

November 14th, 2023

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Jim Barber, David L. Fox and Wayne Kohler were present. Bill Kassebaum, County Counselor, and Chelsey Schmidt, County Clerk, were present.

Others present: Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church, and Gary Floyd

Chris Blackledge, Morris County Emergency Manager, gave a report on Emergency Management. The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met recently and discussed emergency flood plans. The next LEPC meeting will be scheduled in December of 2023.

No insurance bids were received for the county's property and liability insurance. Tim Tyner, with EMC Insurance Company, notified the county that they will not be providing a quote for the 2024 insurance renewal. Kansas County Association Multiline Pool (KCAMP), the county's current insurance provider, does not have the annual renewal premium available yet; the renewal is anticipated to be available by the end of November 2023.

Dave Owen, Morris County EMS Director, gave a report on Morris County EMS and presented the following run statistics for the month of October:

Ambulance calls:	45
Transfers from MCH to other hospitals:	14
Total number of runs:	59
<i>North County:</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>South County:</i>	<i>41</i>
Year to date total runs:	661

Discussion was held regarding emergency dispatching. There have been recent mis-communications in regards to paging the appropriate first responding agencies for 9-1-1 calls. It would be beneficial for the responding Paramedics and EMTs to have the dispatcher remain on the phone with the 9-1-1 caller until the ambulance has arrived on scene. Additional information that could be obtained by the dispatcher about the emergency is crucial to being proactive with potential resources needed and will better prepare EMS to care for patients prior to their arrival on scene. The current protocols and procedures for dispatching will be discussed with the Sheriff.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the minutes from the November 7th, 2023 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve payroll as presented, in the total amount of \$112,058.64. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$166,996.87. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 13,270.82
Road & Bridge:	\$ 29,594.02
Reappraisal:	\$ 155.82
Noxious Weed:	\$ 175.51
Capital Improvement:	\$ 45,736.02
LATCF Funds:	\$ 78,064.68

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

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

- Brush crew removed trees, thickets and trimmed trees at the following locations: 2000 Rd. from A-B, 2100 Rd. from A-C, B Ave. from 1800-2000, F Ave. from 1800-2400, 1800 Rd. from C-F, 2400 Rd. from G-J, J Ave. from 2400-2500 and 2700 Rd. from F-G
- Mowing was done on the Wilsey, Delavan and Latimer routes
- Creek gravel was screened at the county shop
- Routine grading was done on routes
- Safety Meeting was held for the employees at the county shop
- Olgoonik continues work on the waterline project at the county shop
- On November 8th, the brush crew was involved in an accident on 1800 Rd. between D and F Ave. A Morris County resident struck the parked dump truck and trailer before going through a fence. There was a thick fog that morning. There were no injuries involved.
- Received notification from the state for the letting date on Bridge OS-34; the letting date is set for March 19, 2025

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of G Ave., a quarter-mile west of 2800 Rd.; there is a culvert that is going out.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the Utility Permit from Everglow Energy LLC for boring along P Ave.; Sections 26-35, Township 15, Range 9 East. Motion carried.

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of 2900 Rd., going north of G Ave.; needs more gravel.

Discussion was held regarding a loader that may be available on the State Surplus. No action was taken.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to recess the commission meeting to conduct the Canvass of Votes for the November 7th, 2023 General Election. Motion carried.

The commission meeting was recessed at 2:29 p.m.

The commission meeting re-convened at 3:46 p.m.

The Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) Annual Conference agenda was reviewed by the commissioners. The conference will be held in Wichita, December 5th through 7th.

An application is being submitted to KDOT for the Public Transportation Assistance Grant. The application is for funding to assist with the operation and administration of the Morris County General Public Transportation Program for SFY25. If the application is approved, the county's local matching portion would be \$47,254.50.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the certification of local matching funds for the SFY25 Public Transportation Assistance Grant. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF MORRIS COUNTY, KANSAS

Jim Barber, Chairman

ATTEST:

David L. Fox, Member

Chelsey Schmidt
Morris County Clerk

Wayne Kohler, Member