

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
July 1, 2024

At 7:05 a.m., the County Commissioners met in a special session on July 1, 2024, in the County Commissioners' room. Present were Commissioners Kurt Ifland, Dale Pickel and Jim Gwennap. Also, present was Ashley Maxwell, Clerk, Travis Story, Assistant Road Supervisor and Gary Baetz, Blade Foreman.

The commissioners and Baetz discussed the following:

1. Baetz stated he is currently training Lane Fuller to operate a blade.
2. Baetz stated he will be doing some work on 20 Rd between I Rd and J Rd. The road needs to have the shoulders pulled, mulched and additional material.
3. Baetz stated he will be doing some finish work on K Rd between 70 Rd and 60 Rd. Baetz stated that in the past this road has been sanded. Gwennap stated the sand needs to be applied in smaller amounts and more frequently. We need to allow the traffic to pack the sand before we add additional. Gwennap also discussed the need to finalize prep work prior to beginning projects. The lack of project completion is causing us to continue to go back and fix issues.
4. Gwennap asked Baetz his reaction to Travis's spreadsheets. Baetz stated he has been going through the list and prioritizing projects. The goal of the spreadsheets is to assist with communication from the board to the blade men.
5. Gwennap asked about 50 Rd and why this area has not been worked when it has been brought up numerous times. Baetz stated he has been training and at this point the trainee is not ready for a project like this yet. Gwennap stated this road has been bad for years. Gwennap stated ultimately in the end this roadway will need gravel, but we don't want to apply that until the road is reshaped with a crown.
6. Gwennap discussed the need for foremen to encourage performance in their employees. Gwennap stated with individuals quitting early we are losing valuable time, and the efficiency is not good.
7. Gwennap discussed the need to utilize grader ditches.
8. The commissioners discussed the need to begin narrowing P Rd and prepping it for BaseOne in the future.
9. Ifland asked about communications between the blade men. Baetz stated he does have conversations with the others at times and also most of them will contact him if they have an issue.

Baetz left the meeting.

Kevin Marcum joined the meeting.

The commissioners and Marcum discussed the following:

1. Ifland asked if Marcum had any concerns. Marcum does not have any currently.
2. Gwennap asked about Marcum's response to the spreadsheets that Travis has designed to assist with projects. Marcum stated that he prioritizes the projects by traffic and the area. If there are several projects in an area, he attempts to do them all before moving to another location.
3. Marcum stated he is currently operating a crew of 3, himself included. Marcum stated depending on the project they utilize at least 2 vehicles at each jobsite.
4. Gwennap asked about large projects they have on his schedule. Marcum stated he will be removing the narrow concrete bridge at U Rd and 10 Rd.
5. Gwennap discussed the need for efficiency to continue to improve. Production is vital.
6. Ifland discussed 290 Rd between J Rd and K Rd. Ifland stated there is a bridge at about the half mile line. Ifland stated a plank has been caught and needs to be fixed.

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7. The commissioners and Marcum discussed some big wash outs and what materials could be placed in these. The commissioners stated some large rock or concrete could be dumped in these areas.

Marcum left the meeting.

James Bowles joined the meeting.

The commissioners and Bowles discussed the following:

1. Ifland asked about concerns with his crew. He stated he has one individual who has been wearing ear buds. The commissioners stated there is a safety concern with that issue and the commissioners want to eliminate that concern.
2. The commissioners discussed the need to spread the gravel a little thinner but apply it more frequently. The commissioners discussed the need to apply additional gravel on S Rd between Hwy 36 and 50 Rd. Bowles stated he knew of several other roadways that need additional gravel as well.
3. The commissioners discussed the need to look ahead at the weather. The commissioners encouraged Bowles to utilize it to our advantage.
4. The commissioners asked about some challenges he has experienced as the Truck Foreman. Bowles stated he has contacted Ron Hayes with questions in regard to the trailers.

Bowles left the meeting.

At 8:31 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 6/24/2024 minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the 7/1/2024 agenda with additions. Motion carried unanimously.

The commissioners approved payroll #14 for \$136,206.52.

The commissioners and Story discussed the following:

1. Ifland discussed O Rd between Hwy 9 and 270 Rd.
2. Ifland also discussed the bridge on 290 Rd between J Rd and K Rd.
3. Story stated last week they hauled water to several different locations.
4. Story stated he had a concern brought to him last week from the mechanic. He has serviced Dave Tucker's semi and has had 2 bad oil samples indicating grit in the oil.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Ifland to convene in executive session at 8:53 a.m. for 10 minutes to discuss attorney-client privilege, letter review. Motion carried unanimously. Also in the session was Travis Story and Ashley Maxwell. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 9:03 a.m.

