

Office of the County Clerk  
Journal of Proceedings for the Smith County Commissioners  
July 8, 2024

The County Commissioners met in a regular session on July 8, 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 7/1/2024 minutes and 7/2/2024 minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

**A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the 7/8/2024 agenda with additions. Motion carried unanimously.**

The commissioners approved voucher #13152-voucher #13217 and wires for the following accounts:

General	\$ 11,943.01
Road & Bridge	\$116,759.48
Noxious Weed	\$ 179.85
Health	\$ 5,082.96
Appraiser	\$ 887.98
Solid Waste	\$ 3,832.28
EMS	\$ 2,607.53
Employee Benefits	\$ 23,811.78
Special Alcohol	\$ 1,149.40
CVB	\$ 345.00
Health Care Sales Tax	\$ 795.22
Payroll Clearing	\$ 34,930.36
Next Gen. E911	\$ 1,080.76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$203,405.61</b>

The commissioners approved 5 longevity pay increases.

The commissioners and Story discussed the following:

1. Ifland discussed the tube on 180 Rd and I Rd. At this location there is a driveway tube that needs to be looked at.

Randy Kline joined the meeting and discussed the concrete projects previously discussed at the courthouse. Kline will provide the commissioners with an estimate.

Kline left the meeting.

2. Story stated they will begin working on the U Rd project this week.
3. Ifland discussed the additional rock request on I Rd, South of 120 Rd at the tube that was recently put in.
4. Gwennap discussed the waterhole at Hwy 281 and 20 Rd.
5. Gwennap stated that additional gravel is needed on 20 Rd between DD Rd and EE Rd.
6. Gwennap asked about the truck engine research. Story reported he is still working on this issue.
7. Gwennap discussed 50 Rd between P Rd and S Rd. Gwennap stated that it was not fixed as discussed last week.
8. Gwennap also discussed the need to get on K Rd between 70 Rd to 60 Rd. Story stated Gary Baetz stated they needed to have it located and also a plan for the plum thickets.
9. Ifland asked whether the plank has been looked at on 290 Rd. Story stated he is unsure if

Initials KI AP JG

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Kevin Marcum has been there or not.

10. Ifland also discussed the windrow that has been bladed into the ditch on O Rd.
11. Gwennap discussed 250 Rd where it had powdered out.
12. Story presented the commissioners with 1 longevity pay increase for his department.
13. Story stated he has an employee that will be in and out for medical issues
14. Story stated no one is able to get diesel today (7/8/2024) as the pump isn't working. He will contact Westhusing.
15. Story shared with the commissioners that the 2000 Kenworth is down due to the transmission being out. Story shared with the commissioners as estimate from American Ag & Auto, LLC for \$8,794.12 for a new transmission.

**A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to approve the new transmission in the 2000 Kenworth from American Ag & Auto, LLC for \$8,794.12. Motion carried unanimously.**

16. Story stated that on Friday there was water standing in the basement of the shop. Story stated this issue didn't really start until the generator was installed. The commissioners informed Story to remove the water and assess where and how it was getting into the building.
17. Story stated they have done research to replace the pickups that were a total loss in the hail storm on 5/6/2024. Story stated they have found several pickups, some are on auction sites. Story asked the commissioners if he is capable of bidding on the auction sites. The commissioners are in favor of allowing Story to utilize his discretion. Story stated they will be looking at the vehicles prior to bidding.
18. Gwennap asked Story about the supplies-miscellaneous line item in the road department budget. Story stated he has had a conversation with Brenda about where items need to be placed in the budget.

Story left the meeting.

Gwennap discussed the possibility of visiting with the County Attorney in regard to an energy moratorium. The commissioners will move forward with meeting with Tabitha. Tabitha Owen joined the meeting.

The commissioners discussed the possibility of a transmission line coming into our county and what the effects of a moratorium would be. Owen will research the request. Owen left the meeting.

Tiffany Wiseman joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Wiseman shared another job application with the commissioners.
2. Wiseman also visited with the commissioners about her salaries line item and where her budget will be if it remains like the first six months of 2024.
3. Wiseman discussed an incident this weekend. Wiseman stated she contacted Debbie Hays first, even before she dispatched the fire department. Wiseman stated law enforcement made it on scene first and the sprayer operator had rectified the issue. The officer then informed dispatch to have the fire department stand down. Wiseman stated Hays had contacted her after the fact and informed Wiseman that law enforcement doesn't have authority to tell fire to stand down. Ifland stated that at a previous communications meeting, Wiseman was asked to put fire department, law enforcement and EMS protocols together and share them with the communications board for approval. This task has not been completed and the commissioners asked Wiseman to have the protocols ready to discuss at the next communications board meeting.

Wiseman left the meeting.

Initials KI DP JG

Office of the County Clerk  
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Brittany Overmiller joined the meeting and stated she does not have anything to discuss. The commissioners shared they will be interviewing a potential employee for the administrator position. Overmiller left the meeting.

Laura Hageman joined the meeting via telephone.

**A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 10:58 a.m. for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, potential employee. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Laura Hageman via telephone. Hageman left the meeting at 11:03 a.m. and Maxwell rejoined the meeting at 11:03 a.m. Hageman rejoined the meeting at 11:08 a.m. via telephone. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 11:13 a.m.**

**Hageman left the meeting.**

**A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to offer the health department administrator position to Laura Hageman with an annual salary of \$72,000.00 per year. Hageman plans to start on August 19, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.**

Debbie Hays joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Hays reported the mesonet tower will be installed in the near future.

**A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 11:24 a.m. for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, emergency response. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Debbie Hays. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 11:43 a.m.**

Maxwell rejoined the meeting.

Hays left the meeting.

Travis Conaway joined the meeting and the commissioners asked about the incident for the accident that happened on Q Rd. Conaway stated he had not been given the report for review. The commissioners asked Conaway to have an incident report to the board by next Monday (7/15/2024).

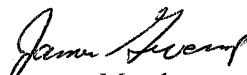
**A motion was made by Gwennap and seconded by Pickel to convene in executive session at 11:51 a.m. for 5 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee performance. Motion carried unanimously. Maxwell left the meeting. Also in the session was Travis Conaway. No action was taken. Regular session reconvened at 11:56 a.m.**

**At 11:59 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.**

  
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Kurt Ifland, Chairman

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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.

Initials AM JG DP