

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
June 24, 2013

Bob called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. with open doors.

Present: Bob Boaldin, Chairman, Ron DeGarmo, Vice-Chairman; Teresa Harder, Commissioner; Eric Witcher, County Attorney; Gina Castillo, County Clerk.

The Agenda was reviewed and approved with corrections.

Minutes of the June 7th (Special), 10th and 17th (Special) meetings were read and amended. A motion by Ron, seconded by Teresa to approve as amended.

The Commissioners signed the following: The Payroll Form; Payroll Warrant Registers; Added/Abated Orders; 8 Road Petitions 4 County Energy LLC. SW KS NG 911 interlocal coop agreement, 2 certification of appointments to Hospital Board; checking account signature card.

Charley (Road)--Commissioners discussed City of Rolla has asked the Sheriff about Road 24 closure in Rolla for Centennial celebration. Charley will make some phone calls to Chuck Oldacker with KDOT and let them know today. Charley stopped in early and said they are in the middle of the sealing project and Steve Cowser had surgery over weekend and will be out 2 weeks. Discussed the road maintenance to where the RC Flyer field is located.

Ron made a motion, seconded by Bob to allow County Employees to have July 5th off since this is Centennial Celebration this year.

Hospital was discussed. Executive session for Attorney-client privilege for 15 minutes at 9:45 on a motion by Teresa, Ron seconded. Back in regular session at 10:00, no action taken. Commissioners discussed advertising 2 more weeks and request representation from Rolla for MCHS board position in the Tri State News.

Charles (Fire) entered the meeting and discussed needing a pump from Hays Fire & Rescue for \$6220. Discussed the burn ban, Charles suggested to not have a burn ban, currently we have had enough moisture. He would like to replace 2 brush trucks this year, a motion by Bob, seconded by Teresa to get bids.

Stacy (EMS) brought invoices to send to collection in the amount of \$524.00 approved on a motion by Ron, seconded by Teresa. Interviewed Stacy at this time for the MCHS board position. He is really concerned for the MCHS and his intensions as EMS manager and working relationships with the county, hospital and health department are very important to him.

Vienna—entered asking about fees waived last year for the Church's "Journey to Bethlaham". Commissioners stated that this year the policy is no fees to be waived. July 4th she has an event scheduled at Civic Center and Vienna is helping with Chamber parade, she is asking if she needs to work or have one of the girls, Commissioners asked her to stay at the Civic Center. They are entering Phase 4 for Public Square she would like to donate \$1000 from Economic Development, approved on a motion by Ron, seconded by Bob. Needs to purchase new wheels for the chair cart at approximately \$500.00.

Supervisors—Gwen, Traci, Kevin, Charles, Vienna and Rhianna.

Gwen—brought in the Terracon report and Landfill contract to update. Received \$4,000 from Forest Service a matching grant for lighting of trucks and chemical.

Traci—working on budget. Been researching disaster recovery information. Commissioners approved the SW N911 agreement for her to sign and send in today.

Rhianna—Working on policy revisions and state reports. Some recommendations coming regarding immunizations.

Kevin—Busy with Golf tournaments they are good for the Community bring people to town. Jr. Golf is coming up. Lots of great comments on the Waterfall.

Charles—Just a couple small fires. He spent 19 hours in Moscow helping fight fires. He had a motor blow on his pump in one of his trucks, fairly costly to fix but it's ready to go.

Vienna—GHF was completed pretty good attendance and fun. Busy in July.

Gina—received valuations from the Appraiser and working on setting levies and budgets, very busy time until about August.

Eric—Busy working with Justin.

Commissioners—Teresa reminded of Budget hearings July 10th & 11th. Reminder of County policies examples, no texting, no kids in county vehicles. Ron stated that we are meeting with our County Appraiser he did not renew his certification, not sure which direction we will be going. Bob says Natural Gas will be real good source of fuel for our area and benefit a lot of people.

County Attorney wanted to discuss some details on the platting of the property on Highway 56. Stated the Terracon contract and the SW N911 agreement are fine to sign.

Teresa discussed the City of Elkhart Planning Commission meeting she attended regarding zoning of Light Industrial property. Currently County property is near it. So many citizens were opposed to it being Light Industrial and want it to be zoned residential, it was suggested that the County buy that property and change the zone. She said she would bring this to the Commission. The consensus was to leave zoning as is.

Adjourned for lunch at 12:00 reconvened at 1:00. Drove by Museum.

1:00 Christopher Lund entered with City on a Hill, a alcohol and drug abuse service. Explained their services and some changes that are affecting these facilities. Asking for possible support \$2-4,000/yr. Has already taken residents from Morton County.

Kevin entered said his budget is in. The golf sheds will be off next year and will produce more revenue. Golf board is looking at raising rates then. Will need to dig a trench line for Waterfall and have Javier Gomez do the welding. Equipment is all good for this next year.

Tom Fuhrman entered with Greg Welbrock and Terry Lawhon to discuss valuations. Tom mentioned that our current software company does not have much stake in Kansas and may not be around long. Discussed straight schedule 2012 numbers are better on State Assessed and also on Personal Property. Gave an update on Exxon Mobile lawsuit, he went through depositions; both sides were given summary judgment briefs. Oral arguments should be in July and try to settle August, but he's not convinced it will be done in August. He mentioned it is time to appoint a new appraiser, done every 4 years; Tom has not renewed his certification and recommends Greg Welbrock with Landmark to be the County Appraiser. He will still be with them and working on his continuing education. They are asking for an 8% raise in the appraisal/maintenance contract. The last raise was in 2008. Commissioners tabled until next meeting.

Justin entered and asked about closing County Road 24 he said Charley called him and said there had to be sufficient time to advertise. Discussed options and called Charley again. It was decided to go ahead and advertise and close road.

A motion to adjourn at 4:05 by Bob, seconded by Ron.