

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
May 8, 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. Jamie Stricker with Tri State News.

Pastor Ed Richards opened the meeting with prayer.

Erick Glave with KDHE. Entered at 9:40 to discuss the requirements of the new permit. An actual legal survey needs to be completed by June 15th, and the newly purchased property needs specific details and plans for the future.

Tim Hardy—City Administrator. He discussed the clean up after the storm, currently they are monitoring the roll off dumpsters in Elkhart and asked about the status of the landfill being back open. Commissioners told him the landfill is now open. He will also come back at 10:45 to discuss emergency issues from the disaster with all emergency personnel.

Kevin—Golf. Has been cleaning up some of the tree debris and will have to get the higher stuff with a saw later. The pump station pipe that goes to the pressure pump had holes from rust, he had to order the pump and pipe at approximately \$2200. With all the snow its good moisture, since the pump is down. There will be a tournament tomorrow and the Lions Club tournament this weekend. JW asked him about the pond, someone had asked if the golf course employees could change the filter. Kevin stated that was supposed to be maintained by all who put it in and he prefers it stay their responsibility for now.

Dana—Road. He said this was a wild first week as supervisor. The storm was bad and they did their best getting roads open. He said Bob has been putting numbers together for FEMA. We may not see the whole cost until they start rebuilding roads. There will be wash outs and lots of blading to do. Dana said he has an applicant that he would like to hire and has a CDL. Commissioners approved his recommendation to hire Ron Burnett at \$12/hr. He also asked about getting bids on a 2 inch overlay on County Road 16.

Shelby Ralstin, Sheriff; Dana Baldwin, Road Supervisor; Dusty Brillhart, Emergency Mgr.; Rhianna Shaw, Health Nurse; and Tim Hardy, City Administrator; entered to discuss the effects of the disaster. The Governor issued a State of Disaster Emergency Proclamation. With the roads closed it was hard to get out for a few hours until they could see and dig themselves out to get to vehicles and equipment. They also discussed the costs being accrued to have to submit a report to FEMA. Documentation of extended hours and after action reports will need to be done. Some suggestions were to try to get updated elderly, medical needs and home bound people for a contact list to get to in disasters. The economic impact on the County will be significant. Commissioners stated they were very proud of everyone's efforts and working together and trying to get everyone helped. It's been a learning and eye opening experience. Tim Hardy has a county wide burn permit from the State with 8 locations.

Vienna—The Generator at the Civic Center is down from the storm, someone will be here to look at it today. Roy Lehman will be here to disconnect the remote A/C system and then get a bid from him and Boaldin Electric. She has received requests from people asking about incentives for opening new businesses. The action teams can look at the current incentives and ideas that would attract more interest.

Barb and Rich entered for the Hospital. They are starting to see the rural health money coming in. March has an increase of about \$10,000 that includes the County appropriation. Barb also presented the battleship report. They are still having problems with billing, and will be having a special board meeting to see about getting out of the contract with Tru Bridge and go back to in house. They are also hoping to see a low census reimbursement from Medicare which could be up to 1.6 million dollars.

Steve Sandoval with SDSI and Dot Leiker Morton County representative, entered at 11:40 discussed the duties and responsibilities of the Community Developmental Disability organization and appreciates the County's support.

Stacey Montgomery with RCDC discussed the details of Russell Child Development Center and the importance of early childhood development.

Adjourned at noon for lunch. Reconvened at 1:00.

Karen Vines and Mark Isley entered for HUB International. They discussed the current benefit offerings with the State of KS Blue Cross Blue Shield.

In regards to marketing for the 2018 plan year, they will begin gathering information, like the census mentioned, toward the end of July so they will be back in touch.

A motion by Randy, seconded by JW UYV to approve the minutes of April 24th with corrections. A call was made to Vienna to clarify the removal of the automatic a/c, that can wait, just needing a quote from both. The Commissioners signed the following, 1 A/P warrant register; 1 P/R form and warrant register; 1 Abated order 2016-104.

Commissioners went to Register of Deeds office and County Clerk's office for a walk through and discussed the operations in these offices.

A motion by Jim, seconded by JW UYV to adjourn at 3:17.