

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 16, 2024

The County Commissioners met in a special session on December 16, 2024, in the County Commissioners' room. Present were Commissioners Dale Pickel, Kurt Ifland and Jim Gwennap. Also, present was Ashley Maxwell, Clerk, Travis Story, Assistant Road Supervisor and Brady Peterson, Commissioner elect.

At 8:30 a.m. Ifland called the regular meeting to order and Gwennap opened with prayer.

A motion was made by Pickel and seconded by Gwennap to approve the 12/9/2024 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the 12/16/2024 agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

The commissioners approved payroll #26 for \$154,626.60.

The commissioners approved 5 longevity pay increases.

The commissioners and Story discussed the following:

1. Ifland asked about making arrangements with the blade man to assist with rolling on M Rd. Story stated that would be appropriate.
2. Ifland shared Justin Kline will be removing the fence on 230 Rd this week.
3. Gwennap asked about how much longer the dozer will be at the state line. Story stated the work should be completed this week.
4. Gwennap asked about fuel bids. Story stated he was unaware he was supposed to request those. He will work on that today.
5. Gwennap discussed P Rd, North of 50 Rd. Story stated the blade man will be working on it.
6. Gwennap discussed the request from Chris McGraw to close the West half of 70 Rd between DD Rd and EE Rd. Story will proceed with the proper notices and the hearing will be held January 6, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 8:53 a.m. for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee performance. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Travis Story and Brady Peterson. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 9:09 a.m.
Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 9:09 a.m. for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee performance. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Travis Story and Brady Peterson. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 9:15 a.m.
Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

7. Ifland asked if Story will be listing the items on PurpleWave or contact Gavel Roads.
Story stated he will contact Gavel Roads for more information.
Story left the meeting.

Initials

DP

JG

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 16, 2024

Charles Leadabrand joined the meeting and asked about 30 Rd between Y Rd and U Rd. Leadabrand also discussed adding additional gravel on Y Rd between 30 Rd and 90 Rd. Leadabrand left the meeting.

Ryan Allen joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Allen shared a quote from Foley Equipment for under-carriage work. Allen stated he can contact the Foley Equipment mechanic and have him join a meeting.
2. Allen discussed the Christmas Eve holiday schedule. The commissioners stated the approved schedule is the closure at 12:00 p.m.
3. Allen discussed the unknown amount of waste that will be generated by the wind farm.
4. Allen discussed his findings with an oil burner.

Keith DeWolf joined the meeting.

Allen left the meeting.

DeWolf discussed the following:

1. DeWolf stated he will be starting the performance reviews this week. Tiffany Wiseman will be assisting this year, since he just started last month.
2. DeWolf also shared he is monitoring his budget for 2024.
3. DeWolf stated he will be attending training in Hays, KS in March.
4. Gwennap asked DeWolf about his work hours. DeWolf stated he is currently working 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

DeWolf left the meeting.

Gwennap gave an update of the old hospital committee meeting that was held on 12/11/2024. The committee continues to research funding opportunities for the project.

The commissioners received two township office resignations. Ron Rahjes resigned as the Cedar Township Treasurer and Gary Nonamaker resigned as the Dor Township Clerk.

Laura Hageman joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Hageman stated she has been working with Keith Wangerin with the SAFE KIDS program. Previously EMS was listed as the representative for Smith County. Hageman stated in the future the health department will be the lead for Smith County and EMS will assist.
2. Hageman stated the home health program is continuing to grow and Hageman would like to ask the PRN CNA to assist with the case load. The commissioners are in favor of utilizing the employee.
3. Hageman stated she will be out of the office on Monday, December 23, 2024.
4. Gwennap asked if the data loggers have been installed. Hageman stated they were installed last week.
5. Hageman stated they have completed 80 blankets for the Angel Tree.

Hageman left the meeting.

Initials _____ DP JG

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 16, 2024

A motion was made by Pickel and seconded by Gwennap to appoint Diann Hrabe as Cedar Township Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Tiffany Wiseman joined the meeting.

The commissioners approved 11 abatements, 1 add and 1 escape.

A motion was made by Iland and seconded by Gwennap to convene in executive session at 10:41 a.m. for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee performance. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Tiffany Wiseman and Brady Peterson. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 10:47 a.m.
Wiseman left the meeting.

Keith Wangerin joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Wangerin stated the new truck is here, it is just waiting on radios at this time.
2. Wangerin stated the Zoll representative was here showing the new monitors.
3. Wangerin discussed the budget for 2024. Wangerin stated they have completed over 100 transfers which required additional hours of his employees. Wangerin asked if the payroll budget is over, can health care sales tax be utilized to assist. The commissioners are in favor of utilizing health care sales tax monies.
4. Wangerin shared with the commissioners he has 3 EMTs that have signed up to take the A-EMT class. Wangerin asked the commissioners to consider covering the tuition with a signed contract.

Travis Conaway joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 11:05 a.m. for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee performance. Motion carried unanimously. Conaway left the meeting. Also in the session was Ashley Maxwell, Keith Wangerin and Brady Peterson. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 11:11 a.m.

Wangerin left the meeting.

Travis Conaway discussed the following:

1. Conaway stated he plans to be proactive and transparent.
2. Conaway discussed the opening in his department with the expected retirement of Bruce Lehman. Conaway would like to go ahead and hire this individual sooner rather than later.
3. Conaway stated he will be treating his employees as new hires once he takes office.
4. Conaway stated the sheriff's department continues to have issues with wiring on the vehicles. Conaway stated he will be researching a professional to handle these issues in the future.
5. Gwennap discussed several cases that have not been handled completely. Conaway stated he plans on changing some of the processes once in office.

Conaway left the meeting.

Vernon Reinking joined the meeting. Gwennap shared that previously Reinking mentioned he

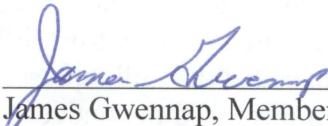
Initials _____ DP JG

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
December 16, 2024

would waive the interest for a time period. Gwennap stated that according to statute Reinking can not waive the interest. Reinking stated he will issue letters to the individuals who are late as of December 21, 2024. The commissioners are in favor of following the law and asked Reinking to not accept late payments without assessing the interest.

At 11:56 a.m. a motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Ifland to adjourn as there was no further business. Motion carried unanimously.

Kurt Ifland, Chairman



James Gwennap, Member

Attest:



Ashley Maxwell, Clerk



Dale E. Pickel, Member

These minutes are not official until signed by the county commissioners and attested to by the County Clerk.

Initials _____ DP JG