

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
October 23, 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 entered at 10:10; Gina Castillo, County Clerk.

Pastor Keith Davis opened the meeting with prayer.

Vicki, Treasurer entered to discuss the vehicle tag registration. Shelby, Sheriff also entered and a conference call was made at 9:15 to Grant County Attorney Jessica Akers, who represented the County, due to conflict of interest, in the hearing of the out of state vehicle tag registration. Commissioners discussed this at length and stated to proceed as we have with letters and discussed requesting an Attorney General opinion and work with bordering counties to clear up the loop hole in the statute.

Commissioners signed the following; 2 A/P warrant registers; 1 P/R Form and warrant register. A motion by Jim, seconded by JW, UYV to approve the minutes of Oct. 9th as amended.

Rhianna—Health. A motion by Randy, seconded by Jim UYV at 9:47 for a 5 minute executive session for **“Local Board of Public Health”**. Back in regular session at 9:52. No action taken. Discussion took place regarding Tim Hardy’s resignation as Morton County Public Information Officer, Rhianna is going to talk to Tim and get back with the Commissioners.

Chris—Weed/Landfill. Foley has individuals coming tomorrow to go over the billing on the 953C that has had discrepancies and KCAMP insurance is reviewing this as well. He needs the Benesch ground water contract signed. He has completed the tonnage report. The conference he and Todd attended was very good and helpful.

Kevin—Golf. He received a bid from Shannon Whisennand to repair the concrete for drainage at the club house for \$1650. He will get another bid as well. Kansas turf grass conference in Topeka Dec. 4, 5 &6th he needs continuing education hours. Commissioners approved him to attend.

Commissioners discussed with County Attorney the conference call with Attorney Akers and the process for going forward. The County Attorney will type a request for an Attorney General's Opinion.

Dana—Road. Updated the Commissioners on the notice regarding the bridge inspection on the bridge South of Dermot. Weight limits were to be lowered from 20 to 8 tons and we would have to put up signage but he was notified by them to hold off. They are going to look into this further. He is asking to purchase a grader this year from Road Special Equipment and has 2 to trade in; as they cannot be rebuilt. He has received prices from CAT 2018 Model 12M3 at \$178,949 and John Deere model 770G at \$199,750. Currently 3 machines have 10,000 hours and no warranties left. His plan is to replace the Volvo and John Deere; he would like to rebuild one next year. It will have a 3-5 year warranty. Commissioner Finn stated he has been receiving a lot of complaints on roads not being graded, he went out and drove them and they are not in good shape. Dana said after the rain the guys had to get asphalt roads patched while it was warm still. Commissioners tabled the purchase of a grader until later. Dana also stated at the end of the year if he still has money in his budget he would like to replace a couple pickups.

Vienna—Civic Center/Economic Dev. With the windfarms being built south of Elkhart starting in 2018, there could possibly be 1000 people. A prospective business, that brings in temporary housing, was in last week. They took a tour of the County and said with that many people there are not enough restaurants here and would there be a possibility of using the Civic Center to supply food. They talked with local rental owners and said to get rental property ready. Vienna asked to attend the Panhandle Economic Development meeting on Wednesday and Friday will attend the roundtable in Dodge City. Commissioners approved her attendance and close the Civic Center these 2 days.

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

Dusty—Next week the State will be here to assist FEMA in our disaster paperwork. The radio group will be here soon to finish up the installation.

Larry—It's fire prevention week. Pretty slow lately.

Chris—Still receiving a lot of shingles. The social committee has been working on the Christmas party details and wondered about budget numbers.

Tracie—The Sheriff server had gone down so she spent a lot of time working on that.

Crystal—Had a successful 4H golf tournament. She has been to Topeka a couple of times.

Vicki—Getting ready to send out tax statements the 1st of November. There has been a learning curve on the drivers' licenses and it's taking a little longer. There is a real ID for flying that will be enforced Oct. 2020

Dana—Road grading is behind since they have been patching asphalt. Mowing one last time before winter. Thanked the landfill for sending Todd over to do some welding.

Vienna—Real busy with a wedding, quilters and the gun show and Holly Days approaching. Thanked the road department for moving the stage. Excited about being an E Community for businesses and expansion.

Susie—Working on editing. Recently 5 homes have sold. Sales history now will affect 2018 values.

Kevin—Usually October is slow, but recently they have been busy. The whole course was rented to Seaboard. Then the Cross County league meet was held here. Then they had night golf, and it was a good turnout.

Rhianna— It's cold and flu season, so if you haven't received your flu shot come by. Working on edits from the State on the Grant side.

Commissioners—Randy this has been a difficult week losing his brother. So enjoy every moment you have. Really enjoys listening to the supervisors and how everyone takes care of the County. Jim it's so good to hear everyone working together. Excited about Vienna's news about the opportunity the County has with the construction people coming to town.

Gina—Finishing the levies to get to Vicki to print tax statements. The City/School Election will be Nov. 7th and early voting is now in Clerk's office. Reminder that open enrollment for our new BCBS insurance will be Wednesday at 8:00 at the Road dept. and 9:30 at the Courthouse.

Eric—Had an arrest in South Dakota on a warrant.

Dusty—The radio over pagers was misquoted instead of \$1000 it's \$2000. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to amend the motion to approve

from the last meeting. Frontline Senior Living is asking for help on a table top discussion on "Loss of power". Dusty is asking to purchase it at \$100 and he will use it at other entities in the future. KDOT aviation will be here Thursday at 10:00 to talk about improvements and future needs. KDEM will be here Oct. 30th to help with the FEMA information.

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

Commissioners had a working afternoon. A motion by JW, seconded by Randy UYV to approve and sign the contract with Stanfield Roofing with the additional addendum for approval to receive bids from them and others added by County Attorney. Discussed the road department dozer; Christmas Party; Supervisor Evaluations. Reviewed bids by Morton Buildings \$5,365 and Shannon Whisennand \$7,507. A motion by JW, seconded by Randy, UYV to approve the bid by Morton Buildings to fix the open ended hangar wind damage. A motion by Randy, seconded by JW to approve 2018 Hay, Rice and Associates Contract.

A motion by Randy, seconded by JW, UYV to adjourn at 2:48.

Randy Bane, Chairman

JW Finn, Vice-Chairman

Jim Tucker, Commissioner

Attest:

Gina Castillo, County Clerk