

The County Commissioners met in regular session on March 27, 2017 in the County Commissioners' Room. Present were Commissioners Art Befort, Tom James, and Roger Allen. Also present was Sharon Wolters, Clerk; and, Mitch Fritz, Road Supervisor.

Commissioners approved the agenda for the March 27, 2017 meeting.

Commissioners approved the March 20, 2017 minutes.

Phil Newberry, Foley Implement, joined the meeting. Fritz discussed the blade men training previously planned for this week. The training was rescheduled for a later time because of the weather conditions.

The chairman reviewed and signed the Treasurer's daily balance sheet envelopes. The clerk attested his signature.

Commissioners discussed the public tax information meeting and agreed to ask the appraiser to rejoin the meeting later today to plan the meeting.

Commissioners approved vouchers #35027-35033 from the following funds:

General	7873.61
ROAD	13226.12
HEALTH	974.82
APPRAISER	264.00
Landfill	244.86
EMS Grant Fund	1645.15
EMS	1939.11
TOTAL	\$ 26,167.67

Patrick Eastes, EMS Director, joined the meeting.

Commissioners discussed the burning ban. **A motion was made by Roger Allen and it was seconded by Tom James to remove the burning ban with a request from the Smith County Commission for all residents to call the communications center at 785-282-5180 before starting any open burning. Motion carried unanimously.** Commissioners agreed to review passing a resolution adding a requirement to call the communications department at 785-282-5180 before starting any open burning.

Mitch Fritz, Road Supervisor, discussed the following:

1. James asked about maintenance on L Road south of Hwy. 36.
2. Allen discussed the bridge inspections. Fritz reported that all bridges over 20 feet will be inspected in 2017.
3. Fritz reported that there were two bridge approaches fixed over the weekend. One on Y Road between 110 & 120 Roads & one on Y Road between 80 and 90 Roads.
4. Befort discussed a road maintenance issue on Y Road. Befort reported that Fritz was able to repair the road over the weekend.

Tabitha Owen, County Attorney, joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Owen discussed the ability for the county to lease property. Owen reported that she has shared this information with John Grace. Commissioners agreed to allow either a lease or a sale within the restriction limits that long term care be located on this property.
2. Owen discussed an easement by the gas company on the hospital property. Owen agreed to do additional research on this.
3. Commissioners asked Owen to review and create a resolution adopting a county-wide open burn reporting requirement. Owen agreed to review the draft provided.

Owen left the meeting.

Initials _____ AB TJ

Fritz continued road discussion:

5. Befort asked about phone response and road repair timing. Befort asked that the person making an emergency road repair request receive a return call from the road department telling the person requesting emergency road work what action will be taken by the road department. Befort thanked Fritz for repairing the road in a timely manner.
6. Fritz provided information on the trailer replacement request from the March 20, 2017 meeting. Commissioners approved trading in the two old trailers and purchasing one new trailer as a replacement.
7. Fritz discussed the fleet safety policy for the road department and presented a draft for review.

Fritz left the meeting.

Dave Tucker discussed the following:

1. Tucker provided a copy of the Household Hazardous Waste program for Smith County.
2. Tucker discussed the county-wide clean-up program and roll off box availability.
3. Befort asked about e-waste disposal during the county-wide clean-up.
4. Tucker provided a copy of the Kansas State permit approval.
5. Tucker discussed mud policy for the landfill. Commissioners agreed to continue the current mud policy.
6. Tucker talked about occasional overtime. Commissioners agreed to use employees as needed.
7. Tucker reported on the concrete crushing at the landfill. Commissioners asked Tucker to protect and maintain safety by maintaining regular standards required by KDHE and the local facility.

Tucker left the meeting

Fritz and ElDean Holthus joined the meeting.

Eastes discussed the following:

1. Eastes updated commissioners on employee extended leave.
2. Eastes discussed a request from a neighboring county concerning transfers of ALS (Advanced Life Support) patients. Eastes indicated that he is willing to assist but will not compromise our county coverage to do so.
3. Eastes reported that all units have been repaired.
4. Eastes reported on new and used vehicles. Eastes provided information for the commissioners to review. Eastes also provided a 10 year plan for truck replacement for the EMS.
5. Eastes reviewed bids received from RFP issued. Smith County received two bids for ambulance with remount boxes as follows:
 - a. PA Inc. \$149,213.00* (*3597.00 discount for ordering chassis direct)
 - b. Dayco \$169,117.00

Eastes suggested using the Health Care Sales Tax plus budget funds from EMS to pay for a replacement ambulance. Commissioners discussed maintaining tax levels and asked additional budget and expense questions. Befort thanked Eastes for doing the research requested. Holthus asked if he could comment. Holthus stated that he would like to see the commissioners wait until they have completed the budget preparation for 2018 and then make a decision about purchasing the vehicle at that time. Commissioners agreed to do some additional research and discuss it with Eastes at a later time. Eastes left the meeting

Holthus asked if the commissioners would approve his request to allow work on the Home on the Range Road. Commissioners approved a six month cooperative agreement with Peoples Heartland Foundation to do general maintenance on 90 Road between G & H Roads. Holthus agreed to take the contract to the Peoples Heartland Foundation Administrator for his signature. Holthus left the meeting.

Roy Brown joined the meeting and asked if road maintenance could be completed and inquired about using drags pulled behind the blades. Fritz reported that rock maintenance is currently being completed anticipating rain later this week. Fritz agreed to check into cost for the drags. Brown asked to have permission to remove rock from T Road between 30 & 50 Roads. Fritz said the county should do the road rock but will meet with Roy to discuss the road surface. Brown left the meeting.

Fritz also reviewed statutes regarding county ROW.

Initials AB JS

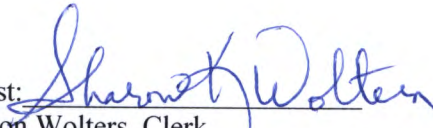
James reported that he has contacted Wade Wagoner about the Fair Board structure and legal authority to engage in lease agreements. Wagner indicated that the Fair Board meets soon and will discuss the structure and relationship between the County and the Fair Board and how to best structure the relationship to benefit Smith County residents.

Commissioners discussed the April 12, 2017 tax assessment meeting. Wolters contacted Hansen to verify dates and speaker arrangements. Hansen verified that she has scheduled a representative from KDOR PVD Dept. and from Kansas State University for the meeting.

Commissioners signed an agreement with the School District #237 to reserve the school auditorium on April 12, 2017.

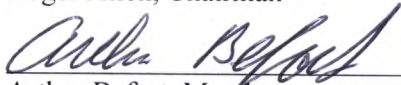
Commissioners approved 5 tax abatements and one added tax for the 2016 tax roll.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest: 
Sharon Wolters, Clerk

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

Roger Allen, Chairman



Arthur Befort, Member



Tom James, Member