

July 3, 2023

The Mitchell County Commissioners met in formal session at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, July 3, 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 26, 2023 meeting were approved as written on motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

To open the meeting Commissioner Claussen recognized three local public servants that we have lost; Bob Snyder, Bill Pettijohn, and Richard Budke.

Public Works Director Marty Hernandez was present to request approval to purchase a landfill trailer. The current landfill trailer is 7 years old, getting weak, and been fixed many times. Trash is hauled to Salina Landfill, sometimes 2 loads a day. Hernandez has a quote from Wilkens for a trailer that will be built with 10-inch centers and a side swing tailgate for \$112,750. A down payment of \$16,912 will be required to begin construction of the trailer and it will be finished by December. On motion by Mike Cooper and seconded by Tom Claussen it was approved to purchase the trailer for \$112,750. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

The floor is sealed and finished in the new shop and The Lions Club had a pizza lunch in the new shop recently. Alan Snyder was present to talk about the 4+ inches of recent rainfall in Lulu township. There is debris on the road and gravel washed off. Hernandez said they will get out to check the roads as soon as possible and they will begin overlaying roads after harvest. Snyder also commented that Mitchell County blacktop roads are better to drive on than surrounding counties.

Janelle Kircher, MCHHS Administrator, was present for her quarterly visit. Kircher is now a member of Lion's Club and has had many positive comments from the community. The hospital now has a leadership team consisting of Director of Ancillary Services Darren True, Chief Operating Officer Stephanie Simmons, and Chief Nursing Officer Nicki Cleveland. The hospital also has expanded their employee recognition awards. Along with the Daisy Award there now is the Sunflower Award, Aspen Award, and Difference Maker Award. More information about these awards can be found at the hospital or on the hospital website. The Mitchell County Regional Medical Foundation and the hospital are performing impact testing in coordination with school physicals. 36 employees along with children and RCC residents participated in the Memorial Day Parade and Kircher was informed it had been 40 years since the hospital was involved. She wants to be more involved.

Solomon Valley Hospice celebrated 40 years. Elementary school children will be coming to visit the hospital for the Teddy bear clinic in September. The hospital is going to coop with the high school to recruit students. Eight scholarships to high school seniors in healthcare and two to NCK students were awarded. In the coming months the cafeteria will be opening to the public. MCHHS had a great outcome on their state survey. A Trauma Symposium with NCK Tech and EMS had a great turnout with 96 participants. MCHHS has hired 6 new nurses. They are hoping to reopen the Geriatric Unit within the next year. Missy McGinnis new EMS director was invited to a med staff meeting and her report was extraordinary. Samantha McMillan is training under Mary Gray to become the head ER nurse when Gray retires.

County Health Director Cortney Murrow brought in certificates for years of service to be signed; Bryan Ellis – 10 years, Angela Engelbert – 10 years, Melinda Latham – 10 years, Don Wilcoxson – 10 years, Mark Eck – 15 years, and Garret Matthews – 5 years. Murrow spoke about the Workforce Development Grant in which you have 4 years to spend the money. She has some employee training ideas to use the money and she has till August 5th to apply. The state will be releasing an RSV vaccine but she does not know the specifics yet. County Health is currently working with the Community Health Foundation to recruit more specialty physicians to Beloit. Murrow is updating the specialty clinic with new paint and flooring and they are finished replacing windows in the building. County Health will be closed over lunch a few days to help with Summer Kids Café.

On motion by Tom Claussen and seconded by Mike Cooper a Cereal Malt Beverage License for PH of Beloit, LLC dba Pizza Hut for on premises consumption was approved. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

On July 10th at 9:00 a.m. there will be a public hearing in the commissioner's room for the CDBG Grant. Commissioner Marshall read a memorandum from the state about interest rates and values and a letter about water runoff from Gold Standard Farms in Turkey Creek Township. FEMA reached out about our floodplain management measures and the resolution has to be done by October 5th. Emergency Management Director David Dohe is taking care of the details.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 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