

## October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Wayne Kohler, Jim Barber and David L. Fox were present. Bill Kassebaum, County Counselor and Chelsey Schmidt, County Clerk were present.

Others present: Billy Kryger, Pastor Berean Baptist Church

Chris Blackledge, Emergency Manager, gave a report on emergency management. New quotes were obtained for four back up batteries for the tornado sirens and are as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Price/Battery</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ka-Comm	\$297.00	\$1,188.00
TBS Electronics	\$275.00	\$1,100.00
Napa	\$286.00	\$1,144.00

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the quote from Napa for the purchase of four tornado siren back up batteries, as presented, in the total amount of \$1,144.00. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding applying for grant funding in order to purchase 800 mhz radios for the fire departments in Morris County. All fire departments can apply together on one application to the Assistance for Firefighters Grant (AFG). By all departments applying together, the application would qualify as a regional grant application and would go through a peer review process for selection. Chris Blackledge will discuss applying for the grant with fire chiefs at the upcoming Fire Chief Meeting.

Corrine Blosser, Register of Deeds, gave a report on the Register of Deed's Office. Discussion was held regarding courthouse maintenance issues. There are ongoing issues with water leaking onto and through the ceiling tiles on the west side of the courthouse. KVK will be contacted to inspect the piping in that area.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the County Attorney's Diversion Fund Request for a donation to Chapter JN P.E.O for the Annual Daddy Daughter Date Night in the amount of \$500.00. Funds are to be paid from the Diversion Fund. Motion carried 2-1 with Commissioner Barber dissenting.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the County Attorney's Diversion Fund request for an invoice to Rays Apple Market in the amount of \$62.15. Funds are to be paid from the Diversion Fund. Motion carried 2-1 with Commissioner Barber dissenting.

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

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to cancel the commission meeting scheduled for the week of October 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> due to the commissioners attending the KAC Conference. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to reschedule the regular commission meeting from November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 to November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 in order to hold the Canvass of Election Votes. Motion carried.

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

- Mid States Materials rock was hauled on L Ave. from 2800-3100, AA Ave. from 2900-3000, BB Ave. from 2500-2750, 3000 Rd. from Z-AA, Z Ave. from 1500-1600, Z Ave. from 2600-2800 and Y Ave. from 2600-2800
- Finished clean up at Miller creek site; removed culvert, lego blocks and equipment
- Excavator removed from the creek and hauled to Van Kepple in Topeka for wiring repairs
- Detour routes 1000 Rd. from A-C, 500 Rd. and Kelso Rd. were graded
- Brush was cut and removed on H Ave. from 2500-2600
- Shoulder and ditch work done on M Ave. from 3000-3200
- Mowing was done south of Dunlap on the CG route and on the Latimer route
- Repairs to the exhaust were done on MT-3 and MT-4
- New Case Mini-X from Victor L Phillips was delivered on Friday
- Traffic counter data reported from September 9<sup>th</sup> – September 25<sup>th</sup>: average of 52 cars per day on 800 Rd. and J Ave. detour with highest speed of 63mph and average speed of 31mph; average of 351 cars per day on Kelso Rd. detour with highest speed of 89pmh and average speed of 41mph; average of 141 cars per day on 1000 Rd. and A Ave. with highest speed of 54mph and average speed of 24mph; average of 218 cars per day on Old Hwy 4 and 500 Rd. detour with highest speed of 66mph and average speed of 28mph
- Discussion was held regarding the traffic counter data and the high rates of speed being traveled on these gravel detour routes
- Repair options for the track hoe

Clyde Kasten and Wayne Kasten visited with the commissioners via telephone regarding the increased traffic on 2600 Rd. and the trucks hauling at a high rate of speed.

Commissioner Fox discussed a box culvert in the area of 2700 Rd. and T Ave. and gravel in the area of south 3100 Rd.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve the minutes from the September 27th, 2022 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Barber) moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$94,840.52 and employee paid liabilities in the amount of \$28,825.23. Motion carried.

Commissioner Barber (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the amount of \$90,655.89. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 29,056.75
Road & Bridge:	\$ 2,159.87
Health Dept Flowthru:	\$ 20,067.39
Noxious Weed:	\$ 28.12
Ambulance:	\$ 627.41
Solid Waste:	\$ 352.35
Equipment Reserve:	\$ 38,364.00

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 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:**

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**Jim Barber, Member**

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

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**David L. Fox, Member**