

MINUTES  
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS  
May 14, 2018

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

Present: Jim Tucker, Chairman; JW Finn, Vice-Chairman; Randy Bane, Commissioner; Eric Witcher, County Attorney and Gina Castillo, County Clerk. Also in attendance Terrell Giddens and Officer Fraser.

Pastor Ed Richards opened with prayer.

Commissioners reviewed the agenda. Commissioners signed 3 A/P Warrant Vouchers listed below; 1 P/R form and Warrant Register; Abated order. Abated Orders 2013 286-287, 2014 178 and 2017 143. A motion by JW, seconded by Randy, UYV to approve the corrected minutes of April 23<sup>rd</sup> and Special meeting April 30<sup>th</sup>.

General	\$69935.22
Road/Bridge	\$51947.71
Noxious Weed	\$16455.20
Airport	\$3088.43
Employee Benefits	\$3,306.38
Ambulance	\$3705.64
Health	\$13878.25
Fire	\$3326.91
County Building	\$9938.29
Spec. Econ. Dev	\$426.81
Sales Tax Hosp.	\$17702.69
Payroll W/H	\$10095.10
Treasure M/V	\$926.02
Emg.	
Prepardness	\$709.98
Spec. Equip	\$9494.94
Civic Cntr Dep	\$1,420.00
911	\$5845.43
Diversion	\$164.99
ROD Tech	\$40.00
Totals	\$222,407.99

Commissioners, and Gina drove to the Road department to watch a demonstration from Asphalt Zipper on asphalt grinding machinery. Back to the Courthouse at 9:45.

Chris—Weed/Landfill. Chris stated they have started spraying and have done the Airport and buildings around town. He would like to sell the induction for spray tanks we currently have and look at another brand. The 953D dozer has had some repairs and also minor repairs on the scraper. The 953C is fully operational. He needs to buy a tire for the loader, the cheapest is D's Tires at 1600.00. A motion by Jim, seconded by JW, UYV to purchase 2 tires from D's Tires so we will have a spare. To move the shops welder hook up there is an approximate cost of \$600. Commissioners will talk to Greg, as this seems like a high quote. Chris is still working on the revenue side of the landfill and has been talking to the State, working on an option of a C&D pit that will allow us to take in more tonnage and will also be used by the windfarm project crews. Commissioners suggested he keep pursuing the details to add this pit and revenue amounts.

Dana—Road. Thanked the Commissioners for letting him attend the KAC conference there was a lot of good information and ideas presented. There is federal 80/20 grant funds available to rebuild County road 16, as it is accessible to federal lands. He and Bob will watch the webinar on it and get more information. He will have to submit to bids for the sealing project on county road 16 and present them both at the next meeting. He is still trying to get the bids on the mechanic pickup. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV for a 5 minute executive session for personnel at 10:52. Back in regular session at 10:57. No action taken.

Vienna—Civic Center. She received an estimate of \$53,158 on the one A/C unit from KNIPP to replace the systems bad compressor and bad condenser coil. The first E Community loan has been approved, Higher Grounds Coffee House. She said the Wind Catcher project is falling into place and individuals are already utilizing housing in Elkhart.

Hospital—Rich Bergling, CEO. The census has been good lately, even with both Dr's out of town. The demonstration payments should be calculated any time and they will reimburse the hospital a lump sum from the start date and the semimonthly amount will be refigured.

Chris Lund with City on a Hill—Entered to update the Commissioners on their services. Requested same as last year, any support is appreciated.

Forest Service—John Linn introduced Kevin the new local forest ranger. Discussion took place regarding the badger fire and John stated that the County's part in this really helped them a lot and they were very appreciative. Stated that prescribed burns are on hold right now since we have not had the rain. Also discussed the possibility of having more grazing on the grasslands, as fire prevention.

Dusty—KDOT contacted Dusty about turning over some of our Airport entitlements as Morton County will lose 1 year anyway, we have no projects. He presented the form for the commissioners to sign. Dusty also talked to him about a KDOT grant and will get information for this year.

Adjourned for lunch at noon to the Civic Center and met with Economic Development group; Shan Hanes, Becki Richardson, Vienna Lee and Kim Goodnight. Reconvened at 1:00.

Lisa Southern with Compass Behavioral Health. Presented the annual report and discussed new televideo services in order to get the right staff hired and reach all the counties. They promote Yellow Ribbon Training, a suicide awareness program to use at the schools. The budget request this year is \$16,000.00

Economic Development group entered again. A conference call was made to an investment consultant. Then discussion took place regarding Economic Development.

Myrna Barnes with the Museum entered at 2:00 to present the Wild West Country Project in the Southwest Kansas area. She is requesting donations, County will start with a donation of \$1000 to get started this 1<sup>st</sup> year.

Continued discussions with the Economic Development group.

Chris Flageolle, with Lochner, called the commissioners regarding the night approaches and he will be working with KDOT Aviation grants.

A motion by Jim seconded JW, UYV to go into executive for Attorney Client Privilege at 3:20 for 10 minutes. Back in regular session at 3:30. No action taken.

Commissioners also discussed the Indigent Contract; Eric said a few changes were made but should receive the signed contract and start June 1<sup>st</sup>. Eric will also send a letter to SW Predatorial Services and see if there is a response by the next meeting.

A motion by Randy, seconded by Jim, UYV to adjourn at 4:02.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Tucker, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
JW Finn, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Bane, Commissioner

Attest:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gina Castillo, County Clerk