

The Mitchell County Commissioners met in formal session at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, March 25, 2024. Chairman Tom Claussen and member Jim Marshall were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of the March 18, 2024 meeting were approved as written on motion by Jim Marshall and seconded by Tom Claussen. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Tony Miller, NCK CASA Executive Director, was present to discuss child abuse prevention month. On motion by Jim Marshall and seconded by Tom Claussen April was declared Child Abuse Prevention Month 2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote. This is NCK CASA's 30th year.

On motion by Jim Marshall the commissioners signed a release of collateral assignment for Larry Gerard, Gerard Tank & Steel, on a life insurance policy for a loan of which the Mitchell County Commissioners were a secondary beneficiary. Tom Claussen seconded the motion and it was carried by unanimous vote. This loan was 20 years prior.

Leadership Mitchell County will have their annual banquet in Hunter on May 4th.

Shelby Bohnert, Regional County Medical Foundation, was present with Cortney Murrow, County Health Director, to get approval for the annual grant signature page. On motion by Jim Marshall the grant application was signed. Tom Claussen seconded the motion and it was carried by unanimous vote. They then discussed the Regional Preparedness Grant. Mitchell County is the lead agency and the money goes to the Regional Medical Foundation. On motion by Jim Marshall and seconded by Tom Claussen the grant was signed for \$47,130. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

On motion by Tom Claussen Rachel Malay was appointed to the Central Kansas Library System board as a county representative. The motion was seconded by Jim Marshall and carried by unanimous vote.

On motion by Jim Marshall and seconded by Tom Claussen Lucille Heller was appointed to the Mitchell County Tourism board effective April 1st. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Heller will replace Janet Remus.

At 9:00 a.m. the Mitchell County Commissioners and Shelby Bohnert canvassed the provisional ballots for the Presidential Preference Primary. There were 7 provisional ballots: 3 of the ballots were counted and 4 were not counted due to not being registered and a party change.

David Dohe, EM, was present and spoke about the recent tabletop exercise held in Mitchell County. The disaster for the exercise was a snowstorm.

Darren Booth, Theel Insurance, and Jeremy McGuire, BCBS, were present to discuss the possibility of adjusting the current county insurance. Employees from many departments were present. Booth stated that there are currently 29 counties using Freedom Claims. After much discussion it was decided that the commissioners needed to wait until the open enrollment period and Booth would be back with actual numbers for the commissioners to make a decision. The consensus of the employees is they do not want to switch from Blue Cross Blue Shield.

At 10:40 a.m. Tom Claussen declared the meeting closed.

_____ Tom Claussen, Chairman

_____ ATTEST: Heather Weston, Mitchell County Clerk

At 10:40 a.m. the quarterly department head meeting was opened. Cortney Murrow and Jenny Lundine, County Health, Terrence Silvia, Dispatch, Tony Perez and Donna Schmitt, Sheriff's Department, Tami Eck, Register of Deeds, Missy McGinnis, EMS, Melinda Latham, County Appraiser, Marty Hernandez, Public Works, Yvonne Melton, Treasurer, Jason Vetter and Cyndi McCullough, Noxious Weed, Mark Noah, Attorney, and David Dohe, EM, were present. The insurance discussion continued and then each department head gave updates about their departments. The meeting was closed at 11:52 a.m.