

Office of the County Clerk
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners
August 5, 2024

The County Commissioners met in a regular session on August 5, 2024, in the County Commissioners' room. Present were Commissioners Kurt Ifland, Dale Pickel and Jim Gwennap. Also, present was Ashley Maxwell, Clerk, and Travis Story, Assistant Road Supervisor.

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 7/29/2024 regular meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the 8/5/2024 agenda with additions. Motion carried unanimously.

The commissioners and Story discussed the following:

1. Story stated he was informed that 50 Rd is complete. Gwennap stated that 50 Rd is not complete. There are still potholes in the middle of the roadway.
2. Ifland discussed the tube on 260 Rd between K Rd and L Rd. Story stated that he did get this flagged last week.
3. Gwennap stated his concern with 50 Rd is that it is a bus route and if we don't get it fixed properly, there are going to be additional issues.
4. Gwennap discussed U Rd from 30 Rd to the state line North. Gwennap stated there has been a lot of traffic that has pounded out areas, so the blade man will need to fix a few areas before the gravel is added.
5. Gwennap stated he was asked if the mower could mow Y Rd between Hwy 36 and 140 Rd.
6. Ifland asked if O Rd between 170 Rd and 190 Rd had been fixed. Story stated Taz and Jeremy fixed it last week.
7. Gwennap discussed P Rd between 40 Rd and 10 Rd. Gwennap stated there are mounds of material in the middle of the roadway that need to be fixed.
8. Gwennap stated we will need to make sure the bus routes are ready for school to start this fall.
9. Story stated there are now only 2 pickups spoken for through federal surplus. 1 of them was lost due to miscommunication within the federal surplus system.
10. Story discussed the BaseOne projects.
11. Story stated there will be some discussion about switching districts for the blade men.
12. Story stated he has received a quote for the roof of the shop and the West building from Shellito Roofing for \$94,642.25. Gwennap asked if Shellito gave a timeframe for completion. Story stated he did not get that information. This will be tabled until the next meeting to allow Story to obtain a timeframe.
13. Story also discussed the rock list. Story stated Fritz discussed the possibility of contracting some of the larger projects.
14. Story discussed the 2010 Kenworth with the bad engine. Story stated they are still currently waiting on quotes for a new engine.
15. Story also discussed the Homeland Security meeting update. There are monies available for law enforcement only and someone will be reaching out to discuss equipment needs.
16. Gwennap asked what some of the challenges are from week to week. Story stated prioritizing projects is a challenge for him.

Story left the meeting.

Ifland discussed the email that was received by Ifland and Gwennap from Tiffany Wiseman. Wiseman

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 shared that she is willing to return as a dispatcher, but not as director.

Ryan Allen joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Allen reported the scraper has been repaired and is back at the landfill.
2. Allen stated they do not have much traffic on Monday afternoons after 4:00 p.m. With the current hours the landfill is open until 6:00 p.m.
3. Allen will be utilizing some PTO and David Tucker will be assisting at the landfill while he is off.
4. Ifland stated he spoke with Allen and no one is allowed at the landfill after hours.

Allen left the meeting.

Beth Salmans, Kim Phelps and Pam Gible joined the meeting and discussed the National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor known in our area as Midwest-Plains. Salmans also shared numerous documents in regard to the National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors (NIETC) Midwest-Plains.

Kristi Jones joined the meeting.

Salmans stated that there is currently a national emergency for additional power and the plan is to utilize eminent domain. The documentation states that the Midwest-Plains is approximately 5 miles wide and 780 miles long and includes portions of Illinois, Indiana, Kansas and Missouri. Salmans shared she is from Marysville Kansas and her and her daughter have been involved in the National Heritage Act and the 30 x 30. Gwennap asked if Salmans had conversations with the state legislatures. Salmans stated she has been in contact with Roger Marshall's office. Salmans has also had contact with Tracey Mann's office. She is currently working on getting letters from our local legislatures. Salmans provided a resolution to the board for their review. The board of county commissioners wish to support the efforts to fight against the NIETC.

Salmans, Phelps, Jones and Gible left the meeting.

Gwennap shared the update from Northwest Kansas Planning and Development. Gwennap shared that the Director, Randall Hrabe will be retiring this fall. Currently, there are no applicants for the position. NWKSP&D is working on a solution.

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

1. Overmiller stated the National Night Out was held last evening. There was a tremendous turnout. There will be another free movie night this weekend.
2. Hughes stated the health department will be partnering with the Historical Society for their back-to-school bash.
3. Hageman will be starting on August 19th.
4. Hughes stated the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition met with the hospital and the health department. The Coalition suggested Smith County become a milk bank and supply a bank in Oklahoma. The board is in favor of allowing the health department to become a milk bank.
5. Overmiller stated they will be working on setting up flu clinics this fall with different entities.

Overmiller and Hughes left the meeting.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to extend the lease of the billboard with Paul Rapa for \$1,000.00 utilizing convention/visitor's bureau funds. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the bid from Kline Constructions for \$3,180.00 for the additional work on the curbing. Motion carried unanimously.

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Maxwell shared with the commissioners the motor is out on the handicap lift and currently we are waiting for Kone Elevator to provide us with a quote.

Maxwell shared with the commissioners that she was contacted by Debbie Hays about receiving compensation for the weekend hours during the month of July. The commissioners discussed the emergency management budget and there isn't additional funding available for compensation.

Keith Wangerin joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Wangerin stated he ordered 2 new tires for the truck.
2. Wangerin stated he will be short a technician for medical reasons beginning the end of August.
3. Wangerin stated he is currently working on a hiring and on-board process interview process.
4. Gwennap asked if the fill in dispatchers from Jewell County are doing ok. Wangerin stated there was a small hiccup, but nothing serious.
5. Wangerin stated tomorrow will be the 1st Stop the Bleed class. Wangerin stated there will be an additional training session in September.

Wangerin left the meeting.

Tiffany Wiseman joined the meeting via telephone. Wiseman stated she is willing to work as a dispatcher at Smith County. Ifland stated the wage would have to change due to her foregoing the director position. The commissioners agreed to pay her \$18.00/hour.

Travis Conaway joined the meeting and asked if there was anything he could do to assist with the Communications Department. The commissioners informed Conaway that Tiffany Wiseman will be returning as a dispatcher. She will not be taking the Director role. Conaway left the meeting.

At 11:48 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.


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.

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