

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 4, 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 May 21, 2007 meeting were approved as read on a motion by Allen, seconded by Ron.

No bills were presented at this time.

Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to appoint Justin Holliday, Sheriff, to serve on the Cimarron Basin Community Corrections Advisory Board, replacing Loren Youngers.

At this time the bid letting was held for the Civic Center water and sewer extension. Also present at this time was Jon Halbgewachs, Kirkham-Michael. Only one bid was received as follows:

Underground Specialists, Garden City	
Sewer	\$22,556
Water	\$59,634
Total Base Lump Sum Bid:	\$82,190
Add Alternate #1	\$17,810
Total Project:	\$100,000

Following a lengthy discussion, motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to accept this bid. Notice of Award was signed pending receipt of cashier's check. The Commissioners indicated they do want someone to overlook the work a couple of days a week. Jon said he will work up an estimate and scope of the work for the Commissioners to review. A pre-construction meeting will be held in the very near future as the work is to begin no later than June 25, 2007. The Commissioners asked Jon to provide them with a list of contractors who requested Plans and Specifications for the project. Jon placed a call to his office and the list was faxed to the Clerk's Office.

Sealed bids were then opened for the following real estate in the Industrial Park (Block 2, Lots 24-27, Thomason Park Addition) as follows:

Kent Boaldin	Lot 24	\$2250
Kent Boaldin	Lot 25	\$2050

Shannon Whisennand	Lot 24	\$2001
Shannon Whisennand	Lot 25	\$2001
Shannon Whisennand	Lot 26	\$2001
Shannon Whisennand	Lot 27	\$2001

Bob disqualified himself from this discussion. Vienna Lee was present at this time.

A call was placed to Shannon to see if he had to have all of the lots for his project or if he would accept lots 26-27. At this time Shannon does not feel lots 26-27 will be large enough for his project. Prior to accepting any bids the Commissioners indicated they want to look at the lots after lunch this day. The matter was tabled at this time.

Tracie Nixon entered the meeting and presented the Commissioners a copy of her Activity Report from May 21-June 1. Tracie also requested approval to purchase 66 Symantec Antivirus Corporate Edition for Workstations and Network Servers at a cost of \$1749. This will be put on all county-owned computers. Motion was made by Bob, seconded by Ron, to approve the request. This is a budgeted item.

The Clerk requested approval to transfer \$2000 from the Elections Commodities budget to Contractual. Approval was given on a motion by Bob, seconded by Ron.

Vienna Lee mentioned to the Commissioners that Myrna Barnes has asked if Economic Development would pay for the motel rooms for the GHF entertainers, approximately \$500; Vienna stated that in the past she has paid \$100 out of her budget for a room for an entertainer. A discussion took place and Vienna's budget reviewed. Since this is not a budgeted item, the Commissioners denied the request at this time.

Vienna mentioned that the Cimarron National Grasslands is one of the 24 finalists to be named one of the 8 Wonders of Kansas. Individuals can go on line at www.8wonders.org to vote. Vienna will place an article in the newspaper encouraging everyone to vote.

The meeting recessed at noon for lunch. Following lunch the Commissioners drove to view the lots for sale in the Industrial Park; they also drove to the Civic Center and did a walk-thru. During their walk-thru several items were noticed that need attention, including the flashing on the front of the building above the bricks, the scratched metal, and other items. The Clerk mentioned that her office has received calls from sub-contractors asking when the last time was that the County paid Orr Construction because some of the sub-contractors have not been paid in a timely manner. The Commissioners said they will plan to meet with Jon Ryman after the meeting today and discuss all of the above concerns.

Charley McKinley pointed out the centerlines for the roads at the Civic Center and also the boundaries for the parking lot. Charley mentioned that there are two poles that will need to be moved, one electric and one phone.

The Commissioners drove to the Airport and discussed a couple of good places where an additional airport hangar(s) might be constructed.

Charley mentioned that Richard Carter has requested that the County put in a new culvert at the old CO-OP Station in Rolla across from the Rolla City Park. The CO-OP is going to lay some cement and the old culvert has collapsed from age. Ron said he will take a look at it before we do anything.

Charley reported they have hauled 14,000 tons of materials to the El Paso site. They still need more rock and sand. At this time it still looks like we will have an asphalt plant here the middle of this month.

A copy of the Road Department Report was given to the Commissioners for their review.

Leon Ellis reported that they are behind on spraying the weeds because of the recent rains. Leon also mentioned that the man who was going to take the scrap metal from the Landfill did not show up. He is considering giving him another chance or he is going to talk to someone else.

