

Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting  
Courthouse Lower Level Conference Room  
March 7, 2011

Present: Don Richards, John Unruh, Ron Freeman, Carmen Renfrow, Ray Stegman, D.J. McMurry, Scott Rose.

9:00: After a prayer by Scott Rose, Ron opened the meeting.

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

John moved and Don seconded to approve the minutes of 2/18/11, motion carried.

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

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

9:10 Scott Rose left the meeting.

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

Eric Peters came in with Gunnar. First there was a very brief discussion regarding the letter from Rock Shock Company wanting to purchase mineral rights from the County. The Commissioners do not wish to sell.

Gunnar asked for an executive session at 9:17 for ten minutes for non-elected personnel. John so moved, Don seconded, motion carried. The Clerk was invited to stay for the session. At 9:27 the regular session resumed with no action taken.

John moved to make Eric a Forman and raise his pay to \$13.65, Don seconded, motion carried. This will be revisited after research on creating a new department for Landfill separate from Road and Bridge.

Gunnar showed pictures of the work done so far on the Belvidere shop and of the tree removal project to be done. There are thousands of trees to be removed from Kiowa County ditches. There was a discussion of the no-though traffic signs and the reactions of some people.

9:50 Kendal Lothman, Sheriff, came with the following:

Updated the number of prisoners in the jail; he has been contacted by the State to possibly house some State prisoners.

All dispatch positions have been filled. There is one detention position open. Discussed training for officers and staff with Commissioners.

He presented a cost of \$3300.00 to fix the issue of inside doors opening into each other. He has no funds for this; Matt might be able to find some funds to assist. In the future, he would like another door from the sally-port to the jail. But due to funds that will have to wait.

Kendal was chosen to attend training for first time Sheriff's in Colorado in April. He was one of thirty from across the nation chosen to attend.

10:20 Ray Stegman, LTR/ Administration Director, came with the following:

There will be a pre-exercise meeting for the public officials to attend to be informed about the Emergency Management preparedness and what is to be expected at the training exercise in April. Ray asked all the Commissioners to attend.

One company is doing pre-work for a bid to install all the required signs in the County. CIC is supposed to be giving costs estimates for on-line data storage.

A Resolution, 2011-5, to clarify the paid vacation for employees was presented; Don moved, John seconded to approve the resolution, motion carried.

J. Wynn Fleener came to talk about indigent funerals. Since the State no longer pays, it falls to the County to decide whether or not they will help in the costs of these funerals. J. Wynn stated that there were very few in this county, averaging less than one per year. He is asking for the County to allocate \$1500 for indigent funerals each year in their budget.

He also presented charges of a Veteran who died here and the County is probably required to help with those expenses.

Don moved and John seconded to table both of these issues until further information is gathered.

10:58 Mitzi Hesser, Health Dept. Director, gave invitations to the Commissioners to Lynn McCombs farewell reception on Friday.

She suggested that the postage machine have a code instead of just marking a department to indicate who is using the postage. This could be used for accurate tracking.

11:08 John moved and Don seconded to go into executive session for ten minutes for non-elected personnel. Motion carried. After ten minutes, the regular meeting resumed with no action taken.

11:20 Media Center, Matt Christenson came in for Grant Neuhold. They will not be attending the State Fair this year so they can cover the activities going on in the County at that time as well as the activities during Memorial Day. They will be working with Greensburg Greentown on the new eco- home construction this year.

The Clerk asked if sick leave from two employees who are leaving can go to another employee. Don moved and John seconded to allow it as long as it was legal. The Clerk will confer with County Counsel and Auditors.

Ray came back to inform the Commissioners that, after talking with our Auditors, the funds from the vehicle the EMS wants to sell can go back into the EMS/Ambulance budget.

11:45 John moved and Don seconded to have a five minute executive session for non-elected personnel. After five minutes the regular meeting resumed, no action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55

Kiowa County Commission:

  
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Ron Freeman, Chairman

  
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Don Richards, Commissioner

*John Unruh*

John Unruh, Commissioner

Attest:

*Carmen Renfrow*

Carmen Renfrow, County Clerk