

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 22, 2008

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; Mary Gilmore, County Clerk. County Attorney, Eric Witcher, was out of town this day.

The Agenda was reviewed and approved with additions.

Minutes of the January 14, 2007 meeting were read and approved with corrections on a motion by Ron, seconded by Allen.

No bills were submitted for payment at this time.

At this time Brian and Misty Peitz, Karensa Meek, and Mike Gilmore, USD 218 School Board Member, entered the meeting to discuss an incident that took place at the Middle School on Friday, January 18th; the drug dog bit Misty. The Commissioners expressed their sincere apologies that this happened and stated that it should never have happened. The Commissioners asked Misty to describe just what happened at the school. Misty stated that as a result of the bite (a puncture wound) she went to the hospital where they cleaned the wound and gave her an antibiotic. Brian stated he would like to have a copy of the shot record for the dog and the Commissioners said they would get this from Justin. Misty said that to date she has not received any apology from law enforcement. No statement was collected, no picture of the wound, they just packed up and left. Brian said that by law a report should have been filed with the State. Misty also stated that the dog jumped up on the Middle School Principal and a teacher said she observed the dog lunge toward a student. The Commissioners again apologized for this incident. Brian said he understands that the Commissioners' hands are tied but appreciated them listening to both him and Misty. The Commissioners asked Mr. Gilmore if he had anything to add. He stated he just wanted to hear what Misty and Brian had to say about the incident. The Commissioners said they were glad he was present. The Commissioners asked Misty and Brian what they would like to see happen and Misty said she would like the staff severely reprimanded for taking the dog into the school when he was not with a certified handler. Karensa spoke about the lack of professionalism following this incident. She feels that, at the least, an expression of concern and an apology are called for. Karensa has a child who attends the Middle School and is very concerned that the Sheriff would allow the dog to be around students until he has been certified with a handler.

Magistrate Judge, Roseanna Volden, met with the Commissioners and requested approval to pay the court-appointed attorneys \$80/hr; they have been receiving \$75/hr. The District Court Clerk budgeted this increase for 2008. Judge Volden said it has become more and more difficult to get court-appointed attorneys to come to Morton County because of the increased fuel costs. Judge Volden also mentioned that she does order this

fee repayable by the client as part of their sentence or diversion. Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to approve this increase.

Peggy Horton met with the Commissioners to discuss Community Education and what it means in the Elkhart Community. A handout was distributed outlining projects currently in progress. Afterschool is a big concern at this time and this grant program ends in 2009. Hours for this program begin after school and run until 6:00 p.m. The program has also included a summer camp for students in conjunction with summer school. Some parents have indicated they would be willing to pay a fee for this service if the fee was reasonable; this could mean something different to different people. Peggy said personnel is a major cost of the program. Peggy asked if the County might consider helping in some way next year. She said that she would like to find ways the school can provide a service to the County to help justify any amount of money the County could provide. At this time she knows that the hours for the program will have to be reduced next year, as well as personnel and services. It is a wonderful program for working parents and she is going to make every attempt to keep the program in the community. Peggy thanked the Commissioners for their time.

Before leaving the meeting Peggy mentioned to the Commissioners that she had attended a meeting at the Civic Center on Saturday, January 20th and there were so many good comments about the facility. She also mentioned that Charlie Tucker was such a tremendous help to them. The Commissioners thanked Peggy for her kind, positive words.

The Clerk reported she received a call from Scott Shrauner asking if the County would consider renting out the "Sexton" hangar at the Airport. A short discussion took place. Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to approve renting this hangar for \$420/year. The Clerk will notify Mr. Shrauner of this decision.

Brandi Fleming entered the meeting and requested approval to attend a meeting conducted by the Kansas Animal Health Department and KDHE on February 13th in Dodge City. Brandi also requested approval to attend the 2008 Public Health Conference April 29-30 in Wichita. Approval to attend both meetings was given on a motion by Bob, seconded by Allen.

Brandi gave the Commissioners a copy of the Health Department Encounter Report for January 1-January 22, 2008 for their review.

Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to approve the Morton County Health System's Payment Request in the amount of \$6825.66 (Assisted Living) and Pay Application #12 to Orr Construction Management, Inc. for the Assisted Living Project in the amount of \$88,480.

Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Bob, to re-appoint Kent Hagman (Rolla) to the Southwest Regional Juvenile Detention Center Advisory Board.

Homero Pando, Jr.'s application for license to retail cereal malt beverages was reviewed and signed on a motion by Ron, seconded by Bob.

