

Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting

March 31, 2023

Bert Lowery, John Bertram, David White, Kristi Cooper, Chay Howard, Tracey Barton, Jim Daily, Jay Schmidt, Wayne Burnham, Brad Smith, Travis Barnes, Matt Christenson, Terri Butler, Kendal Lothman and Jeff Blackburn attended the meeting.

Consent agenda included: Agenda, Payroll report, Accounts Payable reports and Commissioner minutes of 3/20/23.

After the prayer was given and the pledge of allegiance was recited, Bert Lowery opened the meeting at 9:00. Dave moved to approve the consent agenda as presented and John seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Tracey Barton and Jim Daily with KNRC came to discuss the Lesser Prairie Chicken initiative and how they are moving forward on the initiative and requests them to renew their annual membership in the amount of \$5000 which would be a total of 30 counties currently. After some discussion Bert moved to approve to renew the membership with KNRC and John seconded, motion passed unanimously. John moved to vote "Yes" for the lesser prairie chicken lawsuit with KNRC and Bert seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Jay Schmidt came to discuss Murphy Tractor quote on a new John Deere grader with Brad Smith. Discussion tabled till the representative from Foley can come out to discuss their equipment at the next meeting. Next Jay gave updates for public works which included road maintenance, overhead door quotes for the Haviland shop from MPIRE overhead door in the amount of \$7262.65 and Overhead door in the amount of \$8,034. After some discussion Dave moved to approve the bid from MPIRE and John seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Kristi Cooper came to discuss the 2023 budget requests to include COLA with the County supervisors. After some discussion they were in consensus to allow 2% to be included in the departments 2024 budget requests along with the 3% for merits. Next, she presented mowing quotes from Dave Moyer mowing and Green Town mowing for each location as the bid was advertised. After some discussion, John moved to approve the bid for Green Town mowing and David seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Matt Christenson returned to continue the discussion on the MIH proposals After some further discussion, Dave moved to approve the Hayse Management proposal and John seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Terri Butler came to present a payroll change for (probational period) C Morehead for approval. Bert moved to approve the payroll change as presented and John seconded, motion passed unanimously. Next, she presented a payroll change (part-time) for K Butler. After some discussion Bert moved to approve to payroll change for K Butler and John seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Matt reported some updates on the storage building remodeling project which included, purchasing shelving, heater repairs and what the building is being used by the departments.

Kendal Lothman came to present payroll changes for (probational period)S Beltz and (merit)J Rugg for approval. After review Bert moved to approve them as presented and John seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Chay Howard presented information on the new opioid's settlement with Resolution 2023-4 for approval.


Break called till 10:35

Chay returned with settlement amounts they have received from the previous opioid settlement. After some discussion John moved to adopt Resolution 2023-4 to elect to participate in the Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart settlements and authorizing Chay to execute documents regarding the opioid settlements and David seconded, motion passed unanimously.

During Commissioner discussion they spoke more on the grader, MIH proposals and 2024 COLA incentive for employees.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00

Kiowa County Commission:



Bert Lowery, Chairman



John Bertram, Commissioner



David White, Commissioner

Attest:



Kristi Cooper, County Clerk