

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
November 18, 2024

The County Commissioners met in a regular session on November 18, 2024, in the County Commissioners' room. Present were Commissioners Kurt Ifland, Dale Pickel and Jim Gwennap. Also, present was Ashley Maxwell, Clerk, and Gary Baetz, Blade Foreman

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

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the 11/12/2024 regular meeting minutes and the 11/14/2024 minutes of the county canvass. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the 11/18/2024 agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

The commissioners approved payroll #24 for \$137,404.67.

The commissioners and Baetz discussed the following:

1. Ifland discussed a hole in the bridge on C Rd, South of 255 Rd. Ifland also stated there are some holes South of that area that need fixed.
2. Pickel asked about who bladed U Rd. Baetz stated he had a couple individuals blade it last week. Baetz also stated they added some rock to the roadway as well.
3. Pickel discussed a tree hanging over the roadway at 110 Rd and Q Rd.
4. Gwennap discussed BB Lane. Gwennap stated there is a windrow on the East side of the roadway.
5. Gwennap discussed Y Rd, South of Hwy 36. Gwennap stated he got a complaint about blow outs, but with this moisture, the roadway will need touched up again.
6. Gwennap discussed L Rd between 130 Rd and 100 Rd. Baetz stated they added some material last week.
7. Gwennap asked if the mounds have been worked out of 30 Rd between V Rd and W Rd.
8. Gwennap discussed the mulcher heads. The commissioners suggested not utilizing them until the issues on 30 Rd and some others are figured out.
9. Gwennap informed Baetz that if there are some rainy days, the trees at the old hospital need to be removed.
10. Gwennap asked if the trucks are in operation yet. Baetz stated there is one in operation, the other is still in the shop.
11. Gwennap asked Baetz to rock 300 Rd, Russell Hendrich's ¼ mile.
12. Ifland discussed organizing crews at the end of the day, prepping for the next day.
13. The commissioners discussed the spreadsheets that Travis Story is making for the blade men. Baetz stated some of the blade men are utilizing the information.
14. Pickel discussed the bridge on 220 Rd between N Rd and O Rd that needs to be looked at. The West end is washed out.

Baetz left the meeting.

Gwennap stated he had a conversation with Ryan Rietzke in regard to boring the drain line in the courthouse basement. Rietzke stated he wouldn't bore it, but has an individual to contact that could possibly fix the issue.

Ryan Allen joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Allen discussed the possibility of purchasing some safety apparel for the landfill employees. Allen presented footwear, high visibility coats and vests. At this time, the commissioners

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approved the purchase of high visibility vests. Additional research will be done on footwear.

2. Allen shared the E-Waste meeting that will be held December 18, 2024.
3. Allen shared photos of the office at the landfill. The employees have repainted the office.

Keith DeWolf joined the meeting.

4. Gwennap shared the old hospital committee will be moving forward and there will be waste to be delivered to the landfill at some point.

Allen left the meeting.

Keith DeWolf, Communications Director, discussed the following:

1. DeWolf stated today is his first day on the job.
2. DeWolf stated that he has met most of the dispatchers.

Jeremy McGuire and Greg Lane joined the meeting.

3. DeWolf stated he will be working with the sheriff's department as well for training opportunities.
4. DeWolf visited with the commissioners about the possibility of taking a radio home at some point to assist when needed.
5. DeWolf asked the commissioners of their expectations. The commissioners stated that they request open communication. The commissioners also asked DeWolf to remain on top of grant opportunities, audits and procedures.

DeWolf left the meeting.

McGuire and Lane left the meeting.

Laura Hageman joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Hageman stated their staff refrigerator went out over the weekend. Hageman stated she will need to replace it. Hageman will obtain prices from multiple vendors.
2. Hageman stated they sponsored the movie through the DECK grant.
3. Hageman stated they are working on blankets for the Angel Tree. They will also be partnering with the Smith County Memorial Hospital and Smith Center Chamber on December 7, 2024.
4. Hageman shared the health department has signed up to be a Milk Bank. The health department will be able to store excess breastmilk.
5. Hageman stated there will be an LEPC meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at the EMS building.
6. Hageman stated they will be having their WIC Management meeting on December 3, 2024.

Hageman left the meeting.

Alicia Strother joined the meeting.

Erin Geist with Community Corrections joined the meeting via telephone and asked the commissioners to consider space for an officer to be housed in Smith County. The commissioners are in favor of assisting the 17th Judicial District with office space and will make arrangements for the community corrections officer to have a space in the courthouse.

Geist left the meeting.

Alicia Strother, Jeremy McGuire and Greg Lane joined the meeting.

Strother's presented the commissioners with the 2025 BCBS/Freedom Claims contract. If the commissioners choose to continue with the current plan, the deductibles and copays will remain the same.

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McGuire stated there will be a change in the formulary and non-formulary prescriptions. The individuals affected by this change will be contacted via letter.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Ifland to approve the BCBS/Freedom Claims contracts as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Strother, Lane and McGuire left the meeting.

Tabitha Owen joined the meeting.

Casey Frasier joined the meeting.

The commissioners discussed the sale of surplus property with Owen. Owen reviewed the current resolution with the guidelines of disposition of property.

Owen left the meeting.

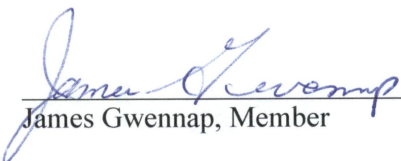
The commissioners asked Frasier about the truck that is currently at CAT in Concordia. Frasier stated they are dealing with an outside entity on the warranty repairs. There is discussion about whether to replace the engine or fix it. They are also in discussions regarding the labor rate for said warranty work. Frasier left the meeting.

At this time, the commissioners will move forward with Rural ReDevelopment Group LLC and plan to transfer the property ownership to them for the purpose of housing. The commissioners feel this is in the best interests of the community and its needs. The commissioners will also accept any public comment through December 9, 2024.

At 12:07 a.m. a motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to adjourn as there was no further business. Motion carried unanimously.


Kurt Ifland, Chairman

Attest:


James Gwennap, Member


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.

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