

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSOINERS
1025 Morton Street, Elkhart
AUGUST 14, 2017

Randy called the meeting to order at 9:00.

Present were: Randy Bane, Chairman; J.W. Finn, Vice-Chairman; Jim Tucker, Commissioner; Eric Witcher, County Attorney; Wanda Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

The meeting was opened by a prayer by Pastor Keith Davis, followed by a prayer given by Pastor Shella Choi.

Agenda was reviewed and approved on a motion by J.W., seconded by Jim UYV.

Minutes of the July 24th regular meeting and July 26th special meeting were read and approved, with corrections, with a motion by Jim and second by J.W. UYV.

Vouchers were reviewed and approved as presented.

A road petition from Linn Energy was reviewed and approved on motion by Randy and second by Jim, UYV. After review, Randy made a motion, seconded by J.W., UYV to approve a road petition from Pioneer Electric.

Greg—Maintenance. Came to the meeting at 9:45, with information about damages and estimates to County buildings after the recent hail storm. After discussion, a motion was made by J.W. for Greg to go ahead with the repairs of the clubhouse, old school, church and barn at the museum, along with the museum. Jim seconded, UYV. Greg will get with Gina on the other buildings and recommendations will be made at the next meeting.

The budget hearing began at 10:00 a.m. No one appeared. The budget was reviewed and on a motion by Jim and second by J.W. UYV the 2018 budget was approved.

Kevin—Golf. Reported there was a little wind damage at the golf course but they are getting it cleaned up. The new pump is working. He has not been watering as much due to the recent rains. There are four tournaments remaining with this year. His summer help have all returned

to school. Hours for Braden and Ethan are getting a little tight but he is keeping an eye on them.

Dana—Road. Inquired about the signage project. Eric stated he had been out of town and had not reviewed it. Dana had a copy of the project with him. Eric reviewed it and said to go ahead with it. Howard and Janis Smith told Dana they would pay for materials to have the sign on the old stone bridge painted. It was a consensus of the commission to go ahead with this project. The bridge inspection was reviewed and signed. Dana reported they are behind on the patching due to rain. He is also waiting for Stevens County to start up their patching machine so he can get material from them. He has received two applications but has not done background checks or checked references on them yet. There was discussion about new pick-ups and a road grader. Nothing will be done at this time.

Vienna—Civic Center. Entered the meeting requesting permission to attend a meeting. This is a very important meeting with PREDCI. A wind energy company, Invenergy, will be installing wind turbines between here and Guymon. There will be 80 technicians for this project and they will need housing. The meeting will be on Thursday, August 17th. Becky Richardson will attend with Vienna. They will be putting together information to present to the company. The commissioners were in agreement that she attends to market Morton County and all the County has to offer. The commissioners also agreed that she attend the WKREDA meeting in Hays on September 17th. There are only 2 events for September. All deadlines were met for the E-community program. Fair went well with no complaints and lots of good comments. Kent Boaldin was able to get the blower going to help with cooling the event hall during the fair. She has been unable to make contact with the company in Guymon regarding the air conditioning.

Richard Bergling and Barb Anderson from the Morton County Health Systems came to the meeting to go over financials. They will be staying with TruBridge for private pay for now but will begin in-house billing in the near future. This will be done through a clearinghouse and a consultant will be training staff soon.

Shiloh Benton with the USDA reported there will be a new staff member starting next week for 120 days. He will bring this person to the next meeting to introduce him to the commissioners.

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:00 p.m. Before returning to the courthouse the commissioners drove to the airport to look at the damage of the open end hangar. The meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Gwen—Landfill/Weed. Entered with Jeff, a sales representative for Foley Equipment Cat Company. He explained the previous machine that had been discussed is no longer available. He went over the cost and specifications of a new machine. There is one in stock now in Topeka. If a new order is made it would take 4-6 months to be available. The commissioners thanked Jeff for his time. Gwen and Jeff left the meeting.

Shelby—Sheriff. Presented an application for employment for the dispatch position. She is recommending that Keisha Sanchez be hired. After discussion J.W. made a motion, seconded by Jim, UYV that she be hired at \$11.50 per hour.

At 1:30 p.m. the commissioners, Eric and Wanda went to the Library for a tour of the facility. Toni Jones-Bressler, head librarian, gave a very informative tour and told of all the services that are available.

The meeting reconvened at the Courthouse at 2:15 p.m.

The Commissioners discussed talking with Steve Rice at the next meeting before making any decision on the landfill dozer. They also discussed the KLPG and Little KAC meetings that are coming up.

Vicki—Treasurer. Presented a list of County employees that are delinquent on their taxes.

On a motion by Randy, seconded by Jim, UYV meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.