

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 17, 2015

Chairman Goff Searl called the meeting of the Chautauqua County Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, August 17, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the courthouse. Commissioner Jack Carpenter and Danny Williams were present as was County Counselor, Ruth Ritthaler and County Clerk Janice A. Fine. Danny Williams opened the meeting with prayer.

Minute's approval: Danny Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of August 10, 2015 as presented. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Goff Searl made a motion to approve the budget workshop minutes of August 11, 2015 as presented. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Joel Haden, Road & Bridge Superintendent provided his weekly report. Crews are hauling rock to the following locations: Overland and Rd 9 north, Rd 27 and Valley south, Rd 11 north of Hwy 166, Dalton and Hwy 99 west, Quivera and Rd 2 east, Overland and Rd 1 west, Ranch and Rd 29 south. A right of way continues to be worked at Valley and Rd 31 west. Wayne Rogers received his CDL last week. Commissioners discussed areas that they asked Haden to review. Tim Nordell joined the meeting as observer.

Jim Duncan, Noxious Weed Department Head joined the meeting at commissioner's request. Duncan provided a list of his job duties. Duncan plans to cut trees from under bridges and kill stumps during the winter months. The requested raise was discussed. There needs to be a determination between noxious weed work and work necessary with Road & Bridge. Duncan works signs and bridge work as well as other duties. Duncan works on issues identified with any bridge inspection. Duncan has several state reports that he has to complete and submit. Commissioners discussed weeds blooming now and particular areas of concern. Cost of chemicals was discussed. Duncan discussed a citizen regarding a chemical sale. Protocol was discussed. Crystal Wade, HR Administrator joined the meeting to clarify the wage increase for Duncan. Danny Williams made a motion to approve an hourly wage of \$14.75 per hour for the current pay period of July 22, 2015. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. There was discussion on contracting out the noxious weed process to save tax dollars.

Commissioners received a contract from Schlotterbeck and Burns, LLC to conduct an Engagement to Perform Agreed-Upon Procedures regarding the Treasurer's Office. Danny Williams made a motion to approve the contract. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners discussed the inventory results that Goff Searl, Chairman and Janice A. Fine, County Clerk completed on Tuesday, August 11, 2015 using the December 2014 inventory submitted by the Treasurer. Missing equipment was identified.

Jeremy Hendren, Deputy Appraiser joined the meeting to discuss department business. Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel at 9:35 a.m. with Crystal Wade, HR Administrator and Jeremy Hendren, Deputy Appraiser in attendance. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting back in session at 9:50 a.m. As a result of the executive session the Appraiser candidate interviews will be scheduled for next Monday's meeting.

Jack Zimmerman joined the meeting to talk with commissioners. Thanked commissioners for the City of Cedar Vale. The City of Cedar Vale needs some chip and seal work on roads in Cedar Vale where part of the road belongs to the city and part belongs to the county. The process will cost around \$70,000.00 and they are working on grant funding to help with the costs. Zimmerman is asking if the county can pay for a portion of their costs. Commissioners need to plan for these budget expenses. Commissioners need to discuss this issue with Joel Haden, Road & Bridge superintendent. Zimmerman asked that the county mow and spray the weeds on the outlining

area. The dumpsters behind the City Offices need attention. Zimmerman brought pictures of the issue. Commissioners will discuss options with the Solid Waste Department Head. Commissioners asked if three dumpsters would accommodate Cedar Vale citizen's needs. There was discussion on moving the dumpsters or compensation for the county dumpster on city property. There was discussion on several possibilities. Linda Kline, Solid Waste Department Head joined the meeting. Zimmerman asked why our fire boards do not have terms to serve. Commissioner's response was the Fire Board is responsible for board members per board by-laws.

Linda Kline, Solid Waste Department Head brought commissioners her department monthly report for their review. Solid Waste continues to do well.

Board of County Commission statement: Lisa Hudson has resigned her position of Chautauqua County Treasurer effective August 7, 2015. Her resignation was accepted by the Board of County Commissioners and was submitted to the Governor of Kansas. The Treasurer and her office have been subjects of a lengthy criminal investigation by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation and Chautauqua County Sheriff's Office. The Board of County Commissioners has cooperated in this investigation, which is ongoing. The Chautauqua County Republican Central Committee will convene promptly to name a Treasurer to fulfill Hudson's unexpired term.

Janice A. Fine, County Clerk brought the following to commissioners: 1) The South East Kansas District Meeting will be September 10, 2015 in Moline KS. All three commissioners will be in attendance. 2) There are funds ready for distributing from the Special Parks and Recreation Fund. Commissioners ask the funds be split equally between Cedar Vale, Sedan, Chautauqua, Elgin, Peru and Niotaze. 3) The commission meeting scheduled for Monday, September 7, 2015 is a holiday. The meeting is moved to Tuesday, September 8, 2015. 4) Commissioners reviewed the list of equipment that was not found in the Treasurer's Office during the inventory process. 5) The newspaper contacted the Clerk to see when the Delinquent Real Estate Tax Listing would be ready for publication. The Clerk stated that a new Treasurer appointment would be submitted to the Governor on August 25, 2015 and the tax list would be prepared shortly thereafter.

Commissioners discussed the proposed 2015 Chautauqua County Budget. It is noted that the budget did increase 2 mils because of the state compliance to fund a coroners expense budget, the County Attorney would need extra funding because of the Capital Murder Trial, there has been devaluation of county property and the county has been given the responsibility of paying for indigent attorney defense fees.

Commissioners reviewed and approved the Warrants Payable expenses for Mid-Month expenditures as follows:

FUND	TOTAL
General Fund	\$ 13,024.94
Ambulance District #1	\$4,560.42
Ambulance District #2	\$13,875.00
Appraiser	\$2,128.93
Employee Benefit	\$55.57
Health	\$3,313.72
Special Alcohol Programs	\$2,000.00
County 911	\$747.20
Solid Waste	\$4,955.13

TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$44,955.13
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Goff Searl made a motion to adjourn at 11:04 a.m. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Goff Searl, Chairman, First District Commissioner

Danny D. Williams, Second District Commissioner

Jack Carpenter, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

Janice A. Fine, County Clerk