

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 21, 2013

Chairman Jack Carpenter called the meeting of the Chautauqua County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the courthouse. Commissioners Goff Searl and Danny Williams were present as was County Counselor Larry King and County Clerk Janice A. Fine. Danny Williams gave prayer.

Joel Haden, Road & Bridge Supervisor, updated commissioners on department business. Crews worked hauling rock at Hewins going west on Dalton Rd. Tree removal from the storms is being worked as calls come in and as crews work the roads. Rock is being hauled at Cowboy and Rd. 30, Rd. 22 and Lariat west to the top of the hill, Trail and Rd. 22 starting at the bridge. Crew is clearing trees in the right of way at Rd. 29 and Dalton. Crews will continue working the right of ways. A culvert has been placed on Park Street across from Johnnie McKnown's place. A culvert collapsed near Lariat and Kansas Rd. Known bad spots are being looked at and fixed as quickly as possible. Heavy rains have caused issues and water was reported to the top of some bridges. Joel received a call regarding a cemetery. Joel requests that Jack take a look and make a recommendation. Tree removal requests will continue to be received and will be worked as quickly as possible. There were road issues at Eagle and Rd 19 and they have been fixed as of this morning. The Blues Festival is this coming weekend and that road has to be fixed. Wash-out spots are being taken care of. Cedar Vale road grader has been in the shop but it is out and working roads now.

Danny Williams made a motion to sign the Otis Contract Renewal. Goff Searl seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Goff Searl made a motion to approve Sue Kill's request to use the Courthouse Lawn, southeast corner, for Laser Tag games during the Yellow Brick Road Festival on May 25, 2013. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Annie Blankinship joined the meeting. Commission wished to discuss wages for the Health Administrator position. Commission asked the county counselor, Larry King, to verify the 90 day probationary period for any individual who is promoted to another position within the county. Commissioners offered \$15.00 per hour to start and then they will review after the probationary period. Annie doesn't feel that \$15.00 is the appropriate per hour amount to start since she is taking on several position responsibilities. Commission requests the opportunity to review and discuss the wage offer. Commission discussed several wage options and reached a decision.

Tim Nordell joined the meeting as observer. They briefly discussed the convention resolution that the commissioners sent to Topeka, 2013-04. They briefly discussed storm shelters and FEMA.

Goff Searl made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for May 14, 2013 with two corrections. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Annie Blankinship rejoined the meeting. Commissioners offered her \$15.00 per hour for the Health Administrator position. That wage will be reviewed after the 90 day probationary period. This wage provides a \$6,000.00 per year increase. Annie expressed her hope that her wage would be higher now without an increase after the probationary period. If another option isn't available she will reluctantly accept the Health Administrator position with the hourly wage of \$15.00 and revisit wage increase after the probationary period.

Linda Kline, Solid Waste Office Manager, joined the meeting to discuss department business. Linda provided a department summary which reflects positive income. The offset program continues to provide funds.

Janet Siebert, Director of SafeHomes Inc., and others, joined the meeting to present information regarding their services and to request any funding possible. Ms. Siebert provided a complete packet of information detailing their services to commissioners. SafeHomes Inc. serves a four county area. They expect a \$60,000.00 decrease from grant funds for 2014 and they are seeking support from private sources and through the counties they serve. Their safe home can provide a safe haven for 25 women and children and they offer hotel vouchers for men. Repairs to their safe home in 2013 have required the use of their funding for maintenance purposes. Referrals for their services come from law enforcement and their crisis line. Counseling services are available to victims in person or by phone. Other services provided include food, clothing and basic essentials. After programs are identified for each individual who seeks their assistance a plan is developed so the victim's quality of life is improved. The population area they serve is 66,000 people. SafeHomes Inc. is accredited and received an award from the Attorney General's office. They identified that SART service is provided in Winfield. Services are also provided for children and several programs from Cowley County were discussed. Ms. Siebert asked what services the commissioners felt there was a need for in Chautauqua County. They offered that instruction for children can be taught at the school through teachers. SafeHomes Inc. was asked if they work with Four County Mental Health on programs and the reply was yes. Commissioner Searl asked what they can do to help them and their response was any funding available and to share the information for their services with the community and invite them to any community functions.

Crystal Wade joined the meeting to discuss HR business. The KPER's retirement meeting went well with 17 attending. Turnover is expected within the next 6 to 8 months and again in 1-2 years. KWORRC sent a letter to address a couple of issues observed during the review of the jail. KWORRC requested the repairs or corrections indicated in the letter be completed and returned to KWORRC within 45 days. Sheriff Perry Russell addressed the issues and provided responses. Job descriptions were discussed. Crystal asked for direction on how they need to receive, review and grade. Commission established June 11, 2013 as the deadline

to receive all job descriptions. Commission provided direction to Crystal to move forward.

Danny Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:34 a.m. Goff Searl seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Goff Searl, First District Commissioner

Danny D. Williams, Second District Commissioner

Jack Carpenter, Chairman, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

Janice A. Fine, County Clerk