

**June 12, 2023**

The Mitchell County Commissioners met in formal session at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, June 12, 2023. Chairman Jim Marshall and members Tom Claussen and Mike Cooper were in attendance.

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

The minutes of the June 5, 2023 meeting were approved as written on motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Robin Cole and Kathy Webster with Pawnee Mental Health were present and gave a presentation on the services they offer in the community and introduced the new Ag Assistance Program for farmers mental and emotional needs. Pawnee is becoming a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic and is expanding their services. They are asking for a 3% increase in their 2024 budget.

Ambulance Director Missy McGinnis was present to give department updates. Things are transitioning smoothly and McGinnis has outlined the job descriptions for everyone in the department. Ambulance MC2 had a wreck in the hospital parking lot. KCAMP is coming to do a defensive driving class. McGinnis has 12 people interested in an EMT class. The shed is complete at EMS but the contractor needs to come back and fix some problems.

McGinnis then requested a 15-minute executive session with the three commissioners, Lynne Imboden, HR, and Mitchell County Clerk Heather Weston for non-elected personnel per KSA 75-4318. Session was granted on motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Session started at 9:10 a.m. and ended at 9:25 a.m. when it was extended for 10 more minutes on motion by Mike Cooper and seconded by Tom Claussen. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Session started at 9:25 a.m. and ended at 9:35 a.m. No decisions were made in executive session.

McGinnis then requested a 10-minute executive session with the three commissioners, Heather Weston, and Kelly Hawk for non-elected personnel per KSA 75-4318. Session was granted on motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Session started at 9:35 a.m. and ended at 9:45 a.m. No decisions were made in executive session.

Kelly Hawk is again a full-time employee with the EMS department. On motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper the county will not be paying out his 566 hours of vacation and he will earn 12 hours vacation monthly. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Nathan Gentry was present with the Field Day Proclamation. The theme of the field day is Tune In The World and will be held June 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> at the VFW in Glasco. The proclamation declaring June 18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> as Amateur Radio Week was signed on motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

A Neighborhood Revitalization for Greg & Brenda LaFever for a shed at the cost of \$127,574 was approved on motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mitchell County Clerk Heather Weston, Marty Hernandez, Public Works Director, Tony Perez, Mitchell County Sheriff, and Yvonne Melton, Mitchell County Treasurer, were present to discuss updating the county handbook. The commissioners want the ability to pay out more than 240 hours vacation if they feel it is appropriate, reason being the employee had the inability to use it while employed. Wording was added to say such and the max allotted time you are allowed to accrue was removed. A section in the handbook about compensatory time was discussed and then removed. Weston stated that many employees had asked if the county was closed for Juneteenth. The commissioners said not this year, but they feel it may be something they will have to address in the future. Weston will make the changes discussed and then send the handbook to attorney assist.

The three commissioners, Heather Weston, and Marty Hernandez will leave at 11:15 a.m. to attend the Multi-County Meeting in Jewell, Ks.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m. on motion by Mike Cooper and seconded by Tom Claussen. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

\_\_\_\_\_ Jim Marshall, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ ATTEST: Heather Weston, Mitchell County Clerk

The Multi-County Meeting was held in Jewell, Ks at the community building at 11:45 a.m. Monday 12, 2023. The three commissioners, Heather Weston and Marty Hernandez were in attendance from Mitchell County along with Smith, Osborne, and Jewell County representatives. Jewell county commissioner Keith Rowe opened the meeting.

Topics discussed included burn bans, road and bridge employees and wages, and not being able to hire employees for county positions.

Jordan Dettmer from Penco Engineering was at the meeting to talk about a bridge bundling opportunity for the counties and new regulations for elevator inspections were discussed.

NCKLEPG needs to update their contract. Phillip Murrow stated that meeting twice a year would be a good idea to sign contracts and vote on issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.