

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 24, 2007

Bob called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with open doors.

Present: Bob Boaldin, Chairman; Allen Tucker, Vice-Chairman; Ron DeGarmo, Commissioner; Eric Witcher, County Attorney; Mary Gilmore, County Clerk

The Agenda was reviewed and approved with additions.

Minutes of the April 2, 2007 meeting were read and approved with additions on a motion by Allen, seconded by Ron.

Bills were reviewed and approved for payment.

Approval was given for the Clerk to transfer \$2000 from the Elections Commodities budget to Contractual.

Karena Meek, District Court Clerk, entered the meeting and presented the Commissioners a comparison of court case statistics for January 1, 2006-April 23, 2006 and January 1, 2007-April 23, 2007. Karena also requested approval to purchase a new document scanner and a SonicWALL router at an approximate cost of \$2400. Motion was made by Bob, seconded by Ron, to purchase the requested items.

Motion was made by Bob, seconded by Allen, to put the Grasslands (Bankhead-Jones) money in the Road Department.

A discussion took place concerning adding more airport hangars at the Airport. This will be further discussed at budget time.

Becky Ellis entered the meeting and requested the Commissioners' consideration to donate towards the 2007 Grassland Heritage Festival. Becky presented a booklet outlining the program. A discussion took place. Motion was then made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to give \$1000 towards the event (same as last year.)

Deb Schnurr met with the Commissioners and asked where the money from FEMA will have to be deposited. The Commissioners stated the funds EMS received will have to be deposited in EMS Gifts and Grants so it can be re-spent.

A discussion took place concerning a voucher that had been submitted for payment by EMS. The Commissioners said the County does not pay for nursing hours for volunteers. Deb will submit a personal check to be sent with the County's check to cover the full amount of the bill.

The Commissioners signed the Payroll Form, the FY 2008-2009 Community Corrections Mission Statement, and two Road Petitions, one from Bob Boaldin and one from H&L Operating Co., LLP, on a motion by Ron, seconded by Allen.

Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Bob, to pay Morton County's portion of the two bills submitted by Frieden & Forbes for work done for WEKANDO. The two bills totaled \$4070.16.

Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to approve Pay Application #10 to Orr Construction for the Civic Center and Pay Application #4 to Orr Construction for the Assisted Living Facility.

The Clerk mentioned that the Taloga Township Trustee has moved and they will need to appoint someone to fill that position. The Trustee serves on the Elkhart Cemetery Board. Three names were suggested and the Clerk was asked to contact these individuals to see if one of them would be willing to accept the position.

The Department Heads met with the Commissioners for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Present were Deb, Brandi, Leon, Kevin, Vienna, Charley, Sally, Justin. Each reported on meetings and projects taking place in their department. The Clerk mentioned that she received a letter from Dollar General Corporation indicating that tax exempt organizations must now provide evidence of their tax exempt status each time a tax exempt transaction occurs. The tax exempt form is in the Clerk's office and can be copied for those who need it.

The meeting recessed at noon for lunch and reconvened at 1:00 p.m. Following lunch the Commissioners drove to the Civic Center and inspected the progress being made, drove to the Assisted Living site and viewed that progress, drove to the High School to look at the track, then drove State Line Road, West.

Charley McKinley and Chuck Oldacker met with the Commissioners. Chuck presented the Commissioners information regarding the Kansas Collaborative Initiative (Purchasing using State Contract Pricing), and discussed notifying KDOT of our construction projects. Chuck stated that if KDOT has an asphalt plant in the area we are working, Morton County may be able to take advantage of this resource. Chuck also presented the FY2007 and FY2008 District 6 1R Substantial Maintenance projects for review.

Charley presented the 2006 Road Supervisor's Annual Report for the Commissioners' review.

The plans for the box culverts for the acceleration/deceleration lanes in front of the Civic Center were reviewed and a discussion took place.

Dick Bennin met with the Commissioners and Charley to discuss the roads on the Grasslands. The Forest Service is in the process of making a map of all roads that are open to the public and they need the County to add the designated county-maintained

roads to their map. A discussion took place concerning Jim Finn's road and whether it should be designated a county-maintained road. The Commissioners said they will get with Eric and let Dick know.

Charley reported one of his phone lines at the Road Department no longer works; it was hit by lightning during the recent storm; also hit was the fax machine and the card fuel pump. Charley said the Sheriff's repeater was also hit. The Commissioners asked Charley to get all of the information, including costs for repair or replacement, to the Clerk so she can turn it in to insurance.

Leon Ellis and Charley requested consideration to get turbo net on their computers at the Road Department and the Landfill/Noxious Weed Department. Bob said he will see if it is possible to get this that far out of town. Bob did mention, however, that it might be possible to get high speed internet off a satellite.

Charley reported he visited with a company who has indicated they can fill the cracks and seal all Airport runways and taxiways for approximately \$63,000. After confirming the Airport has enough budget for the project, the Commissioners asked Charley to get additional information and see if the project can be done this year.

Charley requested approval to attend the Kansas County Highway Association meeting next week in Great Bend. Approval was given on a motion by Ron, seconded by Allen.

A discussion took place concerning the results of the counters Charley had been requested to place on State Line Road (West). One counter was placed one-half mile west of the Lumber Yard and another west of Johnny Boaldin's home. The results for a 48 hour period were: 349 vehicles used the road ½ mile west of the Lumber Yard (7.27 vehicles an hour); 90 vehicles west of Boaldin's home (1.87 vehicles per hour.) The counters were put in place on April 3rd between 3:30-4:00 p.m. and picked up on April 5th between 3:30-4:00.

