

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 19, 2008

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

Present: Bob Boaldin, Chairman; Ron DeGarmo, Commissioner; Eric Witcher, County Attorney; Wanda Davis, Deputy County Clerk. Allen Tucker, Vice-Chairman, was absent this day due to illness.

The Agenda was reviewed and approved.

Minutes of the February 4, 2008, meeting were read and approved as corrected on a motion by Ron, seconded by Bob.

Bills were reviewed and approved.

Bob mentioned that the bill for the WEKANDO meal should be sent to Dave Bozone, treasurer of WEKANDO.

Sally came to the meeting to discuss the temperature in the building. It is over 80 degrees in her office and her vault. Larry is out of town on vacation and she didn't know who to call for this problem. Wanda found the phone number for Building Control and Services and gave it to Sally to call them.

Justin Holliday and Shelby Chapman came to the meeting. Mary Gilmore had talked to Justin about the overtime in dispatch. Justin explained to the Commissioners that at that time there was a new dispatcher being trained by the other dispatchers and a couple of the other dispatchers had been sick. Now that the new person was on her own there would be significantly less overtime. Justin & Shelby have been working on a schedule that reflects only 4 hours of overtime per week.

They also presented a graph using rates and hours that showed what the savings to the department would be if they had a part-time dispatcher. One applicant from the previous application process was interested in part-time work. After some discussion, Ron made the motion to hire a part-time dispatcher. Bob seconded.

Justin showed the letter of apology he had written to Misty Peitz. He will personally deliver the letter.

Justin said he had talked with Tom Brennamen about the drug dog. Justin will be delivering the dog sometime this week.

Justin reported to the Commissioners about the damage to his patrol unit when he backed into a corner post. He has gotten an estimate from Countryside and waiting for one from Shade Tree Classics.

Justin said he has received 5 applications for Undersheriff and he will be doing interviews.

The Commissioners reviewed the quote from Nine One One for training. Bob made the motion to accept this quote. Ron seconded.

At 10:00 a.m. the Commissioners opened the bid for the Crown Victoria vehicle from the Sheriff's department. There was only 1 bid for \$375. After discussion, the bid was rejected and the car will be kept for future use.

A road petition from Wayne Johnson was approved on a motion by Bob, second by Ron.

Per Kansas Statue, the Commissioners reviewed department inventories.

A call was placed to Ashley Fiss. The Commissioners had questions regarding the pay application #17. Ashley has increased the retainage to \$6000. Wildcat Electric still will not return her calls so she advised the Commissioners to call someone locally to do the wiring job for the ice machine and send the bill to her. There was some discussion about the lights in the exhibit hall and a separate switch for emergency use.

After talking to Ashley a call was placed to Kent Boaldin of Boaldin Electric about the wiring problem. He said he would go to the civic center the next day and take a look at the job.

Bob made a motion and Ron seconded to withhold the entire pay application to OCM until all the work is done at the civic center.

The Commissioners reviewed and signed the change order for the Assisted Living project.

They also signed the weed eradication order progress report, the payroll form and the accounts payable warrant register.

Jim Lavielle came to the meeting to tell the Commissioners that he is organizing a motorcycle & car show benefit for the Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center. This center is used by law enforcement agencies in Western Kansas when they deal with children being evaluated for abuse issues and is financed by donations. Jim has set a date of 4/19/08, at the civic center and wanted the Commissioners to know about the event and would appreciate any support from them. They will talk with Charley Tucker about fees for a non-profit event and get back with him. Consensus of the Commissioners was that the use of the Civic Center would be free, subject to talking with Charley.

The Commissioners reviewed letters from Orr Construction Management and Judge Tom Smith.

At 11:00 a.m. the Commissioners met with the department supervisors. Supervisors attending were Vienna, Kevin, Leon, Traci, Charles Hull and Sally.

Traci reported that she is still working on the E911. The training for the dispatchers should take only one day. She mentioned that landmarks on the grasslands are needed.

Sally said she has had a lot of land men in her office over the past two weeks doing research for oil and gas.

Kevin said he had gotten lots of knowledge and contact information on his trip to Florida but no trophies for golfing. The Kansas team finished 20th out of 80 teams.

Vienna reported they have been doing a lot of passports. The office has had business inquiries for local businesses and several micro loan applications have been given out. There will be a leadership training at the civic center for local officials on 2/28/08, at 6:30 p.m. She has not heard from Alco regarding a ground breaking or start date. They are still in Phase I of construction. She has had no inquiries for the land not being used by Alco.

Charles reported that the fire department has not had many fires but have responded to several accidents. The fire danger is high at this time.

Leon said the landfill/weed departments are busy. Everyone has been sick and they have been running short staffed but are getting back to normal. Manuel is in the hospital at this time. They will be going to Garden City for a meeting next week and will take a 4-wheeler there to be repaired. The first week of March is the annual meeting and later in March he and Jason will go to Basic Weed training. They have been selling a lot of concrete.

