

May 17th, 2022

The Morris County Commissioners met on Tuesday, May 17th, 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: Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church, AJ Dome, Council Grove Republican

Chris Blackledge, County Emergency Manager, gave a report on emergency management. The review of the County Emergency Operations Plan has been completed. Damage assessment from the April 29th storms are continuing to be compiled for reporting to the State. The City of Parkerville has an estimated cost of \$39,000.00 for tree and debris removal.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the County Emergency Operations Plan and to authorize Chairman Kohler to sign the promulgation accepting the plan as presented. Motion carried.

Amanda Cunningham, Chief Executive Officer, Linda Johnson, Board of Directors President, Katy Jo Conner, Region Manager, and Sherri Knight, Chief Financial Officer, with CrossWinds Counseling and Wellness, gave a report on services provided and financial reports for calendar year 2021. CrossWinds Counseling and Wellness provides services in Lyon, Greenwood, Osage, Chase, Wabaunsee, Morris and Coffey County. 198 Morris County residents were served in 2021. This is an increase from a total of 173 clients that were served in 2020. An appropriation request was made in the amount of \$64,000.00. This is the same appropriation request as last year. The request will be considered during the county's budgeting process.

Travis Schweger, Noxious Weed and Waste Management Director, gave a report on the Noxious Weed and Waste Management departments. Discussion was held regarding the used 2008 scale that is on an auction.

Discussion was held regarding appointing a new County Health Officer. Candra Good, the current County Health Officer, notified the commission several months ago that her last day would be May 27th, 2022.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to appoint Lisa Meyer, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, as the Morris County Health Officer, to be effective May 28th, 2022. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the minutes from the May 10th, 2022 County Board of Commission meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the Audit Engagement Letter with Cindy Jensen, CPA, for the year ended December 31, 2021, as presented and to authorize Chairman Kohler to sign the agreement. Motion carried.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the minutes from the May 10th, 2022 County Board of Health meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Corrine Blosser, Register of Deed's, discussed courthouse maintenance and housekeeping matters.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to recess the commission meeting to attend a tour of Flint Hills Pork, LLC, (Schwartz Farms). Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 11:00 a.m.

The commission meeting resumed at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the amount of \$429,270.99. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 1,440.75
Road & Bridge:	\$ 29,269.99
Health Dept Flowthru:	\$ 10,007.10
Noxious Weed:	\$ 5.25
Solid Waste:	\$ 15,553.46
Morris County 911:	\$ 111.44
Capital Improvement:	\$ 78,000.00
Equipment Reserve:	\$ 294,883.00

Shelly Lautt gave the following weekly road and bridge report:

- Completed the road rebuild on 2800 Rd. going to Hwy 56; Hamm's Quarry rock was hauled on it
- Creek gravel was screened at Four Mile Rd. and AA Ave.
- Creek gravel was placed on DD Ave. from 200-400
- Loaded brush on 2400 Rd. from B-C and hauled to burn pile on 2800 Rd. and G Ave.
- Hauled millings to the shop from APAC for future projects
- Patched pothole with cold patch asphalt on the OS-10 Bridge; at 800 Rd. between D-G
- Started mowing blacktops and roads to cemeteries
- Installed field entrance on 2800 Rd. between R-T and an entrance tube to Schwartz Hog Farm
- Should and ditch work was done on 2900 Rd. from AA-BB
- Grading on all routes; graded 800 Rd. from D-G and 500 Rd. and G Ave. to Old Hwy 4 on the detour routes
- Received notification from MSM that there will now be an \$0.80/ton energy surcharge on all materials purchased; the energy surcharge will be adjusted weekly and will be dependent upon current diesel prices

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to remove ¼ mile portion of 1700 Rd., North of F Ave., from minimum maintenance. This portion of the road will now be considered a regular maintenance road. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of property for a new location to house Morris County EMS. Morris County EMS currently is stationed at Morris County Hospital. There have been concerns regarding the living space and living quarters available for EMS personnel who are required to stay at the station for 24 hours or more at a time. Pricing estimates to build a new Morton Shed type building have been obtained and were estimated to be approximately \$550,000.00 and higher.

Discussion was held regarding the property located at 1447 Ks Hwy 177 in Council Grove, Kansas.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the Contract of Deed with Danny and Donna Axe and Sandie Axe as presented. The property shall be acquired through a lease purchase agreement. The purchase price for the property shall be in the amount of \$390,000.00 to be paid over a five-year period. Funds are to be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the Affidavit of Equitable Interest as presented. Motion carried.

Morris County shall have possession of the south half of the building located at 1447 Ks Hwy 177 in Council Grove, Kansas by June 15th, 2022 and full possession of the property by November 1, 2022.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the payroll in the amount of \$99,912.42 and employer paid liabilities in the amount of \$98,833.20. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 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