

Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting
Courthouse Lower Level Conference Room

December 20, 2010

Present: Ron Freeman, Don Richards, Gene West, Carmen Renfrow, Dawn Hayes, Ray Stegman, Terry Mayhew, John Unruh.

9:00 Chairman Ron Freeman opened the meeting:

Approve the agenda: Gene moved, Don seconded, motion carried.

Don moved and Gene seconded to approve accounts payable subject to County Counsel's approval, motion carried.

Gene moved and Don seconded to approve the 2011 payroll change sheets and tax corrections submitted by the Clerk, motion carried. Ron will sign each individual sheet, over 100, after the meeting.

Terry Mayhew left the meeting.

Gunnar Stauth, Road & Bridge Supervisor, came with the following:

Gunnar presented a letter from KDHE stating the metholine chloride is too high according to their tests. He is to test the wells in the vicinity. Gunnar composed a letter to send to those whose wells will be tested.

At 9:10 Gunnar asked for a five minute executive session for non-elected personnel; Gene so moved, Don seconded. Dawn, Carmen, and Ray were asked to stay. At 9:15 the regular meeting resumed with no action taken.

The City of Greensburg requested a road crossing on Grant St. near the construction of the new Commercial Park on the east side of town. They are putting in an 18" pipe to drain water into the ditch. Gene moved, Don seconded to approve the request, motion carried.

He presented the newly updated agreement with the City of Haviland for street maintenance as discussed previously. The agreement will go to Haviland City Council for signing, and then back to the County.

Next, Gunnar read a "thank you" letter from the Haviland Cemetery Board for the work his crew did at the cemetery.

The next E-waste collection at the recycle building will be Saturday January 8th from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon.

(John Unruh left the meeting)

Gunnar discussed purchasing two pieces of equipment, a tracked skid steer and a backhoe, both for the cost of \$63,500. R & B will sell their John Deere backhoe to the Landfill dept. for \$8,000; that will go toward the purchase along with \$55,500 from R&B to cover the cost of the purchase. Gene moved and Don seconded to approve the purchase, motion carried.

Gunnar presented his encumbrance letter for funds from his 2010 budget. He is asking for \$35,000 for a pick up for transportation of the mowing crew. He will get bids for that purchase from three different sources. He asked for the remaining funds to be put into his R & B special equipment fund. Gene moved and Don seconded to approve his purchase, motion carried. A discussion followed regarding the remaining funds; Gene moved, Don seconded to move one half of his remaining funds to his R & B special equipment fund and the other half to the General Special Equipment Fund, motion carried.

Gene asked to discuss the intersection of 33rd and J St. and what it would take to install a 4-way stop sign at that intersection. After discussion, it was decided that Dawn will draw up a resolution to that effect for the Commission's approval.

Mark Anderson of the Kiowa County Signal arrived at the meeting at 9:45.

Kendal Lothman, Sheriff, came with the following:

He is receiving payments on the court ordered restitution of the patrol car and contents that was destroyed in a fire. He has received a \$700.00 payment that he used to replace a gun and recently received another \$500.00 payment. He contacted our auditor, Theresa Dasenbrock, who suggested he put the funds in the Special Equipment earmarked for his dept. The Commissioners agreed by consensus.

The overhead door on the sally port needs repaired as does some plumbing.

Kendal wants to work in a shift differential for 6 pm to 6 am shift in hopes it will be an incentive for new hires for that shift. He still has two openings, dispatcher and jailer.

Debra Schmidt, District Court, presented their encumbrance letter. They are asking to encumber \$20,900.00 for new computers, office supplies, and counsel furniture for the courtroom. They also want to re-encumber \$2,000 from 2009 encumbrance for microfilming.

Gene moved to approve their request, Ron seconded, motion carried.

Ray Stegman, LTR & Emergency Management Director, came with the following:

At 10:15 he asked for an executive session for five minutes for non-elected personnel; Don so moved, Gene seconded, motion carried. At 10:20 the regular meeting was resumed with no action taken.

