

Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting  
Courthouse Lower Level Conference Room  
July 18, 2011

Present: Ron Freeman, Don Richards, John Unruh, Carmen Renfrow, Terry Mayhew, Ray Stegman

9:00: Chairman Ron Freeman opened the meeting.

Don moved and John seconded to approve the agenda, motion carried.

Don moved and John seconded to approve the minutes with one correction, motion carried.

John moved and Ron seconded to approve Accounts Payable and Payroll subject to County Counsel's approval, motion carried.

Don moved and John seconded to sign a tax correction, motion carried.

Jay Schmidt came in Gunnar Stauth's absence to present a request for a road crossing by Greg Giles ½ mile north of intersection D Ave. and 61 Street. Don moved to approve, John seconded, motion carried.

Sheila Magee, City Administrator of Greensburg, came to address the Commission. She let the Commission know what a great building the Kiowa County Commons is and what an economic benefit it will be for the community. She shared that the watering system on main street for the streetscape was being repaired and is working properly now.

Chad Pore, Director of EMS, came to tell the Commission they received the new ambulance they acquired with grant money and funds from their budget. The ambulance in Haviland may be given to the Fire Dept. for a support vehicle. The Commission agreed by consensus.

Mary Sweet joined the meeting. She was asking if she or the Commission would approve out of State travel. The EMS National Annual Conference is out of State. The Hospital does not approve out of State travel, but the EMS budget is mostly funded by the County. The Commission had already approved Chad and Rosa's trip to Colorado for a charity bike ride.

They discussed taking the transfer ambulance to the Conference in Las Vegas. The company that built it will pay for most of their cost to attend so they can showcase the ambulance. John didn't want the ambulance driven there; it would put too many miles on it. No motion was made; the other Commissioners commented in agreement.

Chad discussed the cost for the recent charity bike ride.

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

He presented maps, pictures and land descriptions of the Belvidere school house. As requested by the Commission earlier. The next step in selling the school house is to have the land surveyed as it sits on County property with other county facilities nearby. John is concerned about the cost of having it surveyed. Ray will get estimates of that cost before moving forward.

Ray reported that there are county vehicles that are to be sold. He contacted Scott Brown, as Scott is an auctioneer and has a website to sell all sorts of items. Scott had asked to be considered when county items came up for sale. So far Ray has not heard back from Scott; if he doesn't hear back in a couple of weeks he will put them on purple wave.



He relayed that Gunnar offered to use their backhoe to take out the hook-ups on the RV property on Grove so as to be able to salvage the crushed concrete. After discussion the Commission agreed it was a good idea.

Ray showed pictures of county road signs that had been pulled out of the ground by a farmer to put up his fence. Ray will contact the Sheriff's Dept. and pursue legal action against the person who pulled up the signs.

Some concrete at the concession stand at the fairgrounds needs taken out to fix a kinked water line.

Ray will do a temporary fix on a leaking roof; the roofing company is not returning his call as yet.

They discussed the new Commissioners desk/table. As was requested by the Commission, Ray presented costs of desks, tables and chairs. The Commissioners then asked Ray to get costs on a custom build.

The District Court reported a jury box chair broke during the current trial. After investigating Ray discovered the screws used to put the chairs in were too small. He replaced the screws in all the chairs with larger ones.

Hank Halley came to discuss that he allowed an elderly couple to hook up their RV to the County shed in Belvidere, use the power and use the safety wash station as a shower. He also said he wanted a key to get to the bathroom in the shed. It will lock when you shut the door and lock the person in. John said he did not want county facilities used as an RV park for private use. They determined that to solve the locked door problem the lock needed to be turned around. They will talk with Gunnar when he gets back from vacation.

Dee Chandler and Carol Meyer of the Dept. of Commerce came to discuss the ROZ (Rural Opportunity Zone). Dee reported that Barclay wants to hire 9 new professors and there is possibly a new business coming to the commercial park east of the golf course. Dee wanted to know where the Commissioners stood. They indicated they will decide after the budget is set in the next week or two.

Rick Sherer of the Mullinville Fire Dept. brought in bids for the construction of the remodel of their fire house. He wanted to know what and how to accomplish the next steps in the process. Ray told him to get a project tax exempt form from the State. The Commissioners and Rick agreed on the lowest and best bids for the project. Ron moved and John seconded to move forward; Rick has permission to sign any contracts for the project.

Mitzi Hesser, Health Dept. Director, brought in an agreement she typed up for last year's services for the public schools. The original documents can't be found, this will suffice until the others can be found or duplicated.

Ruthann Wedel of Greensburg Greentown came to explain the tours they offer to the public. She asked if the Kiowa County Commons Building could be added to the tour route and be able to go inside. She asked if a key was available. The Commissioners told her to contact the businesses about their hours and when the tours could gain entry. There will be no key given out. They discussed Greentown, the new house being built, and how they get their funding.

The meeting of July 18, 2011 was adjourned at 12:05.

Kiowa County Commission:

  
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Ron Freeman, Chairman

  
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Don Richards, Commissioner

  
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John Unruh, Commissioner

Attest:   
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Carmen Renfrow, County Clerk