

# **CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

November 6, 2017

Chairman Jack Carpenter called the regular meeting to order on Monday, November 6, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the Court House. Commissioner Goff Searl, Commissioner Rodney Shaw, County Counselor Ruth Ritthaler and Deputy Clerk Becky Smilko were all present. Commissioner Goff Searl opened the meeting with prayer.

Road & Bridge Superintendent Joel Haden provided the weekly update on road maintenance. Rock was hauled to several locations, trees were removed on the North side of Independence Rd., near Road 23 and the road magnet has been installed on the Noxious Weed truck and has been used to pick up metal debris along the roads.

Commissioner Shaw stated after the rock picker has been used Independence Rd. looks good and complimented the right of ways where the trees were cleared. Commissioner Carpenter stated that Gene has been doing a good job cleaning the ditches and asked Joel to thank him. Crystal Wade joined the meeting and stated that whoever worked Grafton Hill did a great job and she appreciated their work.

HR Administrator Crystal Wade advised the Commission that there have been no internal applications for the Road & Bridge position and she would now make it an external posting. Ms. Wade reminded the Commission the resolution regarding the setting of the annual salary for Elected Officials needed to be reviewed. Commissioner Searl questioned why some employees make more than elected officials. Commissioner Carpenter stated the elected officials are aware of the positions pay prior to running. Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to pass Resolution 17-11, setting the annual salary for Elected Officials. Commissioner Shaw gave the second, and motion passed 3-0.

Crystal Wade inquired if the commission was ready to have the Department Heads review the purposed updated employee handbook and Commissioner Carpenter requested that she give all the Department Heads a copy and discuss any concerns they may have. Deputy Clerk Becky Smilko asked the Commission to please clarify how they would like her to handle payment of unexpected travel expenses. The Commission confirmed all travel must be approved, should there be a need for unexpected travel the request should be submitted to Human Resource for approval at the next Commission meeting and the reimbursement for meals or mileage will be paid the following bill cycle.

Commissioner Shaw motioned to approve the minutes of October 31, 2017, Commissioner Carpenter gave the second. Commissioner Searl abstained from the vote, due to his absence. Motion passed 2-0.

Zoe Newton joined the meeting and at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to go into a 30 minute executive session with Human Resource, County Counselor and Mrs. Newton for the purpose of conducting an interview and discussion of possible employee employer negotiations. Commissioner Searl gave the second and the motion passed 3-0.

The regular meeting resumed at 9:30 a.m. and Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to extend the executive session for 10 more minutes, Commissioner Searl gave the second and the motion passed 3-0. The regular meeting resumed at 9:40 a.m. and no action taken as a result of the executive session.

Dean Capps joined the meeting and asked when the tax sale will be and Counselor Ritthaler advised the sale would be held in December. Treasurer Amy Goode joined the meeting and stated the tax sale list is down to 69 parcels and the new tax statements were mailed on November 3, 2017. Counselor Ritthaler asked how much has been redeemed from the tax sale and the Treasurer stated at this time she only had a rough estimate.

Commissioner Shaw stated that Mike Todd contacted him and said he would not be able to continue serving on the Juvenile Correction Board, and asked if Deputy Clerk Becky Smilko was interested in that. Mrs. Smilko suggested the Commission ask her husband that works with juvenile offenders or a member of USD 286 administration. She stated Mr. Todd served on that board because he was previously the school principal and reminded the Commission that he also serves on the Southeast Kansas Regional Juvenile Detention Representative Board Member as well. Commissioner Shaw stated he advised Mr. Todd to submit a letter of resignation when he was ready to officially resign.

Commissioner Carpenter motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Searl, motion passed 3-0.

---

Goff Searl, First District Commissioner

---

Rodney Shaw, Second District Commissioner

---

Jack Carpenter, Chairman, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

---

Niki Collier, County Clerk