

September 5th, 2023

The Morris County Commissioner meeting was called to order on Tuesday, September 5th, 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

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the minutes from the August 29th, 2023 commission meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve payroll as presented, in the total amount of \$102,697.87. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented; in the total amount of \$634,601.17. Motion carried. The breakdown by fund is as follows:

General:	\$ 23,379.00
Road & Bridge:	\$ 497,350.90
Reappraisal:	\$ 1,453.73
Health Dept Flowthru:	\$ 713.00
Noxious Weed:	\$ 421.88
Ambulance:	\$ 1,056.00
Solid Waste:	\$ 1,412.68
Morris County 911:	\$ 6,405.58
ARPA Funds:	\$ 50,479.00
Equipment Reserve:	\$ 51,929.40

Kevin Leeper, Morris County Hospital CEO, gave a monthly report on the Morris County Hospital. Financial reports were explained and reviewed. County tax appropriations for the hospital were discussed.

Travis Schweger, Noxious Weed & Waste Management Director, gave a report on Noxious Weed and Waste Management Departments. Endeavor Environmental is not able to offer a price quote for waste removal services. Waste Management has not yet responded with a quote. A revised contract with Hamm Companies was reviewed; the revised contract proposes a \$3.00/ton price increase from \$37.09/ton to \$40.09/ton effective January 1, 2024, and an additional \$3.00/ton price increase from \$40.09/ton to \$43.09/ton effective April 1, 2024. Discussion was held, no action was taken.

Aaron Brinkerhoff, with Optavise, gave a presentation to the commissioners regarding supplemental insurance services provided through Washington National.

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

- Chip Seal work was done on Old Hwy 4 and the annual one-mile of Council Grove city streets
- Cleaned up and returned chip seal rental equipment
- Moved extra chips to the shop stockpile
- Mowing was done on the White City and Burdick routes
- Assistance was given to the Kaw Nation for unloading and securing the KAW Nation Sacred Rock
- The Dunlap River Bridge approach will be done on September 11th

- The OS-34 Bridge located 2.2 miles south and 0.6 miles east of White City on K Ave., over the West Fork Neosho River, has been selected by KDOT to receive fiscal year 2025 funding through the Off-System Bridge Program; the project is estimated to be approximately \$850,000 and funding will be 100%

Commissioner Fox (Kohler) moved to approve the 2025 KDOT Off-System Bridge Project Programming Request as presented. Motion carried.

Sealed bids were opened for the Road and Bridge Waterline Replacement Project. The following were present for the bid opening: Joe Lusk with Olgoonik, Chuck May with Schwab Eaton, Jaime Goering with Schwab Eaton, Bob Rogers with Larson Construction, Amanda Hoover with Nowak Construction, Terri Kelley with Apex Excavating, and Dan Hess with Ditch Diggers.

Five bids were received with alternates A-I (A- General Bid, B- Arena, C- Community Building, D- Livestock Building, E- Noxious Weed Building, F- Private Service Line, G- Old Shop, H- Recycle Building and I- New Shop) as follows:

Alternate	Ditch Diggers	Apex	Nowak	Olgoonik	Larson Construction
A	82,947	218,215	133,137.40	78,480.20	144,518
B	5,560	11,540	4,459.50	2,222.40	3,680
C	5,320	11,140	4,238.70	2,060.40	3,560
D	7,320	13,960	5,635.10	2,650.40	4,560
E	4,920	10,615	4,023.90	2,001.20	3,360
F	1,160	5,160	1,795.50	838.80	1,480
G	5,480	11,435	4,862.40	2,219.60	3,640
H	2,500	7,160	2,725.50	1,326.00	2,150
I	3,360	8,355	3,289.10	1,494.00	2,580
Total:	\$118,567	\$297,580	\$164,167.10	\$93,293.00	\$169,528

Schwab Eaton will review and verify bids and will report back to the commissioners with a bid recommendation.

Four bridges in Morris County are due for their annual inspection. A quote from E.E.S. LLC was presented for performing the four bridge inspections at \$225.00 each, in the total amount of \$900.00.

Commissioner Kohler (Fox) moved to approve the bridge inspection contract with E.E.S. LLC for four annual bridge inspections, in the total amount of \$900.00. Motion carried. Funds are to be paid from the Special Bridge Fund.

Commissioner Barber discussed the area of C Ave. and 1800 Rd.; ditches need cleaned, and the road needs more gravel.

Commissioners discussed complaints of heavy truck traffic on 2600 Rd. south of Hwy 4; this has been designated as a hauling route by KDOT and is a public roadway; the county has no authority to limit traffic traveled on this road.

Chris Blackledge, Morris County Emergency Manager, gave a report on Emergency Management. Discussion was held regarding the remaining funding for the fire departments 800mhz radios donation. Equipment inventory and additional radio needs for each department will be obtained by the emergency manager and further discussion will be held regarding additional equipment purchases.

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

Jim Barber, Chairman

ATTEST:

David L. Fox, Member

Chelsey Schmidt
Morris County Clerk

Wayne Kohler, Member