Tom James joined the meeting and discussed the trees on 140 Rd between Hwy 8 and D Rd and also the trees on 150 Rd between G Rd and E Rd. James stated he requested the trees be removed approximately 3 years ago. The commissioners explained the dilemma with the equipment at this time. James asked if there is an option to have Buzz Rice remove the large ash tree and the smaller trees can wait until the county gets the new tree mulcher. The commissioners stated they are in favor of allowing James to contact Buzz Rice to have the large tree removed. James will contact Rice. James also asked about the plan for the bridge on 140 Rd between D Rd and E Rd. Story stated he will contact Penco and ask for a

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drainage study to be completed before a decision is made.
James left the meeting.

Tabitha Owen joined the meeting and discussed the bridge damage on Q Rd between 30 Rd and 20 Rd.
Owen left the meeting.

5. The commissioners discussed the pickup that the blade men are currently sharing. Story shared that in August, Owen Wagner will be attending CDL training and Mark Lyons will cover Wagner's district.
6. The commissioners asked Story to do some research, seeing what a replacement motor would cost vs. a new semi.
7. Maxwell shared with Story the claim received from Frontier for damage at 20 Rd and F Rd, Kensington. Story stated he had a meeting scheduled with the county attorney to discuss the claim.

Story left the meeting.

Ryan Allen joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Allen stated he will be sending Jarrod to the household hazardous waste training in September.
2. Allen will also be attending a separate training in September in Hays.
3. Allen shared with the commissioners a listing of what materials can be disposed of in the construction and demolition cell.
4. Allen stated the air conditioner on the packer still isn't blowing cold air and the mechanic from the road department is working on it.

Allen left the meeting.

Maxwell discussed the meeting she had with the New York Life Insurance representatives and the policies they offer. The commissioners are not in favor of adding any additional vendors at this time.

Maxwell shared the increase in the IRS mileage rate. The IRS rate is \$.67 per mile.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the mileage rate of \$.67 for Smith County effective 7/1/2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Ifland discussed the possibility of pouring concrete on the Northwest corner of the courthouse and also the concrete curbing at the Northwest corner of the lot. Ifland will contact Randy Kline for estimates.

The commissioners approved 1 abatement.

Brittany Overmiller and Alaina Hughes joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Hughes shared the Kansas Public Health Roadshow flyer and the dates.
2. Hughes stated she submitted the after-action report to the State and it was approved.
3. Hughes stated they are due for the WIC management meeting in October.
4. Hughes stated they are currently renewing the local vendor contract with Gene's IGA for WIC.
5. Hughes and Overmiller stated they are going to place the cleaning of the department as part of the duties of Julie Cole. The health department will no longer need to share with the courthouse.
6. Hughes shared the grants they have applied for and received as of July 1, 2024.
7. Overmiller stated she and Hughes will be attending their regional meeting on July 10.

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8. Hughes will also be attending an emergency preparedness meeting in Stockton in August. Overmiller and Hughes left the meeting.

Keith Wangerin joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Wangerin stated the new cots are in and are being used.
2. Wangerin shared there were 41 total calls and 16 transfers during the month of June.
3. Wangerin stated he had an air conditioner go down last week at the EMS building. Dave's Heating & Cooling was able to repair it. Wangerin stated he may shift his long-term plan and look into replacing the 20 year old units.

Wangerin left the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 11:01 a.m. for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee performance. Motion carried unanimously. Also in the session was Ashley Maxwell. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 11:08 a.m.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 11:10 a.m. for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, potential employee. Motion carried unanimously. Also in the session was Ashley Maxwell. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

Maxwell discussed the uniform expectations for Smith County beginning as budgets allow. The commissioners would like the dress code to be encouraged Monday-Thursday and Fridays are optional.

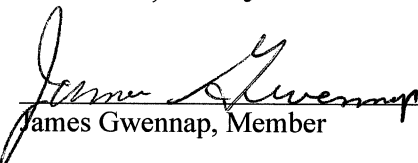
The commissioners reviewed the number of hours worked to maintain permanent part-time status at the county level.

At 11:44 a.m. a motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to adjourn the meeting as there was no further business. Motion carried unanimously.

Attest:


Ashley Maxwell, Clerk


Kurt Ifland, Chairman


James Gwennap, Member


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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