

# **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

August 31, 2015

Chairman Goff Searl called the meeting of the Chautauqua County Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, August 31, 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.

Chairman Searl shared a conversation he had with Mr. Zimmerman regarding the asphalt road pending repairs at Cedar Vale.

Minute's approval: Jack Carpenter made a motion to approve the minutes of August 24, 2015 as presented. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Joel Haden, Road & Bridge Superintendent provided his weekly report. Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes at 8:31 a.m. with Joel Haden, County Counselor Ruth Ritthaler and HR Administrator Crystal Wade to discuss non-elected personnel. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting in session at 8:41 a.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Crews are hauling rock to the following: Rd 10 and Trail, Rd 31 and Junction, Lariat and Rd 22 going east, Independence Shortcut, Lariat and Independence Rd, East of Lone Cherry on the Independence shortcut. Culverts were installed on Rd 3 and Lariat ½ mile west and on Rd 4 and Gallop.

A right of way on Valley and Rd 31 is being worked. The mower will be in Cedar Vale by mid-week. There was discussion regarding the engineer and land owner meeting to take place this Wednesday to discuss the Cook Bridge right of way issues. Chairman Searl will be attending that meeting.

Amy Goode, Treasurer joined the meeting to discuss department business. Goode offered that September 15 – 17 is the Treasurer's Conference and if possible she would like to attend. The vacant position is being advertised and a candidate will be selected as soon as possible. Goode brought information to commissioners on a citizen concern regarding personal property taxes for 2004.

Sheriff Newby joined the meeting to update commissioners on an employee health issue. The jail population is currently 12. Sheriff continues to encourage out of county inmate housing. Department of Corrections process was discussed. County Counselor, Ruth Ritthaler discussed those changes. Annie Blankinship, Health Department Administrator joined the meeting. Jail utility costs were briefly discussed.

Annie Blankinship, Health Department Administrator joined the meeting to discuss department business. The health assessment and immunizations at schools has been a focal point. Blankinship discussed the Aging 3 D grant and the reimbursement is minimal and the Health Department will drop that grant. The Health Department will continue to serve the aging without the grant. Blankinship ordered flu vaccinations haven't been received yet. They are planning the flu shot event. Signage has been ordered to hang above the north entrance. Blankinship discussed the process if vaccine was ever lost due to

the refrigeration system. Chairman Searl asked the Health Department's opinion on Firemen getting their Hepatitis C injections. The Sheriff's Department has to offer the injections to new hires if they are are interested. Blankinship has had a discussion with the Sheriff.

Kurtis Simmons, Community Corrections joined the meeting to discuss the agency outcome handout as presented to commissioners. There was discussion on correction issues, programs and processes in place. Chairman Searl signed the Year End Outcome Report.

Crystal Wade, HR Administrator joined the meeting to discuss department business. Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes at 9:45 a.m. with County Counselor Ruth Ritthaler and Wade present to discuss non-elected personnel. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting back in session at 9:50 a.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session. Wade presented employee travel requests for approval. Wade discussed the social media new process. It appears that the new process is being utilized by citizens. Wade will ask that departments send anything going on to her so it can be posted on our social media.

Chairman Searl recessed the regular meeting to open the Budget Hearing at 9:59 a.m. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting back in session at 10:11 a.m.

Linda Kline, Solid Waste Department Head joined the meeting to discuss department business. Kline wished to discuss a possibility of her moving to full time and offering a one day a week position to an individual who substitutes currently. Commission approves Linda moving to full time with full time benefits. Crystal Wade, HR Administrator joined the meeting to receive commission approval to change Linda Kline's employment status. Full time status is effective the first day of this pay period. Commissioner Williams commented he continues to receive positive comments regarding all Solid Waste employee's. The commissioners are proud of the work all Solid Waste employees perform for our county.

Elroy Smith joined the meeting.

Jeremy Hendren, Deputy Appraiser joined the meeting for an applicant interview with commissioners. Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with Hendren, HR Administrator Crystal Wade and the applicant at 10:30 a.m. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting back in session at 10:45 a.m. As a result of the executive session the Appraiser Data Collector position was offered to the applicant.

Elroy Smith, Renatta Kubit, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator and Crystal Wade, HR Administrator joined the meeting to discuss immunizations for the Jaws of life Fire crew. Smith requests the county pay for a portion of the costs for a total of \$260.00. There was discussion on this subject. Danny Williams made a motion to partner with the City of Sedan to pay \$260.00 towards the immunizations. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Lisa Fritts joined the meeting to discuss an issue regarding a family members delinquent personal property taxes. Back taxes were presented to her brother last year on a vehicle. The vehicle in question was repossessed in January 2004. Jeremy Hendren, Deputy Appraiser advised Fritts that based on the documentation she provided from the bank that he would work to remove the taxes for January 1-21, 2004. It has been very frustrating for Fritts with all the confusion with the Treasurer's Office. Commissioners advised Fritts that they did not have the authority to remove interest and penalties from anyone's delinquent taxes. There was discussion and commissioners asked County Counselor her opinion and

Ritthaler stated she would research the law and contact Fritts with any legal opportunities if they exist.

Wendy Kirchner, Deputy County Clerk joined the meeting to discuss information regarding research on upgrading the current telephone system at the courthouse. Commissioners asked that department heads be invited for the Kansas Telecommunications presentation at the next meeting.

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

FUND	TOTAL
General Fund	\$14,497.99
Ambulance District #1	\$4,560.42
Ambulance District #2	\$13,875.00
Appraiser	\$1,561.71
Election	\$73.20
Employee Benefit	\$154.14
Health	\$4,239.41
Noxious Weed	\$8,019.77
Road & Bridge	\$19,840.88
Juvenile Detention	\$1,684.00
Solid Waste	\$1,852.81
Treasurer Auto	\$100.82
Payroll Clearing Fund	\$61,735.71
<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$132,195.86</b>

Danny Williams made a motion to adjourn at 11:35 a.m. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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Goff Searl, Chairman, First District Commissioner

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Danny D. Williams, Second District Commissioner

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Jack Carpenter, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

Janice A. Fine, County Clerk

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