

October 11th, 2022

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Wayne Kohler, Jim Barber and David L. Fox were present. Chelsey Schmidt, County Clerk was present.

Jay Simecka, County Sheriff, and Ben Moore, Ben Moore Studio, reviewed and discussed bids for the Sheriff's Office and Dispatch Addition and Remodel.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the bid submitted by Evergreen Design-Build in the total amount of \$953,200.00 for the Sheriff's Office and Dispatch Addition and Remodel. The approved bid includes the base bid, alternate #1, alternate #2, alternate #3 and alternate #5. Additional options will be obtained for the stone siding and the parking lot is contingent upon possible grant funding. Funds are to be paid from the ARPA Fund. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to authorize Chairman Kohler to sign the contract agreements with Evergreen Design-Build. Motion carried.

The Sheriff gave an update on the Sheriff's Office and Dispatch. Dispatching staff will be attending training for assisting with inmate monitoring and oversight.

Laura Viar, County Attorney, gave a report on the Attorney's Office. Discussion was held regarding new staffing in the Attorney's Office and the use of Diversion Funds.

Travis Schweger, Noxious Weed and Waste Management Director, gave a report on the noxious weed and waste management departments. Prices for cardboard have dropped from \$170/ton to \$130/ton. The Recycle Center is seeking applicants for a full-time route driver; duties would also include assisting at the Transfer Station. Applications are available at the Recycle Center and on the County Website.

Linda Eldridge, County Treasurer, gave a report on the Treasurer's Office. Quarterly financial reports were presented and reviewed.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the County Treasurer's 2021 Tax Roll Settlement as presented. A total of 98.81% of taxes for the 2021 tax roll are collected; the remaining 1.19% are uncollected. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the minutes from the October 4th, 2022 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve payroll liabilities in the amount of \$40,355.10. Motion carried.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the amount of \$48,699.70. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 21,636.26
Road & Bridge:	\$ 14,762.37
Reappraisal :	\$ 285.36
Noxious Weed:	\$ 952.14
Solid Waste:	\$ 1,657.39
Morris County 911:	\$ 956.18
Equipment Reserve:	\$ 8,450.00

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to authorize the County Clerk to process payroll on October 18th, 2022. The commissioners will be attending the KAC Conference next week; no commission meeting will be held on October 18th, 2022. Motion carried.

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

- Mid States Materials rock was hauled on F Ave. from 1900-2000, 2000 Rd. from C-F, 2100 Rd. from F-G, 2400 Rd. from Q-T and 3100 Rd. from DD-FF
- Rawhide Quarry gravel was placed on 1100 Rd. from H-K and J Ave. from 1050-1100
- Creek gravel was placed on FF Ave. from 900-1000, DD Ave. from 900-1000, 850 Rd. from K177 – AA and on 400 Rd. from Z-AB
- Creek gravel was placed at the OS-96 Bridge (400 Rd. between Z-AA Ave.) for channel maintenance
- Replaced an entrance culvert on F Ave. between 1200-1300
- Shoulder and ditch work was done on 400 Rd. between Dunlap Rd. and CC Ave., AB Ave. from 200-400 and Q Ave. from 2200-2400
- Mowing on the Council Grove routes south of Hwy 56 and on the Latimer routes
- Repaired guardrail on the Dunlap Rd. between 4 Mile Rd. and X Ave.
- Gravel retriever that was purchased was delivered to the Council Grove shop
- Hauled Mid States Materials 2 ½" base gravel to the Wilsey shop
- Placed millings in the truck shed for a floor base and ran the tamper over it
- Took the light plant to the Riverwalk for Seth Fest
- Chip Seal Cost Report: Costs in addition to the purchase of oil and chips were \$77,763.68. Cost breakdown: Rental Equipment: \$20,470.98, Labor: \$24,776.65, and Equipment: \$32,516.05

Two fuel bids were received for 4,500 gallons of diesel fuel and 3,500 gallons of regular unleaded gasoline as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Diesel</u>	<u>Reg Unleaded</u>	<u>Total</u>
Agri Trails	4.2681/gal	3.1846/gal	\$30,352.55
MFA Oil	4.2936/gal	3.2314/gal	\$30,631.10

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the fuel bid from Agri Trails as presented, in the total amount of \$30,352.55. Motion carried.

Commissioner Barber discussed drainage issues and trees needing trimmed in the area of 1800 Rd. and K Ave.; trees needing trimmed at the new bridge east of Parkerville; drainage issues in the area of 1700 Rd. and H Ave. going east.

David Dobratz discussed a water leak in the area of the Old Trail Motel.

Department head meeting was held. Those in attendance were: Laura Viar, County Attorney, Linda Eldridge, County Treasurer, Corrine Blosser, Register of Deeds, Ryan Michaelis, County Appraiser, Travis Schweger, Noxious Weed and Waste Management Director, Jeff Falter and Shelly Lautt, Road and Bridge Managers, and Chelsey Schmidt, County Clerk.

Items discussed were:

- Cost of living increases; Commissioners approved 5% salary increases
- Leave balance carryover for employees for the end of 2022; employees cannot carryover a leave balance greater than 960 hours at the end of the calendar year

- Christmas holiday hours and Christmas boxes for employees; County offices will close at 1:00PM on Friday December 23rd
- County Email Conversion
- Detailed accounting/budgeting structure for 2023
- Merit raises and employee evaluations

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 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