Leon requested approval to purchase a steel radial scraper tire in the amount of \$1644. Leon needs the tire as a spare. Approval was given for the purchase.

Leon reported there has been 7500-8000 tons of concrete crushed so far. He estimates that if 10,000 tons are crushed we will owe the company \$108,000. The Commissioners encouraged Leon to have all the cement crushed that we can in order to get the area cleaned up and to make all we can available to the public.

Leon reported that they will, hopefully, get the CAT back the end of this week or early next week. Cost of the repairs is expected to be approximately \$50,000.

Kevin Shook entered the meeting. Kevin recommended hiring Ty Koonce as summer help at the golf course. He stated he still needs one more person for the summer and has a couple of applicants he wants to interview. Approval was given to hire Ty Koonce on a

motion by Ron, seconded by Allen. The application was signed and the hourly wage will be \$7.25/hr.

Kevin requested approval to attend the Superintendent's Meeting on May 7th at Smokey Hill County Club. Approval was given on a motion by Ron, seconded by Allen.

Kevin reported that he visited with Ben Pate and Ben is going to visit with the ladies to see where they want the new Tee Box.

Justin Holliday, Sheriff, met with the Commissioners and reported that Allen Clark has been designated the Range Master at the gun range. Justin said they have started cleaning up the area and will begin a membership drive soon. He plans to appoint a Cimarron Gun Range Club Board.

Sheriff Holliday mentioned that Coen Graphics is in the process of designing some signs for the Deputies' vehicles that are currently unmarked.

Justin mentioned he has requested new fuel cards from both the Coop and Nussers. All Deputies have been instructed that they are to use regular unleaded fuel in their vehicles. Justin also requested consideration to get a universal card to be used for fuel when a vehicle has to travel out of the County. Consensus of the Commissioners was for Justin to meet with the Commissioners regarding the credit card once he gets the application.

Justin stated he has quite a few metal file cabinets available to any department needing one or all. He is still cleaning out and cleaning up the Department!

Justin said he had a person ask him about the part-time Dispatch position but was not interested when they found out the hourly wage (\$7.25/hr.)

Brandi Fleming entered the meeting and presented the Commissioners a copy of her April report (4/1/07 – 4/26/07). As of April 26th the Health Department has seen 229 clients.

Brandi presented the application from Rhianna Shaw for consideration to fill the RN vacancy when Kristi Winters leaves. Approval was given on a motion by Bob, seconded by Ron. Approval was also given to transfer \$1008 from the Health Department's Contractual budget to Personnel in the event Rhianna can start sooner than a month. Rhianna has indicated she has to give the Hospital a months notice but it is hoped she can start at the Health Department May 14th in order to have two weeks training with Kristi. Approval was given for the transfer. Approval was also given for Rhianna to attend all of the required classes to work in Public Health on a motion by Allen, seconded by Bob.

Brandi mentioned there will be a regional Bioterrorism exercise on May 16th at the Health Department. The meeting exercise will be from 10:00-2:00 and lunch will be served. Brandi said she needs to know who will be attending by May 7th.

A discussion took place concerning the IT position and the hours worked. A call was placed to the IT Administrator but she had already left for the day. The Consensus of the Commissioners was to write a letter to that Department indicating the hours the Administrator is expected to work. The Commissioners will also request a written daily log be kept and reviewed at each Commissioners Meeting.

Vienna Lee met with the Commissioners and mentioned that a suggestion had been made that Economic Development might want to look at the Sherwood property that will soon be coming up for auction; to be used for future housing construction. This item was tabled at this time.

A discussion took place concerning a Request for Time Extension from Orr Construction in March for the Assisted Living Facility. The request was for an additional 17 calendar days in March. Following the discussion motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to approve 15 days. The Clerk will contact the Architect and inform him of this decision.

Curtis, with Kirkham-Michael, entered the meeting to discuss the acceleration/deceleration lane. The Commissioners requested Curtis look at the area and see if the lane can be extended from the front of the Civic Center to Morton Street. Following a discussion Curtis said a survey would have to be done first. He called Justin (Kirkham-Michael) to determine when a survey could be scheduled and the cost of the survey. Justin indicated the earliest the survey could be scheduled is a couple of months; the cost, survey and design, would not be over \$7000. Motion was then made by Bob, seconded by Ron, to approve the survey and design work.

Charley McKinley stated he would visit with Larry Thompson, KDOT, when he attends the KCHA meeting about the possibility of getting some state assistance.

The May Commissioner Meetings were scheduled for May 7th and May 21st. Eric stated he would not be available on the 7th.

A call was placed to Jack Strain, Texas County Commissioner, regarding the State Line Road. The Commissioners asked Mr. Strain if Thon Boaldin had contacted him yet about that road; he had not. The Commissioners informed Mr. Strain of the meeting they had with some of the residents who live on that road and their request that the road be paved. Mr. Strain said he sure doesn't have anything in his budget to either pave the road or share the cost of paving the road. He also stated he doesn't know of anything else that can be done to improve the road. Following a discussion the Commissioners invited Mr. Strain and one of his Foremen to come to Morton County and have lunch with the Commissioners and they could all go look at the road together. Mr. Strain agreed this was a good idea.

The Clerk reminded the Commissioners of the Construction Meeting regarding the Assisted Living Facility to be held on May 2nd at 10:30 a.m. in the Hospital Classroom. Lunch will be served.

The Commissioners tabled the request for three years reimbursement from the County to the Morton County Fireman's Relief Association until they can visit with the County Fire Chief, Charles Hull.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on a motion by Ron, seconded by Allen.