

# **CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

February 6, 2017

Chairman Jack Carpenter called the regular meeting to order on Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room. Commissioners Goff Searl and Rodney Shaw were both present. As were County Clerk, Niki Collier and County Counselor, Ruth Ritthaler. Commissioner Goff Searl opened the meeting with prayer.

Commissioner Searl made a motion to approve the January 31<sup>rd</sup> minutes as presented. Commissioner Shaw seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Joel Haden, Road & Bridge Superintendent, reported the crews have spread rock in the following areas; Rd 22 & Dalton, Union & Rd 15, Rd 22 & Indian, Rd 23 & Bronco, Rd 6 & Marshall, Kansas between Roads 5 & 6.

In regards to the bridge closing at Lariat & Rd 3, Mr. Haden met with engineer Kenny Blair of Cook, Flat & Strobel. They discussed the need for additional supports for the bridge. Joel would like to reopen the bridge, if possible, as soon as Kenny Blair lets him know how to proceed.

Ruth Ritthaler, County Counselor, requested an executive session for attorney client privilege. Commissioner Jack Carpenter motioned and Commissioner Goff Searl seconded, to go into executive session for privileged discussion with the County Counselor, Ruth Ritthaler for 15 minutes at 8:45. Motion passed 3-0. Commission reconvened at 9:00 AM, with no action from the executive session.

Commissioner Jack Carpenter motioned and Commissioner Goff Searl seconded, to go back to executive session for privileged discussion with the County Counselor, Ruth Ritthaler for 10 minutes at 9:05. Motion passed 3-0. Commission reconvened at 9:15 with no action from the executive session.

Amy Goode, County Treasurer, came to revisit last week's discussion about the ability of the Treasurer to hold warrant checks and apply them to delinquent taxes.

Commissioner Shaw and Mrs. Goode agreed the people of the county should be made aware, that they can make payments toward unpaid taxes in any amount above the interest due.

Commissioner Rodney Shaw made a motion to adopt on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 the policy of holding and applying warrant checks to delinquent taxes per KS statute 79-2012. Commissioner Goff Searl gave the second and motion passed 3-0.

Crystal Wade, HR Administrator brought travel requests and advised the Commissioners of two employees having anniversaries with the county and information about longevity increases.

Annie Blankinship, Health Department Administrator, came in to introduce Rosie O'Brien. Rosie is the API Executive Director of Meals on Wheels Food Program. Rosie brought concerns about the counties roads. The program delivers meals to seniors in the county and they are having a hard time maintaining the tires on their vehicles. The rise in the expense of tires, may cause them to reduce the number of meals delivered.

Allen Moore is attending the Area Agency on Aging meetings and would like to continue in this role.

Emergency Manager, Cody Collier informed the Commission about the upcoming fire season. The weather has been dry and there is abundant fuel to increase fire risk. Mr. Collier will put together information for an article in the newspaper.

Crystal Wade, HR Administrator asked for an executive session to discuss non-elect personnel for privacy of the personnel. Commissioner Jack Carpenter so moved for a 30-minute session at 10:25, Commissioner Goff Searl seconded. Motion passed 3-0. The Commission reconvened at 10:40 with no action taken from the executive session.

Butch Lewis addressed the Commission about the road grader working in the dark. He is concerned that the blade cannot be seen while it is still dark in the morning. Mr. Lewis also has concerns that the wind row of rocks on Rd 23 narrows the road to less than 2 full lanes.

Motion from Commissioner Shaw to adjourn at 11:10, seconded by Commissioner Searl, motion passed 3-0.

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Goff Searl, First District Commissioner

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Rodney Shaw, Second District Commissioner

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Jack Carpenter, Chairman, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Niki Collier, County Clerk