

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 11, 2017

Chairman Jack Carpenter called the regular meeting to order on Monday, December 11, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the Court House. Commissioner Rodney Shaw, Commissioner Goff Searl, County Counselor Zoe Newton, Clerk Niki Collier and Deputy Clerk Becky Smilko were all present. Commissioner Goff Searl opened the meeting with prayer.

Commissioner Shaw motioned to approve the minutes of December 4, 2017. Commissioner Searl gave the second and the motion passed 3-0.

Road & Bridge Superintendent Joel Haden provided the weekly update on road maintenance. Gravel has been hauled to several locations and right of way repairs have been made. Ice control mix has been purchased to prepare for inclement weather. Joel requested an executive session to discuss applicants. At 8:34 a.m. Commissioner Carpenter moved to go into a 15 minute executive session with Human Resources Crystal Wade, Counselor Newton and Joel Haden for non-elect personnel to discuss applicants. Commissioner Searl gave the second and the motion passed 3-0. The regular meeting resumed at 8:49 a.m. with no action taken as a result of the executive session.

Commissioner Shaw stated he had received compliments on the condition of Elgin Rd.

Commissioner Carpenter discussed the possibility of burning the landfill instead of mowing it. Tim Nordell joined the meeting at 8:55 a.m. Commissioner Searl suggested the Commission speak to the Emergency Manager about assistance from the local fire departments.

HR Administrator Crystal Wade presented travel request and longevity raises. She informed the Commission that Cathy Sanders has asked to no longer be the backup for payroll. Ms. Wade suggested that the County Counselor Zoe Newton would be a suitable replacement and has discussed it with Mrs. Newton. Counselor Newton is agreeable, provided the Commission approves and will visit with Crystal to learn more about what is involved. At 9:12 a.m. Commissioner Searl made a motion for a 5 minute recess, Commissioner Shaw gave the second and the motion passed 3-0.

At 9:17 a.m. Commissioner Searl made a motion to resume the regular meeting, Commissioner Shaw gave the second and the motion passed 3-0. Treasurer Amy Goode joined the meeting and discussed the upcoming tax sale. She also informed them currently 54 properties remain on the tax sale list and a total of \$149,562.89 in delinquent taxes has been collected. The Commissioner thanked her and requested that she begin preparing for next year's tax sale as soon as possible.

Sheriff Richard Newby and Emergency Manager Cody Collier joined the meeting. Sheriff Newby stated he had funds to purchase a Dodge Charger and would like to do that in the next week. The Commissioner agreed and approved that a Treasurer's check be issued for the purchase. Commissioner Shaw asked if Four County Mental Health completed the

process of adding Richard to the Board. Richard stated he has spoken to Greg Hennen and they have begun the process, he should hear something in January 2018.

Emergency Manager Cody Collier invited the Commissioners to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Senior Citizen Center. Commissioner Searl provided Cody a letter regarding the landfill to review. Cody stated the Board could request help from rural departments, but he had some concerns for equipment and personnel with the terrain at the site.

Clerk Niki Collier advised the Commission that League of Kansas Municipalities renewal had been received and Commissioner Shaw questioned who was using the services provided and if it was necessary since we were members of KCamp and Kansas Association of Counties. Niki stated she would check into who is utilizing the services and if our other memberships offered similar services. She also presented a letter from Solid Waste Authority and Commissioner Carpenter stated he received and delivered a check for \$3,000 to Linda Kline.

Commissioner Carpenter stated Cascade Community should receive \$300.00 regarding the cemetery, Clerk Collier stated there was not a motion made to direct that payment at the previous meeting. Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to pay \$300.00 to the Cascade Community for the upkeep of the cemetery, Commissioner Searl gave the second and the motion passed 3-0.

County Counselor Zoe Newton confirmed that after further review of the Non-User statutes of 1879, Sec. 5075, it does not apply to closing open roads. Mrs. Newton advised the commission of their authority to close roads under the following statutes, 19-212 and chapter 68. She also stated in the future she would like all supporting documents to accompany any contract so she could review and advise the Commission accordingly and it would be helpful to have it prior to the scheduled meeting. Mrs. Newton also offered to compile a database of all the County's contracts. The Commission requested the Clerk draft a letter to Department Heads instructing them to provide a copy of all contracts to the Clerk's office. The Commission also agreed that any Department requesting approval or signature of a contract should provide a copy to the Clerk's Office when scheduling on the agenda and Clerk will forward them to Mrs. Newton for review.

Deputy Clerk Becky Smilko updated the Commission on the year end disbursements made and informed them a few disbursements were short due to unpaid taxes. Commissioner Searl stated he visited First National Bank to confirm all the signature cards were updated and found all signatures to be current and complete.

Commissioner Shaw motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 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