The County received a plaque from the American Council of Engineering of Kansas for Public Improvement. Ray asked where the Commission would like to hang the plaque. After discussion it was decided to start displaying the plaques and awards received by the County on the main floor across from the front door.

He has a renewal contract with the Triangle Rodeo Club ready for signatures. When they approve and sign it, it will come back to the Commission for signatures.

Next, Ray presented encumbrance letters for the Fire Dept., Fair Grounds, 911 Project, and Emergency Management. Gene moved, Don seconded to approve all requests, motion carried.

Ray interviewed three of seventeen applicants for the position of Ray's secretary/assistant and chose to accept Lorena Lothman. The Commission agreed by consensus.

Matt Christenson came to update the Commission on the grading package for the fair grounds. The cost will be \$21,000, but we're waiting on USDA for approval. Gene moved to authorize Matt to sign the contract between the County and the architects designing the grading package when USDA's approval comes in, Don seconded, motion carried.

Marilyn Brown, Register of Deeds, came to present her encumbrance letter. She is asking for \$8,500 to go towards the scanning costs of the bound deed books. Gene moved to approve the request, Ron seconded, motion carried.

Next, Marilyn presented the Commission with documentation on the elected official's salaries and stated she wanted them to bring all the elected officials salaries to the same amount. This was due to the Commission agreeing to a raise for an office staff whose wage was considerably less than the rest of the County's clerical staff. Dawn reminded her that this was

not on the agenda and therefore wasn't appropriate to bring up at this time. The Commissioners said they would take it under consideration.

Matt Nichols of Pitney Bows came to inform the Commission that our contract with them for our postage machine will be up in September, but they are offering a new upgrade at a reduced cost. The new equipment is web based, will print the return address with a savings of approximately \$1320.00 per year. After discussion Gene moved, Don seconded to renew the contract now with the new updated equipment, motion carried.

Mitzi Hesser, Health Dept. Director, reported that the audits for Family Planning and WIC went well.

The Health Fair for 2011 will be held on April 9th and will probably be at the Recreation Facility as it was last year.

Chad Pore, EMS/Ambulance Director, came to let the Commission know that preliminary figures indicate that they may be over budget by approximately \$982.00 due to the new ambulance purchase.

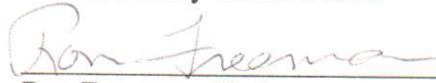
It looks like they may get a \$130,000 grant for another ambulance. If so, one ambulance they will go to Haviland or Belvidere and the least one of their fleet can be used as a training vehicle or possibly another entity could use it for another purpose.

Chad reported on updated fees due to Medicare billing processes and payments. Gene moved and Don seconded to approve the updated fees, motion carried.

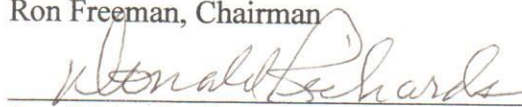
He has been in contact with Comanche County EMS regarding a possible collaboration due to problems Comanche County is having. Mary Sweet, Kiowa County Hospital Administrator, has agreed to the collaboration with the condition that it doesn't interfere with his time and duties in Kiowa County. The Commissioners agreed. Chad assured Mary and the Commission that his priority would be Kiowa County. His thought was to write a contract with them for four to six months to start with then re-evaluate at the end of the contract. Comanche County would be responsible for paying a percentage of costs and salaries for those involved in the collaboration. The primary purpose is to see if collaboration between Frontier/Rural Counties can work and to help Comanche County with their immediate problems.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.

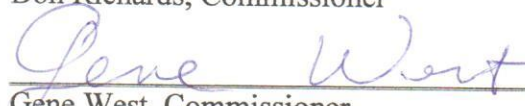
Kiowa County Commission:



Ron Freeman, Chairman



Don Richards, Commissioner



Gene West, Commissioner

Attest:


Carmen Renfrow, County Clerk