

## **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022**

The Morris County Commissioners met on Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 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

Tracy Henry, Director of the Greater Morris County Development Corporation (GMDC), gave an update on recent projects. The GMDC has designed a 5-year plan with a goal of securing \$1,000,000.00 in funding to be used towards projects that will focus on workforce development, housing, business retention and recruitment. The GMDC has been presenting to investors and currently has \$833,500.00 in funding already pledged.

GMDC and the City of Council Grove have discussed plans for industrial development on the land that GMDC owns, located north of Council Grove along the west side of Hwy 177. The site currently has no utilities available. GMDC has contracted with Bartlett and West to assist with the evaluation and development plans for the site. Meetings have been held with utility companies to discuss options and plans for providing utilities to the location.

Nathan Bergman, with Bartlett and West, was present for the discussion.

Janet Edwards visited with the commissioners and discussed maintenance of Helmick Road.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to recess the commission meeting to convene as the County Board of Health. Motion carried.

The commission meeting was recessed at 10:01 a.m.

The commission meeting resumed at 10:30 a.m.

Larry Johnson visited with the commissioners and discussed the entry culvert to his residence located at 1957 Dunlap Rd. The ditch at that location has drainage and erosion issues.

Ryan Michaelis, County Appraiser, visited with the commissioners regarding the city vs county lines for the property located at 123 N 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Council Grove.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the minutes from the May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 County Board of Commission meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Dave Owen, Morris County EMS Director, and Shad Johnson, Morris County EMT, presented floor plans for remodeling the south half of the new EMS station. Morris County Hospital will be funding the remodeling costs for the EMS living quarters. Discussion was held regarding ambulance bids. The bids will be presented to the commission at a later date.

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

- Gravel from all sources was used to repair flood damages across the county
- Re-installed culverts that washed out on X Ave. from 400-525 and re-opened the road
- Removed tin from road ditches on 2700 Rd. from K-L from the April 29<sup>th</sup> tornado
- Cleaned out multiple culverts on the Latimer route
- Cleaned gravel from ditches on 100 Rd. from R-T, 200 Rd. from T-U, 400 Rd. and DD Ave. and Kahola Rd. and FF Ave.

- Rock was screened at the mine site
- Mowing continued along the blacktop and cemetery roads
- Grading was done on the various detour routes
- Scheduled traffic counters to be re-installed on detour routes on 800 Rd. and Kelso Rd.
- Attended walk-through inspection on the Kelso Bridge
- Thrasher Inc. is scheduled to do work on the low water crossing on 500 Rd. and F Ave. on June 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>

Discussion was held regarding equipment and vehicles damaging minimum maintenance roads due to traveling on the roads when it is too wet and muddy.

Commissioner Kohler discussed Helmick Rd.

Commissioner Kohler discussed the ditches and entrance culvert at 1957 Dunlap Rd.

Travis Schweger, Noxious Weed and Waste Management Director, gave a report on the Noxious Weed and Waste Management departments.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the amount of \$95,376.72. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$	1,322.94
Road & Bridge:	\$	1,512.11
Special Bridge:	\$	2,499.27
Health Dept. Flowthu:	\$	2,867.00
Bridge Bonds 2020A:	\$	86,825.40
ARPA:	\$	350.00

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$97,162.86 and employer paid liabilities in the amount of \$15,170.17. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Kohler, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Barber, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chelsey Schmidt  
Morris County Clerk

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David L. Fox, Member