

June 19, 2023

The Mitchell County Commissioners met in formal session at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, June 19, 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 12, 2023 meeting were approved as written on motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

On motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Jim Marshall two Neighborhood Revitalizations were approved. Motion carried by unanimous vote. The first for Gilbert & Jeanette Specht for a home, basement, and moving cost totaling \$314,500 and the second for Jeff & Pepper Roberg for a pool, covered patio, and fence totaling \$50,000.

Emergency Management Director David Dohe was present to discuss the flood plain resolution. Dohe attended the Simpson City council meeting to answer question about the new floodplain map. He will attend the next city council meeting on July 7th and a representative from the state will also be there to answer questions. Dohe will also attend the next Zoning Commission meeting to finalize aspects of the resolution. The next NCK Emergency Management meeting will be in Abilene on September 15th. Dohe is the new regional Vice President which is a two-year term.

Ambulance Director Missy McGinnis was present with the bid to replace the bumper on MC2. The bid from C & R Body Shop is \$1,562. Insurance will pay \$562 after a \$1,000 deductible. McGinnis said she was surprised at the final cost for the new shed, but it is bigger with a concrete floor. Insurance money did pay for part of the cost. A new employee has been hired but a start date has not been given.

McGinnis then requested a 10-minute executive session with the three commissioners 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 8:59 a.m. and ended at 9:09 a.m. No decisions were made in executive session.

An \$18.25 per hour raise that will be distributed among 10 full-time employees of the EMS department was approved on motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper. Motion carried by unanimous vote. The raises will take effect in the July pay period. EMS is close to being fully staffed.

Mitchell County Clerk Heather Weston was present with suggestions from Attorney Assist about modifying the county handbook. Attorney Assist suggested a cap be put on accrual instead of stating what will be paid upon termination. This will encourage employees to use their vacation time which has been an issue for the county. The Commissioners stated that they were not going to put a cap on the amount of vacation to be earned by an employee. An employee actively employed and in good standing will be allowed to use the vacation they have earned. Upon termination of employment an employee will only be compensated for 240 hours of vacation on their last paycheck unless unusual circumstances apply. Commissioner Cooper stated vacation hours are not a retirement plan, the employees need to use them. On motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper it was approved that the book read as is with 240 hours of vacation paid out upon termination of employment with the county. Motion carried by unanimous vote. The commissioners stated that the county employees would receive ½ day off Friday the 22nd and Monday the 25th off to observe Christmas and January 1st off for New Years. There will be no commissioners meeting the week of December 25th. The next scheduled meeting after the holidays will be Tuesday January 2, 2024.

Commissioner Marshall called Donna Schmitt, Sheriff Department, to ask about a bill to Midwest Commercial Laundry, Inc. Schmitt stated that the check was for the balance due on the new laundry system for the jail.

On motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper a contract from KDOT was signed to reimburse Pittsburg Township \$21,000 for road damage due to a bridge closure by Downs. Motion carried by unanimous vote. The county will be used as a pass through for the funds.

Brian Streit, Maintenance Supervisor, was present with the KCAMP appraisals on all county buildings. The current RCN of the Mitchell County Courthouse is \$5,296,500. There was a discussion about the coverage of the County Health Building. The county began using it for services in 1997.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m. on motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

_____ Jim Marshall, Chairman

_____ ATTEST: Heather Weston, Mitchell County Clerk