

Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting
Courthouse Lower Level Conference Room
March 14, 2011

Special Meeting for Public Hearing on \$200,000 fairgrounds bond.

Present: Ron Freeman, Don Richards, John Unruh, Matt Christenson, Ray Stegman, Carmen Renfrow. Others attending the meeting were Ed Davis, Robert Ellis, Vic Hannan, M.T. Liggett, Elmer Davis, Oscar Ebert, and Steve Larsh.

9:00: Chairman Ron Freeman opened the meeting. Matt Christenson explained briefly what the project was about and what the estimated costs are.

There was a group of seven people, six from Haviland and one from Mullinville who attended the meeting, Ron invited each one to state their comments.

Vic Hannan read a prepared statement opposing obtaining a bond to finish the grading package at the fairgrounds.

Robert Ellis questioned the usage of the facility. Ray stated it was used two to three times a week before the storm and requests have been steady and are expected to at least be the same or more once it's completed. Ray also added a low estimate for rents is approximately \$7800.00 yearly.

Elmer Davis suggested the Commission find a cheaper way to complete the project. He is more concerned with upgrading the county roads.

Oscar Ebert said he didn't understand why it would cost that much and that the County should use their own manpower to do the job and not hire it out to someone else. It was explained that had been considered, but after discussion it was evident that Road and Bridge road crew's time is taken up with road maintenance and they would not be able to take as much time as it would take for that project to be completed.

Steve Larsh said there is no growth projection to warrant spending the money for this project.

Ed Davis said he was against the project and against borrowing money.


M.T. Liggett said he just came to listen, he didn't know what should be done.

Matt Christenson answered a few of their concerns by informing them that no tax payer money had been spent on the fairgrounds project to date. This bond would be the first tax payer funds used. When there were no other comments, Ron thanked them for coming and communicating with the Commission.

9:25: Matt presented the corrected contract with the Rodeo club and explained that there was a mistake in the wording originally and this was to correct that. John moved to approve the correction, Don seconded, motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am.

Kiowa County Commission:



Ron Freeman, Chairman



Don Richards, Commissioner

John W. Unruh
John Unruh, Commissioner

Attest:
Carmen Renfrow
Carmen Renfrow, County Clerk