

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 31, 2016

Chairman Goff Searl called the meeting of the Chautauqua County Board of Commissioners to order on Thursday, March 31, 2016 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 March 22, 2016 with one addition. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Joel Haden, Road & Bridge Superintendent provided his weekly road report. Crews are hauling rock to the following: Bronco between Rd 26 and Rd 30, Bronco going south on Rd 19 and Rd 20, Rd 13 and Frontier south, Rd 13 and Gallop, Rd 23 and Saddle, Quivira and Rd 23, Union and Rd 5, Quivira and Hwy 99. An approach was worked on Rd 4 and Ranch (New bridge site). Culverts installed at the following: Marshall and Rd 12 between Rd 12 and Rd 14, Kansas and Rd 14 south, Lariat and Rd 12 south, Rd 30 and Cowboy east. A right of way worked on Rd 29 north of Niotaze. Bridge iron continues to be hauled out of the Cook Bridge site. Pipe is being picked up for the new fencing at the Cedar Vale dumpster site. Haden was asked if the county could blade a private road at the Boy Scout Ranch. Haden stated he would discuss this request with commissioners. Commissioners discussed that the Boy Scout Ranch is a non-tax paying entity and would not be in favor of blading the private road without compensation. Commissioners asked Haden to review a couple of trouble road areas.

Jim Duncan, Noxious Weed Department Head joined the meeting to thank commissioners for the use of equipment for a watershed issue. Duncan has been working to kill a particular weed in the area. Duncan discussed several areas that he will address. Duncan has been voted to his organization as vice president.

Sue Kill joined the meeting to discuss SKED. Kill thanked commissioners for the use of the courthouse lawn for the Easter egg hunt. Kill informed the commissioners that the Red Bud Tour was a success this year. Kill thanked commissioners for joining the Chamber. Kill thanked commissioners for the use of our website to highlight all the cities in our county. Kill informed commissioners that the SKED meeting will be in Wichita is today and she plans to attend. Kill asked about The County Economic Development committee and commissioners stated the committee isn't active. Kill informed commissioners that a group named SCORE helps businesses start up and will meet with the Chamber to present Marketing on a Shoestring.

Crystal Wade, HR Administrator joined the meeting to discuss department business. Searl asked Wade about house bills in Topeka regarding rebates. There are several bills Topeka is pushing prior to the election but nothing has passed. Wade has a travel request for approval. Wade made commissioners aware of turnover in the Sheriff's office. Sheriff is managing the turnover well. A new workers comp claim was submitted for a Road and Bridge employee for an injury. Wade offered that she discussed with Road and Bridge that she is available at any hour when needed.

Amy Goode, Treasurer joined the meeting to discuss department business. Goode asked commissioners opinion of initiating on-line banking so she has immediate access to the accounts. Commissioners approve. Chairman Searl asked for research on a particular piece of property.

Jeremy Hendren, Appraiser advised commissioners that his newer staff will be attending educational opportunities and travel paperwork will be coming. A COTA hearing will be held next Monday in Topeka and Hendren will be attending. Hendren is confident our assessment will be up-held. Legislation concerning appraisal was discussed. Hendren is holding appeals this week. Chautauqua County is in procedural compliance with the state. Hendren expects to be in statistical compliance as well.

Amy Goode, Treasurer joined the meeting to let commissioners know the taxes are current on the property in question.

Bid Opening: Commissioners opened and reviewed the three bids received for the Courthouse Complex mowing. Goff Searl made a motion to accept the low mowing bid from Lindsey Carter. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Janice Fine, County Clerk brought the following to commissioners: 1) Items ready for auction located in storage. 2) A request to approve a Proclamation for Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service 2016. Jack Carpenter made a motion to approve the proclamation. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Janice Fine, County Clerk, Wendy Kirchner, Deputy County Clerk and Crystal Wade, HR Administrator reviewed with commissioners the financial reports generated for their review and clarification of employee benefit funding. There was discussion regarding funding for Payroll Clearing Fund versus Employee Benefit Fund.

Commissioners reviewed and approved the end-of-month expenditures for February 2016 as follows:

Fund	Amount
General	\$20,342.78
Equipment Reserve	\$734.98
Ambulance#1	\$4,043.75
Ambulance #2	\$13,233.33
Appraiser	\$1,928.95
Election	\$9.46
Health	\$5,119.11
Noxious Weed	\$295.94
Road & Bridge	\$13,413.29
Special Rock	\$38,229.12
Special Bridge	\$10,500.00
Sp Law Enforce Fund	\$1,700.00
Juvenile Detention	\$1,733.00
Solid Waste	\$994.36
Treasurers Auto	\$79.80
Payroll Clearing Fund	\$70,511.58
TOTAL Expenditures	\$182,869.45

Danny Williams made a motion to adjourn at 10:24 a.m. Jack Carpenter 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