

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
April 24, 2017

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

Present: Randy Bane, Chairman; JW Finn, Vice-Chairman; Jim Tucker, Commissioner, Eric Witcher, County Attorney; Gina Castillo, County Clerk. Pastor Denny Huebner.

Pastor Denny opened the meeting with prayer.

Reviewed the agenda. Commissioners signed the following; 2 A/P Warrant registers, 1 P/R Form and Warrant register.

Vicki—Treasurer. Stated that interest rates are higher now, so she has opened a FIMMA account and needed signatures on the card. She has sent letters on delinquent property taxes at an approximate amount of \$50,000, and then proceed to process tax sale.

Public Comment—Mike Emmert entered at 9:30. He stated he was just here to listen. Discussion took place regarding the minutes of the April 10th meeting, after additions and corrections a motion by Randy, seconded by JW, UYV to approve as corrected.

Gwen and Chris—Weed/Landfill. She presented job applications received. She and Chris recommend Todd Whisennand. A motion by Randy, seconded by Jim UYV to approve their recommendation at base pay of \$10.30/hr. Gwen presented a quote on the lights from the Elkhart Lumber Yard of \$144.00 each and not to exceed \$1,000 approved on a motion by JW, seconded by Randy UYV.

Rhianna—Health. A motion by Randy, seconded by Jim UYV for a 5 minute executive session for Attorney Client Privilege at 9:49 for **Local Board of Public Health**. Back in regular session at 9:54. No action taken. She submitted a quote from The Mirror's Image, Liberal, who also did Civic Center floors for \$280. A motion by JW, seconded by Randy UYV to approve the floors being stripped and waxed.

David Luke with KCAMP entered to present an overview of services and discussed the County pools. He also presented the County with a dividend check in the amount of \$13,580.00.

Kevin—Golf. Presented the Commissioners with a tournament schedule for 2017. He has Greg learning to mow the greens this week.

Vienna—Civic Center. Presented the updated strategic plan. She asked to attend the Quarterly Economic Development round table meeting in Dodge City on Friday, she and Becki Richardson will ride together. Commissioners approved. She asked about the estimate from Lehman's Heating and Air on fixing the Air conditioner. The Commissioners asked her to see if he would relook at the estimate on removing all the electrical and making it simpler and also have Boaldin Electric submit a quote.

Supervisors—Tausha, Kevin, Dusty, Dana, Tracie, Vienna, Vicki, Larry, Gwen and Chris, Rhianna, Susie and Crystal Bashford.

Dusty—Attended an exercise in Finney County. He is getting prices on radios to switch over.

Larry—Been slow recently. Has all the equipment back and running well.

Gwen and Chris—The public is adjusting to securing their loads. Spraying is starting earlier this year. KDHE still has not approved them to start using the new pit. Chris has passed his basic test on chemical spraying and will find out soon on the other.

Tracie—She has gotten the Grassland Heritage Festival website and New County website up. Put up job postings on the website.

Kevin—Has mowed the Civic Center once already. Put fertilizer down in time for the rain. Greg is learning how the greens are mowed. Mowing is a very busy time, and they will get to everything as quickly as they can.

Tausha—Just a few transfers lately. Over the weekend had a class with kids on the importance of CPR.

Vienna—Has had prom and wedding recently. Has an update on the strategic plan and everyone involved are enthusiastic.

Vicki—Just sent out reminder cards of 2nd half of taxes due in May. Has had some people in switching tags from Oklahoma to Morton Co. Kansas.

Dana—Accepted the supervisor position since Charley's retiring. Dana is already making some changes in the area of grader operators. He would like to hire a couple people, since Charley and Dave will be leaving, he will continue to advertise.

Rhianna—seeing a lot of virus' lately. A new stomach bug is also showing up. Flu is decreasing, which is good. The federal guidelines are coming straight to the Counties now, instead of coming through the State.

Susie—Really busy this time of the year doing oil and gas renditions. She and Jeff work them and send them to appraiser Tom Fuhrman and they will be sending out statements this week. Working on editing. The valuation is looking to be a little higher this year, should know more after the hearings are over.

Crystal Bashford—They have just completed their annual weigh in with numbers down a little on the cattle but good on the bucket calves. Doing private pesticide tests. Another meeting next Friday on redistricting.

Commissioners—Jim said budget hearings are coming up soon, start working on your budgets. Randy stated to enjoy this afternoon with Charley at the retirement reception. JW explained the property tax lid and how to start planning ahead.

Adjourned for lunch at 11:50. Reconvened at 1:33. Attended the retirement reception at the Civic Center for Charley McKinley.

Discussion took place regarding the Insurance for retirees' policy. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim UYV, to remove the policy effective May 1st, all future employees will no longer be eligible for Retiree insurance benefits. All current full time employees as of May 1, 2017 and before, that meet the requirements in the policy will still receive retiree insurance benefits. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim UYV to appoint Angela Willey to the Airport Advisory Board and Travis Hammerschmidt to the Morton County Library Board. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim UYV to transfer the Bankhead Jones funds to the Road and Bridge fund in the amount of \$243,167.52. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim UYV to approve GHF sponsorship of \$850.00

Matti—District Court entered to ask what to do about individuals here for court entering the kitchen. We can lock the door on court dates.

A motion by Randy, seconded by JW UYV to adjourn at 3:20.