

## October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Jim Barber, David L. Fox and Wayne Kohler were present. Chelsey Schmidt, County Clerk, was present.

Others present: Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church

Jamie Johnson, County Health Nurse, gave a report on the Health Department. Discussion was held regarding epoxy flooring for the health department; Jamie continues to pursue grant funding opportunities. The Health Department has begun administering flu vaccinations. The adult RSV vaccination has arrived and is available for individuals 60 years of age and older and pregnant women.

Jay Simecka, County Sheriff, gave a report on the Sheriff's Office, Jail and Dispatch. The original bid from Evergreen Design-Build LLC for the outside stone work of the Sheriff's Office Addition & Remodel was \$14,747.00. This alternate was declined by Morris County. Sheriff Simecka presented a bid from Goodell Masonry LLC for labor and materials for a stone veneer wainscot on the west side of the Sheriff's Office addition, in the amount of \$7,200.00.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the quote from Goodell Masonry LLC for the stone veneer wainscot to the west side entryway in the amount of \$7,200.00. Funds are to be paid from the ARPA Funds. Motion carried.

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

- Air Capital Quarry rock was hauled to the shop stockpile
- Mid States Materials Quarry (Wilsey location) base rock was put in the windrow to reshape roads (once we get moisture) on 300 Rd. from P-R, 250 Rd. from M-P, P Ave. from 250-300, 150 Rd. from Y-AA, Z Ave. from 1900-2100 and Z Ave. from Four Mile to 1400
- Mid States Materials Quarry (Wilsey location) road rock was placed on 1900 Rd. from T-U
- Shoulder and ditch work was done on 300 Rd. from R-Q, P Ave. from 250-300, 150 Rd. from Y-AA and Z Ave. from 1200-1300
- Sign maintenance was done across the county
- Work was started on clearing a hedge row from the right of way on T Ave. between 1400-2500
- Mowing was done on the Council Grove and Delavan routes
- Trees were cut on 1800 Rd. from X-Y and Y Ave. from 1600-1700
- Fallen tree was removed from the road on M Ave. between 1100-1200
- Excavator work was done at the transfer station yard for the burn pile area
- Routine blading and maintenance of roads was done; L Ave. west of Latimer was bladed
- Jeff & Shelly attended the Department Head meeting last week at the courthouse

Discussion was held regarding the proposal from Mid States Materials to crush rock for the county at the Wilsey Quarry location.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the quote from Mid States Materials to crush rock at the Wilsey Quarry for the county as follows:

2 ½ inch Base Rock:	15,000 tons at 9.25/ton
1 ¼ inch Screened Road Rock:	35,000 tons at 10.25/ton

Crushing is to begin in the first quarter of 2024. Morris County is to own all lime by-product produced by the 1 ¼ inch screened road rock production. Motion carried. A formal contract will be presented and reviewed for approval.

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of 1800 Rd. north of Hwy 4; there is a very large pot hole that needs filled. This is a state right of way.

The county has received the reimbursement from the KDOT Cost Share Program for the Dunlap River Bridge Project, in the amount of \$1,000,000.00. Funds are to be receipted back into the Bridge Bond 2020A Fund.

Colleen Anderson, President for the Morris County Senior Citizens Inc., gave a monthly report on the services being provided within Morris County. The Council Grove Senior Center is averaging approximately 100 meals served per day. The Rolling Prairie Senior Center is averaging approximately 30 meals served per day. The Council Grove Senior Center will be hosting a monthly potluck dinner and games; the potluck will be held on the second Saturday of every month in the evening. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

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

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the County Treasurer's 2022 Tax Roll Settlement as presented. A total of 98.83% of taxes for the 2022 tax roll are collected; the remaining 1.17% are uncollected. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$83,283.17. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 28,732.14
Road & Bridge:	\$ 40,859.24
Reappraisal:	\$ 610.99
Health Dept Flowthru:	\$ 9,746.00
Noxious Weed:	\$ 454.44
Morris County 911:	\$ 577.37
Bridge Bonds 2020A:	\$ 1,802.00
Clerk Tech Fund:	\$ 500.99

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve payroll as presented, in the total amount of \$109,334.42. Motion carried.

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

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the minutes from the October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to appoint Commissioner Kohler as the Morris County Voting Delegate and Commissioner Fox as the Alternate Voting Delegate for the Annual KAC Business Meeting to be held in Wichita on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to appoint Commissioner Barber as the Morris County Voting Delegate and Commissioner Fox as the Alternate Voting Delegate for the Annual KCAMP Business Meeting to be held in Wichita on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Motion carried.

Ryan Michaelis, County Appraiser, gave a report on the Appraiser's Office. Discussion was held regarding neighborhood revitalization for residential properties and rural housing incentive districts.

The meeting was adjourned at Noon.

--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**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jim Barber, Chairman**

**ATTEST:**

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**David L. Fox, Member**

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**Chelsey Schmidt**  
**Morris County Clerk**

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**Wayne Kohler, Member**