Kevin Shook entered the meeting and gave the golf course report. Kevin said he has been working on his budget. A discussion took place whether to include sealing the pond. Consensus of the Commissioners was to include that in the 2008 budget.

Eric Witcher, County Attorney, mentioned that he will be submitting vouchers for payment to Robert Martin at \$5.00/hr. for time spent supervising Diversion cases. Approval to utilize Diversion funds for this purpose was approved on a motion by Ron, seconded by Allen.

Payment Application #5 to Orr Construction Management, Inc. for the Assisted Living Facility in the amount of \$210,210 was reviewed and approved for payment on a motion by Ron, seconded by Allen. The Commissioners also signed the Change Order from the Appraiser's Office, two Payroll Forms, and Hallie Powell's application. Change Order #1 for the Assisted Living Facility was signed on a motion by Bob, seconded by Allen.

Sheriff, Justin Holliday, entered the meeting for his regularly scheduled meeting with the Commissioners. At this time motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss a personnel matter. Present during this session were the Commissioners, County Attorney, Sheriff, and County Clerk. After coming out of executive session, motion was made by Allen, seconded by Ron, to approve Justin's recommendation to terminate Lyndi Rowe immediately. Approval was given to begin advertising immediately for full-time and part-time Dispatchers.

Bob mentioned that there will be some E911 technical people in the area soon and they have agreed to stop by Morton County to see if they can help us in any way. Justin agreed that would be a good idea.

Justin mentioned that Jason Sansouci will be at the Courthouse Meeting Room next week for a two day training session on the GPS part of the E911 system. The training will include staff from law enforcement, EMS, IT, and other departments involved in E911.

A discussion took place concerning the gun range. Allen Clark is currently attending classes to become the Range Master. Justin hopes to put together an Advisory Board for the gun range in the near future. Membership to the gun range is \$25/year and can be paid at the Sheriff's Department. Justin stated he had a lengthy visit with Dick Bennin since the gun range is on Grassland property. Mr. Bennin pointed out several items that need to be removed from the range (an old building, the old port-a-potty).

At this time motion was made by Allen, seconded by Ron, to accept the two bids from Kent Boaldin for lots 24-25 in the Industrial Park and to accept the bids from Shannon Whisennand for lots 26-27. The Clerk will notify these individuals of the outcome of the bidding.

A call was placed to SEDCO regarding the plat for the Civic Center. Tim Campbell indicated to the Commissioners that the plat will be ready Wednesday morning.

The dates for the individual budget hearings were set for July 17-18. The Clerk stated that the Budgets are to be turned in to her office by 5:00 p.m. on June 15th and then she will compile the requests for the Commissioners to review prior to the hearings. A schedule for the individual hearings will be sent out the end of June.

Approval was given on a motion by Allen, seconded by Ron, to purchase a new chair for the Appraiser's Office in the amount of \$439.29.

The Clerk reminded the Commissioners that the next Assisted Living construction meeting will be held on June 13th at the Hospital Classroom at 10:30 a.m. Also, the Local Government Luncheon will be held on June 7th at the Clubhouse.

The Commissioners and spouses will be invited to have lunch at the new Bed & Breakfast in Elkhart. Tentative date is set for June 25th. The Clerk will keep them informed.

The Clerk alerted the Commissioners to H.R. 811, the Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2007. The bill would require counties to junk most of the voting equipment that has recently been purchased to comply with state legislation and switch to exclusive use of optical-scan ballots. H.R. 811 would impose one-size-fits-all procedures for conducting federal elections and is on a fast track despite an avalanche of letters from county officials warning of dire consequences for the presidential election in 2008. The Clerk said she will keep the Commissioners informed of this bill. It is unknown at this time how the bill will affect the 2008 Election Budget.

The Commissioners visited with Steve Rice, Auditor, regarding how the Conservation District is doing since their last audit indicated business was not being conducted

properly. After receiving the 2005 audit the Commissioners informed the Clerk and Treasurer that no funds were to be distributed in 2007 to the Conservation District until they could prove they were handling the funds properly. Steve Rice stated he thought they were doing better this year. Motion was made by Bob, seconded by Ron, to pay the Conservation District half of their appropriation at this time. The remainder will be paid after this year's audit is completed.

At this time the Commissioners left the meeting room and drove to the Civic Center to visit with Jon Ryman about some of their concerns with the construction; items included sub-contractors not being paid in a timely manner, the metal flashing on the front of the building (very unsightly), and the scratched metal on the front of the building (very noticeable and unsightly.)

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