

MINUTES  
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS  
January 14, 2019

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.

JW opened with prayer.

Oath of Office taken by Bill Light, Morton County Commissioner for Dist. 1.

At this time the election of officers took place. A motion by Bill, seconded by Jim, to nominate JW as Chairman for 2019. A motion by JW, seconded by Bill to nominate Jim, as Vice Chairman for 2019 UYV. Minutes of the December 28, 2018 were approved with corrections on a motion by JW, seconded by Jim.

A motion was made by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to transfer funds from the General Fund to Special Equipment Reserve; Noxious Weed to Special Noxious Weed Equipment; Road and Bridge to Special Highway Equipment and Road and Bridge to Special Highway Improvement.

A motion by Jim, seconded by Bill, UYV to designate the Tri-State News as the official newspaper for Morton County. A motion by Bill, seconded by JW, Jim abstained to designate Heartland Tri-State Bank of Elkhart and TBK Bank as the official depositories for Morton County.

A motion was made by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to sign, Salary Resolution 2019-1 and a motion was made by JW, seconded by Bill, UYV to sign Resolution 2019-2 (A Resolution Adopting Standards for Financial Statements and Reporting.) Commissioners also signed the following; Abated Orders 2018-39, 1 P/R form and Warrant Register and 2 A/P Warrant registers as listed below.

		2018
General	\$10,615.58	\$37,605.86
Road/Bridge		\$16,555.83
Fire		\$774.11
Airport		
Emp. Benefits		\$943.98
Ambulance	\$2,314.24	\$6,072.41
Health	\$31.70	\$1,097.51

County Bldg		
Special Equipment	\$1,626.24	
P/R Withholding	\$1,382.12	\$2,606.90
Treas. M/V		\$176.05
Civic Center Dep 911	\$50.00	
Noxious Weed	\$250.00	\$209.88
Special Eco. Devo.		\$153.45
Sales Tax Hosp.		\$15,657.47
Em. Prep.		\$405.00
E. Community		\$80.00
Totals	\$16,269.88	\$82,338.45

Commissioners updated Bill on current issues.

Dot Leiker—Entered to give an update on Southwest Developmental Services Inc. as she is a board member for Morton County. They are anxious to see how the new Governor and administration help fund and work with these services.

Steph—EMS. They have had a very busy weekend. EMT classes will start Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> they had several interested. CPR class with the Sheriff's department last week. Delisa billing is going to start taking credit cards. She presented the run report. A motion by Jim, seconded by Bill, UYV to send \$4,856.38 to collection.

Chris—Landfill/Weed. A motion by Jim, seconded by JW, UYV to go into Executive Session for Attorney Client Privilege at 10:00 for 10 minutes. Back in regular session at 10:10. A motion by Jim, seconded by JW, UYV to contact Terracon to proceed with their recommendation.

Kevin—Golf. Busy working on reels. Eddy Koonce with Elkhart High School wants to have a demonstration class that Kevin can show them the process for grinding down reels. Membership dues will start the 1<sup>st</sup> part of March. The rain and snow has been good for the golf course.

Dana—Road. Asked to get quotes for County Road P in Rolla to grind 8% cement into it and seal it twice. It is 4 miles, Seaboard and grain haulers use this road a lot. He asked if he could hire a new employee, the Commissioners did not agree to hire right now.

Vienna—Civic Center. She did get the application proposal sent to the Department of Ag. Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a speaker at the Civic Center for producers, with information about growing Hemp. The Civic Center is recertified for passports.

Teresa Mathies—Entered to discuss County Road D. It took until Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> to blade this road after she had called 3 times. They never had this problem in the past. The Commissioners need to research it and see if it is a County maintained road and get back with her.

Rich Bergling, CEO to the Hospital and Mike Horton Board member. Steve Brillhart entered. The last few weeks have been slow. They just started using Azalea software, while still using CPSI until February and then the clinic will be fully on Azalea.

Angela and Susie—Appraisers. Angela presented the Ag Land Value report and explained using the 5 year average on irrigated land. Commercial and Real Estate are showing inconsistent values and this will take a couple years to get all things reviewed and in line.

Adjourned for lunch at 12:00. Attended a luncheon with a speaker on the 2019 Farm Bill, at the Civic Center. Reconvened at 1:00.

A call was made to Chris Flageolle and Matt Jacobs with Lochner. They reviewed the potential projects and discussed the CIP to submit to the FAA. A motion by JW, seconded by Bill, UYV to proceed with the Option 1, connecting Runway 4-22 connecting taxiway and Runway 22 turnaround at 90/10 match our approximate cost \$11,000. The approaches are still pending the KDOT grant that the County applied for and should get a response by March.

Shelby—Sheriff. She has interviewed several for a dispatch position. She would like to hire Cheri Gomez at \$12/hr. Commissioners approved.

Commissioners discussed the following; the indigent services for Attorney cost on misdemeanors. The County Attorney will do an addendum to the contract to be Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> with Jacob Fitzgerald from Liberal.

A motion by Bill, seconded by Jim, UYV to approve Resolution 2019-3 appoint EMS Director. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to transfer \$102,970.12 from County General to Bond and Interest to make the Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> No Fund Warrant payment.

A motion by Jim, seconded by JW, UYV to go into executive session for Attorney Client Privilege at 3:04 for 5 minutes. Back in regular session at 3:09. No action taken.

Commissioners also discussed the upcoming WEKANDO meeting in Ulysses, Jim will try to attend. Also discussed Bill currently has a supplemental insurance to Medicare and instead of joining the County plan could we just reimburse him the same as retirees as this is a cost savings. Commissioners approved. Discussion took place on the Hospital open board position, Steven Brillhart applied for reconsideration. After much discussion it was decided to advertise until the next meeting.

A motion to adjourn by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV at 3:46.

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JW Finn, Chairman

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Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman

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Bill Light, Commissioner

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