

## **March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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

Others present: Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church

Laura Viar, County Attorney, provided a report on her department. She reported that her office feels the ceiling tiles that were installed in the community corrections office have helped decrease the sound travel and would like to have the sound proof ceiling tiles installed in the County Attorney's office as well.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to go into executive session to discuss pending legal matters with Laura Viar, Bill Kassebaum and Chelsey Schmidt present, for 15 minutes. Motion carried.

The commission entered executive session at 9:06 a.m.

The commission returned to open session at 9:21 a.m.

No action taken.

Devin Rose, with Community Care Link, discussed an online application portal that their company offers to assist with implementing an emergency rent and utility assistance program. The voluntary program has been developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and is funded via the Cares Act. More information will be obtained about the program and it will be discussed further.

Debbie Trahan, with Computer Information Concepts, provided software, hardware and maintenance contracts for the proposal that was approved at last week's meeting. After review by Bill Kassebaum, County Attorney, it was requested that it be stated in the contract that if the remaining balance is paid in full by March of 2022, no interest shall be applied.

Pam Goss, Mayor of City of Dwight, discussed the County Shop located in Dwight. Heavy equipment and machinery that travels in and out of the County Shop location is very hard on the roads and it has become difficult to maintain the roadways. The City of Dwight would like to ask the County to help maintain the one block area. Commissioners will discuss the issue further and discuss it with the Road & Bridge Manager, Jeff Blosser.

Commissioner Barber (Kohler) moved to approve the 2021 Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses for the following Council Grove Marina locations: 1002 Lake Road and 1025 Lake Road in Council Grove. Motion carried.

Chris Blackledge, County Emergency Manager, provided an update on emergency management. As we approach storm season, tornado sirens will be tested county-wide on the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m.

John Lee gave a report on Noxious Weed and Waste Management Departments.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve the contract with Agri Trails Coop for scale use in the amount of \$150.00 per month. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler discussed moving the recycle trailer down to the recycling center so that it would allow access after-hours. John Lee reports that the recycle trailer was moved due to recurring instances of misuse. Discussion was held. Per John Lee's recommendation, the recycle trailer will remain in its current location.

The commissioners received a letter from Floyd and Loretta Albrecht requesting that south Maple Street in Delavan be vacated. The item was tabled until next week.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve the minutes from the March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

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

- Hauled creek gravel to the Wilsey Route on 1700 to 1800 Rd. and Z to BB Ave.
- Grading on most of the dirt roads this week
- Poured the west wall of the 4 Mile Low Water Crossing
- Completing forming the east wall and plan to pour it tomorrow
- Hauling crushed rock from the Delavan and the new MSM quarry to the Latimer Route
- Completed the hauling and screening of the creek gravel from the Miller Site and dressed up the driveway after we were done
- Installed entrance culverts on the Burdick and Dwight Routes
- Demoing a JCB Hydro-Dig machine from Kan-Equip
- Completing the ditching along Old Hwy 4 from 575 to 500 Rd.
- Received the x-section for the new creek gravel area
- Discussion about water lines at the County Shops
- Employee discussion

Discussion was held regarding establishing a race track for an annual Hooptie X Racing Series to be held in Morris County. Sean Honer presented the commission with information at the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting and inquired about using the area north west of the county shops for the location of the track. County Counselor, Bill Kassebaum, will contact Sean Honer and discuss the development of a possible lease agreement.

Commissioner Kohler (Barber) moved to approve a donation to the White City High School After Prom Party in the amount of \$400.00. Funds are to be paid from the Diversion Fund. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

--Meeting minutes can also be found on the county website: [www.morriscountyks.org](http://www.morriscountyks.org)

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**OF MORRIS COUNTY, KANSAS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**David L. Fox, Chairman**

**ATTEST:**

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**Wayne Kohler, Member**

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**Chelsey Schmidt  
Morris County Clerk**

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**Jim Barber, Member**