

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
June 26, 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. Jayme Stricker with Tri State News

Jim Tucker opened the meeting with prayer.

Reviewed the agenda. The County Attorney updated the group on the federal funds looked into by Mark Rude. Lance Brown, forest ranger said Morton County is not able to receive funds now.

Richard and Michael with Aqua Shield entered to explain quotes submitted for Courthouse, Library and EMS roofs during public comment.

Rhianna—Health. A motion by Randy, seconded by JW UYV to go into executive session for 15 minutes for **Local Board of Public Health**, Attorney Client Privilege at 9:49. Back in regular session at 10:04. No action taken. Rhianna inquired about the generator she asked for at a previous meeting. They discussed this and she can get an updated quote.

A motion by Randy, seconded by Jim UYV to go into executive session for personnel at 10:15. Back in regular session at 10:30. A motion by Jim, seconded by Randy UYV to extend 5 minutes. Back in regular session at 10:35. No action taken.

Dana—Road. He spoke with Norm Bowers about engineering of road work, he said what happened at the airport is not normal. Dana thinks the engineering fee is high. He presented a report about farming the right of ways. Commissioner Bane asked how the tree limb pickup was going, they have everything hauled off and the loader rent was about \$4700. Commissioners stated that the loads need to be secured. FEMA will be here tomorrow and meet with all departments affected. He presented the Caliche pit permit application. Hampel Oil has asked when we will take bids; Dana prefers to call both companies when he needs oil and go with the lowest price at that time. Commissioners agreed.

Waylon Forbes entered and asked about the Tree limb pile. There are a lot of little branches all around; he asked if it can be bladed. Dana said yes, he will take care of it and also fix the approach with caliche. Waylon may fence it off, because people are still trying to bring limbs out there.

Vienna—Civic Center entered with Crystal Bashford, Extension Council to discuss an event tomorrow for 4 H group, asking if the rental fee could be waived. Commissioners approved. Vienna said that we are fixing to be an E Community through the strategic plan. They are trying to establish a revolving loan fund by application through Network Kansas, there will be an article in the paper about this.

Supervisors—Tausha, Shelby, Dusty, Dana, Stephanie, Vienna, Vicki, Larry, Gwen, Chris, Rhianna, Crystal Bashford.

Dusty—We have a meeting tomorrow at 9 at the courthouse for the FEMA relief assistance. We were approved for that National Declaration.

Stephanie—Just helping Tracie while she is on vacation.

Dana—Busy mowing and patching right now. Full staff now is nice.

Tausha—Been busy.

Vienna—There have been a lot of dances at the Civic Center. Grassland Heritage Festival was a success. Fixing to be an E community.

Rhianna—Already starting on preschool physicals.

Crystal Bashford—Been busy with kids activities. Trip to Manhattan, Tractor safety, and getting ready for Ag day tomorrow. Then start getting ready for the Fair.

Larry—Pretty quiet for a while. In one day a vehicle roll over and pole on fire.

Gina—Working on budgets. Just got done with the Audit last week with Hay, Rice and Assoc. Budget hearings at the end of the week.

Shelby—Bike rodeo for younger kids is being planned for July. They are stopping residents for out of county tags and under age drivers.

Gwen and Chris—Landfill/Weed. Chris said Todd is doing a good job. Employee committee met and discussed the county picnic and it will be

July 20th at 6, with free swim at 7 in Rolla since the Christmas party is in Elkhart.

Commissioners—Randy said this is a very busy week for the Commissioners with budgets and it is very tough to try to make the best decisions. JW encouraged everyone to keep up the good work, if anyone receives complaints try to educate them on issues or discuss things with the Commission. Jim agreed with the commissioners and stated employees are much appreciated.

Gwen and Dana—The Alert Alarm Company bill includes cameras and alerts. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim UYV for the alert portion of the system be shut off but the cameras are still operating. There is a farmer that is spraying county road right of ways and it is killing the grass. County Attorney will review this and let them know. County Attorney reviewed the Terracon contract and its ok for the Commissioners to sign. Chris gave a brief overview of a dozer by Foley that will be looked at more at budget hearings.

Adjourned for lunch at 11:50. Reconvened at 1:00.

Rhonda—Housekeeping. A motion by Randy, seconded by Jim UYV to go into executive session with Rhonda for personnel for 15 minutes at 1:03. Back in regular session at 1:18. No action taken.

Dusty—Emergency Manager and Shelby, Sheriff entered to discuss the revised expenses for the backup 911 system. Tabled until after the audit information and budget hearings are complete per advice of Steve Rice, CPA. A motion by Randy, seconded by JW UYV to proceed with upgrading the AWOS for the Airport. Asked permission to attend the LEP meeting in July. Meals and lodging are paid out of the grant. Commissioners approved. He talked about putting the wall up in the open ended hangar, will list that in the budget.

Greg Welbrock—Landmark Appraisal. Discussed some of the budget items since he was here. A motion by Randy, seconded by Jim UYV to approve Resolution 2017-4 Appoint County Appraiser. Greg will attend budget hearings on Wed. since Susie is still out ill.

Commissioners adjourned the meeting to go to the Golf Course for a tour.

Commissioners discussed the following; The Budget hearings later this week and reviewed the submitted budgets. The Commissioners would like

to look at and possibly consider other auditing firms and other insurance carriers.

Greg—Maintenance. Discussed and reviewed the submitted estimates on the hail damage on vehicles and buildings.

A motion by Randy, seconded by Jim UYV to adjourn at 4:45.