The Supervisors met with the Commissioners. Present were: Leon, Charley McKinley, Tracie, Brandi, Larry, Kevin, Vienna, Justin, Charlie Tucker, Deb, Sally and Karensa. Ron mentioned he gave the Clerk a card with the name of a company in Hugoton that can make air travel arrangements and direct bill the County. He encouraged any department who has to travel by air to utilize this information. Each Supervisor then gave their individual departmental reports.

Ron discussed the upcoming WEKANDO meeting to be held at the Morton County Civic Center on Thursday, January 24th. There will be approximately 50 people in attendance.

Leon reminded everyone that "Little KAC" will be held in Morton County this year and it will take a lot of time to plan the activities, etc.

A proposal from TATRO Plumbing, Ulysses, for jail cell plumbing repairs was reviewed. Total amount for all four options is \$4382.90. A short discussion took place. Motion was made by Bob, seconded by Ron, to accept this proposal.

A proposal from Kinney Glass to install a low energy auto assist door opener on one side at the front of the Courthouse in the amount of \$5350 was reviewed and discussed. Motion was made by Bob, seconded by Allen, to accept this proposal.

At this time the Commissioners asked Justin Holliday, Sheriff, and Allen Clark, Undersheriff, if they could meet with them for a few minutes. Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to go into executive session from 11:45 to 12:05. Present during executive session were the Commissioners, Justin and Allen. No action taken after coming out of executive session.

The meeting recessed at noon for lunch and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Charley McKinley met with the Commissioners and said he will keep in better touch with the Commissioners and his staff about keeping the Civic Center and Airport runways cleared of snow.

Leon Ellis asked if the Commissioners had any idea how much cement and asphalt will be taken to the Landfill as a result of the Main Street project. No one had any idea.

Leon mentioned that as we plan for "Little KAC" we should consider keeping the catering local.

Ashley Fiss, Architect for the Civic Center, and Jon Ryman, Project Manager for Orr Construction, the General Contractor for the Civic Center, met with the Commissioners. Also present at this time was Charlie Tucker, Civic Center Director. The Commissioners asked when the punch list would be completed. They further stated that this project has

gone on too long and they are extremely anxious to get it finished. Ashley said she was planning on going to the Civic Center following this meeting and doing a walk-through to see what she can mark off her punch list. She didn't feel there was much she would be able to mark off, however. Jon said he is waiting for some parts to finish installing door hardware and locks. The parts should be here any day. The guys have been working on the floors again and, hopefully, should be finished next week. The Commissioners mentioned there were several sub-contractors who have complained to them about Orr Construction not paying them. Ashley said that based on what she sees at the Civic Center this afternoon there may be a chance that the amount of retainage money can be reduced so the subs can get their final payments. Ron stated that Overhead Door needs to fix the canopy; Wildcat Electric needs to do something so the lights in the event hall can be dimmed for dances and they also need to re-wire the area to hook up the ice machine. Ashley said the ceiling man has made the necessary repairs to the sagging ceiling area outside the mechanical room. Charlie reported the water softener is now hooked up. Culligan said it may take a while for the water that was in the lines to get through. Charlie also mentioned that we still have no user manuals for any of the equipment in the building. Jon said he thought we had everything but he will check on this. Charlie said there are still issues with the toilets; one in the men's bathroom and one in the women's bathroom flushes all the time. Also, the sewer smell is still bad, mainly in the kitchen and closet. Charlie said they pour water down all of the drains regularly. Jon said he will contact Eads about this. Ron said we need to get these things done and get on down the road!

Motion was made by Ron, seconded by Allen, to approve the purchase of an HP Printer for the Appraiser's Office in the amount of \$1440. This printer will be used by Jeff Milburn.

Kevin Shook entered the meeting and reported that the ballots for Advisory Board Members went out and are to be returned to the County Clerk. The Commissioners will make their appointments on February 4th.

Kevin stated he will be getting the cost of materials to replace the golf course fence going down the hill with split rail fencing. He will do this after he returns from Florida.

The Commissioners signed the Payroll Warrant Register; the Payroll Form; the Change Orders from the Appraiser's Office and the Treasurer; Salary Resolution (2008-2); and the Capital Outlay Budget Request Form for the new light bars for the Sheriff's Department.

The Commissioners reviewed the December Work Logs for the Landfill/Weed Departments and the letter from KCAMP indicating that the Sheriff's Deputy was more than 50% at-fault in the 12/19/2007 accident when the county vehicle slid on the ice and hit a bridge. This accident claim is still pending additional information from the Sheriff's Department.

The Commissioners and Charlie Tucker met and reviewed the Civic Center rental fee schedule. A lengthy discussion took place. Some changes were made to the fees. Charlie will prepare the 2008 Rental Fee Schedule with the changes and have them ready for the Commissioners to review on February 4th.

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