 Budget Hearing for August 15th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. The hearing will be held in the commissioner's meeting room located at 501 West Main Street in Council Grove. Motion carried.

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