Wanda reported that new voter registration cards have been sent to all registered voters. This will help clean up the voter registration lists. There is no need to show these at the polls for the upcoming elections.

Ron told about the meeting in Topeka. The Sunflower Electric power plant was a hot topic. This would be very beneficial to help get wind power to Morton County.

Bob reported that he had been in Topeka to talk to people there about the railroad situation. Cimarron Valley Railroad is considering cutting off Morton County and Stanton County rail lines. WEKANDO is working hard to keep this from happening. Morton County is 30th in the State in valuations.

Leon told the Commissioners he will be raising the price the State pays to spray for them. With the increase in fuel and chemicals he thought this was fair. Round-up has gone from \$10 per gallon last year to \$48 per gallon this year. Bob made a motion to accept and sign the Noxious Weed county agreement fees.

Ron asked Leon about a sign at the landfill/weed department. Leon said he had checked and it would cost \$1800 to replace it.

Kevin told the Commissioners he will need to replace two people at the clubhouse. Jina and Junior have both resigned. The Commissioners told him to go ahead and start advertising.

The meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m. for lunch and resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Bob made a motion for a 30 minute executive session for personnel. Ron seconded. Present during the executive session were the Commissioners, County Attorney and Brandi Fleming. No action was taken after coming out of executive session.

Justin came to the meeting with Karensa. They reported that Karensa has had some securing concerns and they were wanting to see if the Commissioners would consider doing some remodeling to make the Court Clerk's office more secure. The Commissioners toured the office and discussed different ways to accomplish this request. They told Justin to get bids from several different people and report back to them at the next meeting.

Karensa thanked the Commissioners for their support and concern.

Kevin came to the meeting to report on the landscape bids at the civic center. He called the company in Lamar, Colorado that did the bank and they are not interested. He also contacted Gray's in Ulysses and the company doing the Streetscape project on Main Street. Landscape, Inc gave a bid of \$11,484.88 and he has not heard from Gray's. Ron suggested he check with Yardmaster in Hugoton and try finding someone in Liberal.

The Golf Board has told Kevin they would like to have a credit card machine at the clubhouse. Kevin has checked with Vicki. She will research this and get back with him.

Kevin has the fence and the grass seed ready to go when it is time to start those projects.

Three bids were received for mowers:

John Deere - \$1500 trade-in on old mower - \$18,475.00 final bid

Toro - \$1700 trade-in on old mower - \$21,737.02 final bid

Jacobson - No trade-in - \$19,630.00 final bid

Kevin stated he already has reels for a Toro and would have to get all new ones for any other brand. There is \$32,576 in equipment reserve for golf equipment. He will not need any other equipment this year. Kevin recommends the Toro. Bob made a motion, seconded by Ron, to accept this recommendation.

Ron advised Kevin talk to the Toro dealer about the price difference and the increase from last year. After discussion, Bob withdrew his motion and the Commissioners instructed Kevin to come back to the meeting after he talks to the dealer.

After talking with the Toro representative, Kevin came back and said the rep would e-mail him tomorrow and Kevin would bring the bid to the next meeting.

Tony Hoyt came to the meeting to request the purchase of a roll out bed for his EMS pick-up. He had three verbal bids:

Weis Fire Equipment-\$1400 for a 1000# capacity roll out

Continental Fiberglass-\$625 for an 800# capacity roll out

Continental Fiberglass-\$705 for a 900# capacity roll out
Shipping and handling will be extra on all bids

Tony will get a copy, in writing, of each bid to the Commissioners.

After discussion Ron made the motion, seconded by Bob, to purchase the 900# capacity roll out bed, to be paid out of Special Ambulance fund.

Gene Coen is checking on signage for the pick-up.

At this time a call was placed to John Pinegar. Eric questioned if there would be a conflict of interest if the Commissioners signed the Port Authority amendment/resolution. There would be no conflict on this matter. There would be a conflict if the Commissioners had any dealings that involved the Mariah fund.

A motion was made by Bob, seconded by Ron, to enter into a resolution and amendment for the Establishment of Joint Port Authority and Amendment of WEKANDO Interlocal Agreement.

Eric is writing a new lease agreement with Clint Thomason for the hangar rent. He will bring the original to the next meeting.

Kevin came back to the meeting after receiving a call from the Toro representative. Toro's final is \$20,000 plus a fuel surcharge. Bob made a motion to accept this bid. Ron seconded.

A call was placed to John Nusser regarding the fuel card pump at the airport. He stated he is still looking for one.

Leonard Hernandez and Tony Hoyt came to the meeting to discuss the paging system between EMS and the hospital. Judy Davis, ER supervisor, came later to the meeting. There was much discussion about the lack of communications between the nurses and the EMT's on the ambulances. Judy invited Tony to come to the next nurses' staff meeting in March to discuss this further and explain what needs to be done to better communications. Leonard said the hospital could get an ER doctors schedule and doctors cell phone list to EMS so they could be in direct contact with the doctor.

There being no further business Ron made the motion, with a second from Bob, to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.