

Commissioner Meeting
January 22, 2018

Chairman Ben Fox called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were Paul Hodge, and Shannon Gant, Deputy. Paul Dean, County Counselor arrived at 9:18 a.m. Commission District Position #1 is vacant at this time due to Commissioner Brian Hind passing away. There will be a meeting January 27, 2018 at the Central Christian Church at 8:00 a.m. for the Greenwood County Republican Committee in the First District to select his replacement to finish out his term. The meeting will not be open to the public.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve January 8, 2018 minutes. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve January 15, 2018 minutes. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Roger Lowe, Road and Bridge Supervisor, reported that Brandon Escareno has been cutting trees west of Virgil; inmates are picking up trees and brush; crews will be working on roads soon; Zach Marshall finished the project at 40th & T Road and sent the bill to Road and Bridge, the commissioners said they would go view the road then Twin Grove Township would be billed for the work, as agreed previously. Josh Wells will be putting gravel on the road. Road and Bridge employee, Dalton Evenson, presented a couple of bids at the commission meeting: First bid: for a recycling trailer, in the amount of \$12,868, with a hydraulic lift that would allow one employee to dump the trailer vs. the one they have now that takes two, also it is twice the size of the trailer they currently have, so they would be able to utilize it longer between dumping periods; Second bid: Evenson presented two quotes for a cardboard baler (1) in the amount of \$7,550 for a 10-horsepower unit or the 7.5-horsepower unit in the amount of \$6,950. Currently the county gives cardboard away, but with a baler they would be able to sell the cardboard to a recycling company. Evenson and Road and Bridge Supervisor Lowe also discussed the department's need for a new skid steer and presented several quotes. The commissioners said they would like to think about it.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve a 10 minute executive session for personnel for employee performance with Road and Bridge Supervisor Roger Lowe; Noxious Weed/Emergency Management Director Levi Vinson; Office Manager Amber Woodie; and County Counselor Paul Dean. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried. An additional 5 minutes was added to the executive session.

After returning from executive session, it was announced that Michael J. Johnson will be hired, effective today, as a full-time mechanic/laborer for the Road and Bridge Department at \$12.70 per hour

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve the Amended Payables from Jan 19, 2018, in the amount of \$132,977.87. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The commissioners viewed the 4th Qtr Financial Report and the 2017 Fee Report.

Jason Findley, Courthouse Maintenance Building Supervisor, reported he is looking into getting a new generator for the Sheriff's Office and possibly the entire courthouse. The current generator only powers the dispatch and a couple of rooms upstairs in the sheriff's office. When the power will be shut off for the new chiller installation, the jail and kitchen will be without power for a weekend unless they can get a larger generator. Also they discussed the cost to house the inmates elsewhere could approximately be \$6,000 as they are full in the jail, at the moment. Commissioner Fox asked Findley to get quotes on generators that would take care of the Sheriff/Jail area and also ones that would accommodate the entire courthouse, as well for future emergency preparedness purposes.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve abatements and adds. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

County Fire Chief Doug Williams gave an update to commissioners: Invena has repaired several monitors for a few fire trucks recently. Williams plans to take another truck to them soon with electrical issues; waiting for the electrical to be finished on the Central Division Fire Addition; the Reece Fire Barn building is done except for painting and he needs to get a truck out there to meet the insurance ISO ratings soon. There is a city meeting tonight, Williams said he was going to talk to them about putting one of their old trucks at Reece that would meet the requirements temporarily, until he could get something else; Williams had to purchase a heater at the Piedmont fire building in the amount of \$1,300, he would like to replace Virgil and Eureka Lake eventually, as a preventative before they lose equipment.

Ambulance Director Brian Mongeau reported he will have an employee retiring after 23 years of service in February. Mongeau plans to try to have a replacement in mid-February. Mongeau also told commissioners that he is still working on getting bids for a generator for the Ambulance barn and he is ready to solicit bids for the new Ambulance that was planned in their budget for this year. They are planning on getting rid of a '97 E350, the Severy Ambulance, as it is the oldest one in the fleet and will be moved out of the rotation. The last time he sold an ambulance on Purple Wave he received \$4,000-\$5,000, because trade-in value is much less. Commissioner Hodge asked if anything can be re-used from the old truck. Mongeau said that there were too many updates to make anything on the old truck re-usable, with the exception of maybe the radio. Mongeau told the commissioners that the last truck was built by Wheel Coach and he has been very disappointed in the quality, but it was selected because it was the lowest bid. He asked that this be considered when studying the bids.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to approve changing James English from a Tier 3 to a Tier 4. His new rate of pay will be \$14.35 per hour, for the effective paycheck date 2/2/18. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Levi Vinson, Noxious Weed/Emergency Management Director, reported that the Fall River area is back to normal water operations. Commissioner Hodge asked if Vinson had found a place to store extra bottled water and Vinson said that he could store some at the City Hall in Fall River, but is still looking for other places in the remaining cities in the county.

Commissioner Fox has been working on a pay scale data sheet for several weeks that includes base rates for county positions and increases for employees longevity, qualifications, trainings and other merit criteria. The proposal was briefly discussed at last week's meeting after researching pay scales at other counties. Commissioner Fox visited with the department heads before implementing the wage increases and said that each indicated they could absorb the raises in their current budgets. An annual raise was given recently, with county employees receiving .25 cents per hour, full-time department heads received an annual raise of \$520 per year, part-time department heads received \$260 per year. The new wage scale schedule does not apply to the Sheriff's Department, as they recently created an internal schedule, and there were no changes to Fire or Ambulance Personnel, with the exception of the Ambulance Office Manager. After some discussion, Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the pay rate scale for Greenwood County, with the effective date for 2/2/2018 payout. Commissioner Hodge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

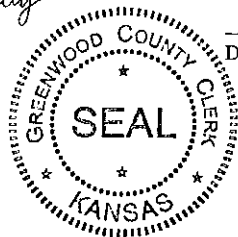
At 10:36 a.m. Commissioner Hodge made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar:

January 25th – GW Co. Hospital Board Mtg @ 5:30 p.m. @ G.W. Co. Home Health Conference Rm.
January 29th – Next Commission Meeting – 9:00 a.m.

ATTEST:

Shannon Hunt, Deputy
Kathy Robison, County Clerk



Ben Fox
Ben Fox, Chairman
Paul Hodge
Paul Hodge, Vice Chairman
C. [Signature]
District# 1, Member (Vacant)