

July 5th, 2022

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, July 5th, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Wayne Kohler, David Fox and Jim Barber were present. Bill Kassebaum, County Counselor, and Chelsey Schmidt, County Clerk were present.

Others present: AJ Dome, Council Grove Republican and Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church

Chris Blackledge, County Emergency Manager, gave a report on emergency management. Morris County's Emergency Operations Plan has been reviewed and approved by the state. The plan will be distributed to the local fire departments and municipalities.

Cindy Jensen, Certified Public Accountant, presented Morris County's 2021 Financial Audit. The county was reported to have a "clean audit."

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the Financial Audit for year ended December 31st, 2021 as presented. Motion carried.

Ryan Michaelis, County Appraiser, gave a report on the Appraiser's office. Discussion was held regarding many counties beginning to use aerial assistance for property re-inspections.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the minutes from the June 28th, 2022 County Commission meeting. Motion carried.

Travis Schweger, Noxious Weed and Waste Management Director, gave a report on the Noxious Weed and Waste Management departments. Discussion was held regarding the need for an additional stock trailer to rotate for cardboard pickup at Hodgdon Powder Company.

Zoey Bond, Executive Director for the Council Grove/Morris County Chamber of Commerce & Tourism, gave a report to the commissioners and made an appropriation request for 2023 in the amount of \$25,000.00; this is \$5,000.00 more than last year's request. The appropriation request will be considered during the county's budgeting process.

The commissioners received a letter from Tisha Richardson on behalf of the Morris County Conservation District asking for an appropriation request for 2023 in the amount of \$30,000.00; this is \$1,000.00 more than last year's request. Due to COVID the board was unable to present the request in person. The appropriation request will be considered during the county's budgeting process.

Josh and Diana Newey discussed a low water crossing located on 400 Rd. between D and F Ave.

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

- Creek gravel was hauled on Q Ave. between 500-600, 200 Rd. between Q-R, R Ave. between 200-300 and 1300-1400 and AA Ave. between 2900-3000
- Mid States Materials Quarry rock was placed on 3100 Rd. between BB-CC and U Ave. between 2800-2900
- Rawhide Quarry rock was placed on J Ave. between 1300-1400 and 1300 Rd. between K-M
- Blades were dragging roads and fixing washouts
- Mowing was done on the north west White City route and the Council Grove route encompassing Four Mile Rd., the Lake Rd. and 1400 Rd. south of Helmick Rd.

- Road signs were put back up across the county
- Ditches and culverts were cleaned on 575 Rd. between P-Q, 2900 Rd. between AA-BB, X Ave. between 1700-1800, 1200 Rd. and M Ave., J Ave. between 1050-1100, 1300 Rd. and J Ave., 1700 Rd. and X Ave. and J Ave. between 2400-2600
- An entrance tube was installed on J Ave. between 1300-1400
- Rip rap was placed to stabilize a ditch on AA Ave. between 2900-3000
- Chips were stockpiled at the Council Grove fire station
- Repaired a sink hole at the approach to the bridge located on G Ave. between 1200-1300

Discussion was held regarding a drainage/erosion issue located at X Ave. and 525 Rd.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the purchase of a 2006 Kenworth T800 Dump Truck from Machinery Maintenance in Parsons, Kansas in the amount of \$100,000.00 and to authorize Chairman Kohler to sign the bill of sale. Funds are to be paid from the Equipment Reserve Fund. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding gravel that was removed from the windrow on J Ave. between 1050-1100.

Commissioner Barber asked that trees be trimmed and cleaned up at H Ave. and 2200 Rd. and at L Ave. and 2900 Rd.; erosion issues also need to be evaluated in these areas.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to authorize Travis Schweger to purchase a 20-foot gooseneck stock trailer, upon inspection, in the amount of \$2,800.00 for the Recycle Center to use for cardboard pick up at Hodgdon Powder Company. Motion carried.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-09 Sanitation Code Fee Schedule for Morris County, Kansas as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the amount of \$173,030.77. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 19,745.31
Road & Bridge:	\$ 40,053.05
Ambulance:	\$ 435.33
Bridge Bonds 2020A:	\$ 9,997.08
Equipment Reserve:	\$ 100,00.00
Recycle:	\$ 2,800.00

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve payroll liabilities as presented, in the amount of \$40,816.73. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF MORRIS COUNTY, KANSAS

Wayne Kohler, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jim Barber, Member

Chelsey Schmidt
Morris County Clerk

David L. Fox, Member