

July 6th, 2021

The Morris County Commissioners met on Tuesday, July 6th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Wayne Kohler, Jim Barber and David Fox were present. Bill Kassebaum, County Counselor, and Chelsey Schmidt, County Clerk, were present.

Others present: Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church

Janet Edwards, County Custodian, provided a report to the commissioners. She announced that she plans to retire from her position on October 29th, 2021.

The commissioners received a letter from the North Central- Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging requesting an appropriation for 2022 as follows: Administrative Funding: \$2,288.00, Friendship Meals Health Insurance Support: \$21,050.00 and Senior Care Act: \$3,390.00 for a total request of \$26,728.00. This is \$2,316.00 more than the 2021 appropriation. The request will be considered during the county's budgeting process.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved that the meeting be recessed to allow the commissioners to view roads in the area of K Ave. and 800 Rd. to the Wabaunsee County line. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 9:52 a.m.

The meeting re-convened at 11:04 a.m.

John Lee, Noxious Weed and Waste Management Director, provided a report on the Noxious Weed and Waste Management Departments.

Commissioner Barber (Kohler) moved to designate Watko Benefit Group to act as Morris County's Benefit Consultant in order to access and review Morris County's BCBSKS healthcare plan. Chairman David L. Fox is authorized to sign the Consultant Form Agreement. Motion carried.

Jay Simecka, County Sheriff, provided a report on the Sheriff's Department.

Julie Hower and Derek Schrader, with the Morris County Fair Board, presented the commissioners with the 2021 Morris County Fair Schedule. Discussion was held regarding future building improvements that need to be addressed. An appropriation request was made for 2022 in the amount of \$27,500.00 for the Fair Building and \$4,000.00 for Fair Ribbon Premium for a total request of \$31,500.00. This is \$5,000.00 more than the 2021 appropriation. The request will be considered during the county's budgeting process.

Shelly Lautt, County Road Assistant, gave the following weekly road and bridge report:

- Completing the work on rebuilding the road on 2800 Rd. between C Ave. and G Ave.
- Returned all rental equipment last week
- Picking up the D-6 from Foley's and starting creek gravel removal
- Hauled Lincolnville rock to 2700 Rd. from AA Ave. to BB Ave. and 3100 Rd. from BB Ave. to CC Ave.
- Advertising for seeking applications for a "skilled operator"
- Received the preliminary construction cost estimate for the Parkerville Road Culvert Replacement. The plan is to complete the project through KDOT's Emergency Relief Program and bid on KDOT letting.

Commissioner Fox expressed concerns regarding future road detour plans for the area of K Ave. and 800 Rd.

Commissioner Barber discussed the progress made on the Jon Comp Bridge and reported that a large brush/tree pile needs to be taken care of at some point in time.

Commissioner Barber (Kohler) moved to approve the minutes from the June 29th, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; for a total amount of \$77,576.38. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General Fund:	\$20,066.35
Road & Bridge:	\$43,889.75
Reappraisal:	\$ 50.99
Noxious Weed:	\$ 9,582.04
Solid Waste:	\$ 3,387.25

Nikki Davenport, Court Administrator, Dawn Santos, Court Administrator Secretary, Loyce Smith, Chief Court Services Officer, and Michael Powers, Judge for the 8th Judicial District, presented the commissioners with the 2022 budget request for the 8th Judicial District general fund in the amount of \$47,813.00. This is \$1,223.00 more than the 2021 budget request. The request will be considered during the county's budgeting process.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve migrating the Morris County Kansas website to a ".gov" Domain Registration. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve the engagement letter with Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd, LLC. as presented, at an hourly rate of \$350.00/hour on an as needed basis to assist with the American Rescue Plan funds and reporting. Motion carried.

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

David L. Fox, Chairman

ATTEST:

Wayne Kohler, Member

Chelsey Schmidt
Morris County Clerk

Jim Barber, Member