

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
January 28, 2019

JW called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. with open doors.

Present: JW, Chairman; Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman; Bill Light, Commissioner; Eric Witcher, County Attorney; and Gina Castillo, County Clerk.

Jim opened with prayer.

		2018
General	\$104,507.49	\$5,859.41
Road/Bridge	\$5,759.97	\$4,081.82
Fire		
Airport	\$4,218.62	\$1,320.27
Emp. Benefits	\$42,635.79	
Ambulance	\$82.98	
Health	\$1,347.03	
Council on Aging	\$59,975.02	
Historical	\$66,751.12	
P/R Withholding		
Treas. M/V	\$609.37	
Civic Center Dep		
Extension Council	\$72,781.02	
Noxious Weed		
Library	\$122,238.73	
Sales Tax Hosp.		
Em. Prep.	\$106.99	\$106.99
911	\$140.63	
Hospital	\$907,382.98	
Fair	\$54,383.70	
Conservation	\$15,114.12	
Mental	\$700.00	
Totals	\$1,458,735.56	\$11,368.49

A motion by Bill, seconded by Jim, UYV to appoint Board member recommendations submitted by the Historical Society at their annual meeting. Missy McKinley Richfield, Jeremy Lavielle Elkhart and Charlie Milburn, Rolla. Crystal Fleming to Morton County Housing Authority Board.

Chris—Landfill/Weed. He presented the annual contract with KDOT in regards to reimbursement for labor/chemical and use of equipment. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to approve. Chris also asked to hire at least a part-time employee, tabled until this afternoon. He needs to purchase some chains that will be just over \$300. Commissioners approved the purchase. Terracon should have test results back this week.

Dusty—EMS. EMT class should start any time, a few have dropped out. Hopefully the rest understand and stay enrolled. He attended a table top meeting with Rhianna and Marla. There is a KEMSA conference in April in Manhattan, Commissioners approved. He did training with LEC about "Stop the Bleeding". Road Department is servicing the ambulances and he appreciates it. Dusty has resigned his position as Airport manager. The Airport board meets Friday; he will update them and encourage anyone interested to apply. The fuel pumps have been having issues; he is in contact with the company that had installed it.

Rhianna—Health. Heart Health month will be in February, she would like to do a heart health panel testing and if need further treatment refer them to Clinic. A motion by JW, seconded by Bill, UYV for 5 minute executive session at 9:49 for Attorney Client for **Local Board of Public Health**. Back in regular session at 9:54. No action taken. Rhianna also updated Bill Light on the procedures regarding Local Board of Public Health.

Eric—Worked with Bob Wolfe last week, made a few changes to the landowner's contract.

Kevin—Golf. He had an individual contact him about having a wedding on 7th fairway, it would require closing that portion for a couple hours. He was thinking the fee should be the same as renting the clubhouse. He spoke to a few board members they thought it was ok. Commissioners approved. Membership and cart shed rental invoices are going out. He does have a couple that are 2 years behind on cart shed rent, \$225/year. County Attorney will write a letter.

Dana—Road. Busy out with the graders. He hasn't got any quotes from Tarbet on the cement, but he has put some numbers together for the milling project on County Rd. P \$231,000 is his calculation. This includes only 1 chip seal and total project is 4 miles.

Vienna—Economic Development/Civic Center. She said there was a large group that turned out on Friday for the speaker on Hemp farming. There is still a lot of research and opportunities for this product. Lots of discussion afterwards. She is gathering her next group for Destination Bootcamp. Discussed business

incentives, currently for E-Community loan businesses, but may discuss opening it up for all business to apply.

Supervisors—Vicki, Steph, Tracie, Rhianna, Crystal Bashford, Dusty, Kevin, Vienna, Dana, Chris, Larry Dunn.

Dusty—EMS has been busy for Jan. EMT class will be starting up.

Crystal—Morton County Extension has had a couple 4-H events so far this year.

Rhianna—Getting ready for Heart Health month. Wear Red on Fridays.

Tracie—Busy with IT upgrades.

Stephanie—They have been busy indexing. A researcher was in recently.

Vicki—Working on year end reports and tax distributions for the taxing entities.

Larry—There was a grass fire recently. The SW counties are going to get together and discuss a SW task force to assist throughout the State. He will know more details after that meeting.

Chris—Getting ready to finish up treating prairie dogs.

Dana—Grading roads, hopefully get them all done before next snow.

Vienna—January has been slow. But had several meetings there. Still able to do passports, the shutdown did not affect that.

Kevin—Eddy Koonce's shop high school class came up and observed and learned how to sharpen reels.

Eric—It has been fairly slow lately.

Gina—Been working on year end reports. Still keep Wanda and family in prayers hopeful they will be home in the next 10 days. Reminder Inventories are due Feb. 22nd. We have switched auditors to Lewis, Hooper and Dick this year. So things may go different than in the past, we will have budget workshops and they may ask you for different documents.

Commissioners—Bill introduced himself and is looking forward to working with everyone and understanding each department. Jim, welcomed Bill to the Commission. JW expressed letting us know when you have an expense over

\$500 bring it to the Commission if it is not a service affecting expense and we will work on an updated purchasing policy.

Angela and Susie—Appraiser. Angela talked to Roger with PVD he stated the Hospital/Clinic facility will need to apply for exemption status, due to the remodel and changes in use of the facility it is no longer fully property tax exempt. Angela and Susie are working on going through the Ag land values with a fine tooth comb before values go out on March 1st.

Adjourned for lunch at noon. Reconvened at 1:00.

Commissioners went to the Appraisers office to visit with Angela, the appraiser and view screens on how the 2 year Ag average implementation will show the updates.

Discussion took place regarding Chris' request to hire a part-time person. Jim made a motion, seconded by Bill, UYV to approve to advertise a part-time employee. A motion by Jim, seconded by Bill, UYV to approve the Jan. 14th minutes with corrections.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the Hospital open board position. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to go into executive session for personnel at 4:15 for 15 minutes. Back in regular session at 4:30. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to extend 5 minutes. Back in regular session at 4:35. A motion to extend 5 minutes by Jim, seconded by JW, UYV. Back in regular session at 4:40. Bill made a motion, seconded by JW, a no vote by Jim to appoint Steve Brillhart to the Hospital Board.

A motion to adjourn at 5:01 by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV.

JW Finn, Chairman

Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman

Bill Light, Commissioner

Attest: _____
Gina Castillo, County Clerk