

Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting
Courthouse Lower Level Conference Room

October 18, 2010

Present: Ron Freeman, Don Richards, Gene West, Carmen Renfrow, Dawn Hayes, Ray Stegman

9:00 Chairman Ron Freeman opened the meeting:

Approve the agenda: Don moved and Gene seconded to approve the agenda as presented, motion carried.

Approve the minutes of 9/30/10 & 10/4/10: Don moved and Gene seconded to approve both the minutes with the corrections for the September minutes, motion carried.

Approve A/P: The Commissioners questioned a voucher from the Sheriff's dept. for a donation to a local chapter of Ducks Unlimited. Dawn will research it and get back to the Council.

Gene moved and Don seconded to approve accounts payable, motion carried.

The Clerk presented four tax roll corrections for the Commissioner's signature. Gene moved and Don seconded to approve and sign the corrections, motion carried.

The Clerk presented the contract for PIC as well as the Business Associate Agreement. A discussion followed about the current three year contract as opposed to the usual one year contract with PIC. Gene moved and Don seconded to sign the PIC contract and Business Associate Agreement, motion carried

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

The of asphalt being laid at Road & Bridge is almost complete.

He reminded the Commissioners of the T-WORKS Highway Conference in Hutchinson on October 28th from 9:00 to 12:00.

At the last meeting, Gunnar had asked approval to go from a salaried pay scale to hourly wage of \$16.07. He asked the Commissioners what their decision is. After discussion, Gene moved, Don seconded to approve changing Gunnar's position from salary to wages at \$16.07 hourly, motion carried.

Jay Jones of the Haviland Co-op asked Gunnar to supply the culvert for the driveway improvements to their facility. Since it's on a County street, the Commissioners agreed.

They discussed the inter-change issues at Highway 54 and Cities Service Road by the John Deere dealership. The primary concern is water drainage around that site and who is responsible to pay for the changes, the State or the County.

Kendal Lothman, Sheriff, came with the following:

He had a meeting with Steve Hewitt, Greensburg's City Manager, about the Law Enforcement contract between the City and the County. Steve said the City Council wants to lower the amount of the contract; Kendal indicated to Steve that the Commissioners want to increase the amount of the contract. After discussion, Gene moved and Don seconded to set the counties offer of a contract at \$51,000, approximately two thousand more than it has been for the last five or six years, motion carried.

Kendal said he still has two openings, one for detention officer and one for dispatcher. The interviews for the detention officer are completed; he hopes to have a candidate hired soon.

The Commissioners asked about the voucher for the donation to Ducks Unlimited. Kendal stated that it goes to the local chapter and it was done to promote the Sheriff's Dept. in a positive light. Dawn will research Gene's concerns about whether or not it's appropriate.

Rick Sherer, Kiowa County Economic Development Committee came with the following:

They have narrowed down the application list to ten applicants to interview; they have some very qualified applicants. He asked if the Commissioners had read his letter requesting the Econ. Dev. Director becomes a County employee. After discussion, the Commissioners did not have it in the budget of 2011 to add such a position to the County payroll and benefits. Since benefits were the major issue, it was suggested to form a co-op of small non-profit entities and speak with our medical benefits consultant, PIC.

Chad Pore, Rosa Spainhour, and Kari Beth Neuhold, the crew of our Emergency Medical Services came to show the new ambulance to the Commissioners. The meeting was moved outside to look at the new vehicle.

Chad also informed he would have approximately \$10,000 more left in his budget than he had expected.

Matt Christenson, LTR, came with the following:

He presented Resolution 2010-18 to secure a GO bond, not to exceed \$200,000, to complete the work at the County Fairgrounds and accompanying documents needed to be approved and signed by the Commissioners. Gene moved, Don seconded to approve Resolution 2010-18 and all other documents, motion carried.

Next, Matt referred to the email he sent them last week regarding LEED Certified Plaques; he asked the Commissioners if they had looked at the website that presented all the plaques that were available to choose from. None of the Commissioners had been able to look at the website. Matt will bring pictures to the next meeting. The Road & Bridge Project has been rated LEED Silver on the LEED scale.

Debbi Allison, County Librarian, came to the meeting with three Library Board members, Marilyn Goodheart, Dolores Williams, and Jan Rush, to discuss the new facility.

They want to by-pass the bidding process for who builds the shelves in the library and contract with Lloyd Goosen, a local carpenter, exclusively. During the discussion, Debbi presented plans that were drawn up by an outside designer they hired; they showed how they wanted the layout of the shelves, the placement of outlets, etc. The Commissioners and Dawn explained that they legally cannot by-pass the bidding process. They need to ask Mr. Goosen to submit a bid and it will be considered along with any others that come in. Matt will submit their plans to the County's architect and contractor to see how much can be done to accommodate their wishes.

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

Gunnar found a whole pallet of County road signs that survived the tornado. They are like what is up in the County now; they start with KC and then the road I.D. Ray spoke with the other emergency agencies in the County and they stated the current signs are fine for identification. The state requires a different design by the year 2018.

The decision to change to a different payroll schedule in January of 2011, every two weeks, was approved a couple of weeks ago. Several employees had a concern that the schedule would shorten the amount they receive each month by 8%, but then they would receive a third paycheck twice a year. Ray and the Clerk asked the Commissioners to approve going to a twice a month pay period; that way employees receive the same amount each month as they do now. Gene moved and Don seconded to change it to twice a month, motion carried. Payroll will be on the 15th and last day of the month starting January 2011.

Civil Air Patrol asked to put a repeater on our tower; by consensus the Commissioners agreed.

Mitzi Hesser, Health Dept. Director came with the following:

Her department had a Family Planning Audit, it went well.

The WIC account imbalance has been cleared up. The WIC funds are automatically deposited into the County's account, but there isn't sufficient identification for the Treasurer to know where it belongs. After Brenda, our treasurer, researched it she found a deposit had been put into the wrong account; corrections were made.

Mitzi shared that by law the Health Department is designated a Safe Haven for infants 45 days old or younger. That means that an infant could be left at the Courthouse without having to be reported to law enforcement, unless there were signs of abuse.

Mark Anderson brought in a letter he received that will be in the "Letters to the Editor" section of the Signal. The letter was from a Haviland resident commenting on the decision of the Commissioners to stop trash pickup in Haviland and Mullinville starting January, 2011. He wanted to confirm the Commissioners reasons for that decision so his response would be accurate.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05

Kiowa County Commission:

Ron Freeman

Ron Freeman, Chairman

Donald A. Richards

Don Richards, Commissioner

Gene West

Gene West, Commissioner

Attest:

Carmen Renfrow

Carmen Renfrow, County Clerk