

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 24, 2016

Chairman Goff Searl called the meeting of the Chautauqua County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, May 24, 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 May 17, 2016 as presented. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Joel Haden, Road & Bridge Superintendent provided commissioners with his weekly road report. Crews are hauling rock to the following: Bronco and Rd 17, Union between Rd 27 and the east county line, Rd 2 north of bridge 70, Hale cemetery south of the Hale Rd on Rd 27, Rd 22 and Cowboy, Rd 21 and Rd 22 north and south of Dalton. Patched the cemetery road in Sedan and will proceed with the Cedar Vale cemetery road. A culvert was installed at Rd 10 and Overland ¼ mile west, Low water crossing on Junction Rd. Rd 12 and Saddle was reviewed and will be worked as soon as weather permits. Commissioners asked Haden to review a few road areas.

Sheriff Newby joined the meeting to discuss real issues with the new phone system that is not functioning appropriately. Kansas Communications is not providing quality service for the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Newby discussed all issues relating to poor quality service. Computerized Aided Dispatch system (CAD) has been reviewed. Interpool is the system they wish to acquire to increase efficiencies and can be paid using 911 funds.

Greg Hennen, Executive Director with 4 County Mental Health joined the meeting to provide an overview of use of the Special Liquor Tax funds. These funds help cover costs for Chautauqua County citizens who do not have insurance and do not qualify for state assistance. All statistics from 2015 were reviewed with commissioners to justify their needs. The 2017 budget for levied taxes to help cover the needs has increased minimally. State and Federal guidelines will impact the amount of services 4 County can provide to any individual seeking treatment.

FCCLA sent commissioners a thank you note for their support. The Sedan Public Library sent a letter requesting support for their summer program.

Crystal Wade, HR Administrator joined the meeting to discuss employee travel requests. There was discussion on travel authority. Wade provided travel requests for employees.

Danny Williams made a motion to go into executive session for attorney client for 15 minutes at 9:40 a.m. Jack Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Searl called the regular meeting back in session at 10:00 a.m. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Ruth Ritthaler, County Counselor offered the information she received from several entities who were involved in the Cowley County clean-up efforts. A particular company sponsored by private individuals did the demo work. KDHE provided information to Lucas McDermott and McDermott provided that information to Ritthaler. Ritthaler offered the requirements for the original request for assistance from the City of Cedar Vale. Jack Zimmerman and

Waunita Luis represented Cedar Vale, Jack Warren and Crystal Wade represented City of Sedan and Greg Joslin and Roy Elliott represented the City of Peru. Grants offered for city improvement exist. City of Sedan has sent letters per ordinance to take care of homes in need of repair or demolish and those costs could be assessed to their tax roll. Jeremy Hendren, Appraiser joined the meeting. The hope is a voluntary process. Wade asked who would be responsible for EPA requirements? There was discussion but no resolution. Ritthaler stated the county liability is an issue, allocation of county resources, funding or reimbursement and encountered problems must be addressed. Wade asked what the loss of taxes would be and Hendren offered that the loss would be minimal. Joslin offered that the City of Peru provides dumpsters for citizens to dispose of building materials when removing homes. Elliott offered that the work can be done by individuals so that more government isn't involved. Warren offered that if laws are on the books you must enforce them. Commissioners need further research to determine to what extent the county should be involved if at all. Ritthaler will research the county liability for a dump site, use of county equipment and staff in assistance. Completed research and citizen input are the next steps. Ritthaler will bring research material to the next commission meeting at 9:00 a.m. on May 31, 2016.

Janice A. Fine, County Clerk brought the following to commissioners: 1) A Workforce Development document that they are requesting signature on. 2) The email received for a women's facility has found a property. 3) The only internal budget that hasn't been received is the Sheriff.

Danny Williams made a motion to adjourn at 11:28 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