

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 31, 2013

Chairman Jack Carpenter called the meeting of the Chautauqua County Board of Commissioners to order on Wednesday, July 31, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the courthouse. Commissioners Goff Searl and Danny Williams were present as was County Clerk Janice A. Fine. County Counselor Larry King was absent. Danny Williams gave prayer. Lisa Hudson, Treasurer, joined the meeting as observer.

Jim Bruner, Emergency Medical Services Board President, joined the meeting to discuss 2014 budget funding and a contract with Chautauqua County to provide services for Chautauqua County. EMS is in trouble. They are applying for grants. Their need is a new ambulance to provide good service to the citizens of the community. The odds are not in their favor to be given a grant. Bruner asked for increased funding in the 2014 budget to help them provide better services. Their only option is to hand over Emergency Medical Services to the county if additional funding cannot be found. The current ambulances continue to need repairs and their funding doesn't stretch to meet those needs. Bruner asked that the commissioners review the request for 2014 funding carefully. Searl commented that ambulance service in our county is needed.

Joel Haden, Road & Bridge Supervisor, provided commissioners with the weekly department report. Williams received a complaint on Rd 21. Haden will review that area and address the issue. Kansas and Rd 10 around the curve needs to be reviewed. Dalton Rd going back in to Chautauqua there's a low water place that needs to be looked at. The Four Corner area is being worked. Haden keeps a log on roads being worked each day from each employee. Marshall and Rd 11 has been worked, going west. Gravel has been hauled on Rd. 14. Wildcat Construction put up funds to cover the work county crews have to do to correct the roads. Road material has been placed at Rd. 2 and Gallop where washouts were noted. There is a driveway on the Peru shortcut where a washout will be fixed. Crews hauled rock for the City of Sedan to the Fairgrounds. Rd 25 and Indian a culvert was installed. When it rains, crews review roads for washouts, trees down and other road issues. Mowing on paved roads continue. Crews are working on connecting links to Chautauqua.

Rodney Burns, County Auditor, joined the meeting to discuss the 2014 proposed budget. No fund warrant payment has been levied but the payment is due January 15, 2014 and the funds will not be available until after that time. Funds need to be available so the payment can be paid on time. There was discussion regarding EMS 2014 budget with Burns. Providing EMS with an additional levy amount will not affect the county budget but will impact citizens in taxing districts. Commissioners asked Burns to adjust ambulance budgets to reflect an increase of 1 mil per district. Burns then addressed the Commissioners regarding the portion of insurance costs covered by the County for employees. Burns indicated that the costs seemed high. The county is currently providing full time benefits for health insurance premiums for part time employees. Crystal Wade, Human Resources Manager, joined the meeting to provide figures for the cost of part time employees, and the rates for 2014. Wade also gave clarification on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that will be implemented in 2014, discussing the federal stipulations for hours worked for full and part time employees. Compliance with the ACA is the issue.

Walt Wigton and Amy Goode, Deputy Treasurer, joined the meeting as observers.

Danny Williams made a motion to publish the proposed 2014 Chautauqua County Budget as prepared by County Auditor, Rodney Burns. Goff Searl seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The County Clerk presented the New Hire Pay Plan that has been in development with the cooperation of elected officials, department heads and the Board of County Commissioners for several weeks. Danny Williams made a motion to adopt the New Hire Pay Plan as presented. Goff Searl seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Goff Searl presented a letter of resignation to the Commissioners from Debbie Wall from the Fair Board. Goff Searl made a motion to accept the resignation of Debbie Wall from the Fair Board. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. A letter of appreciation will be drafted and signed by all commissioners to be presented to Mrs. Wall personally.

Goff Searl made a motion to appoint Kylee Downing Jones to the Fair Board. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Annie Blankinship, Health Department Administrator, joined the meeting to discuss department business. Discussion with Searl regarding the meeting in Chanute he will be attending. Healthy Start Home Visitor interviews have taken place. She has several really good applicants. Blankinship asked commissioners for their opinion on a particular subject. Blankinship will schedule her choice to fill the position next week to talk with Commissioners.

Lisa Hudson, County Treasurer, asked to speak with commissioners regarding heavy truck registration fees. Farm trucks will not be able to be renewed here in Chautauqua County if IRP services are not offered. Training from the State on how to use the IRP would be necessary. The belief is that the computer software would be provided to us from the State. Commissioners asked Hudson to gather cost information and bring it back for approval. Commissioners agree that offering the service here is important to our citizens.

Jeremy McCully joined the meeting to discuss representing Chautauqua County as our appointed Appraiser. McCulley offered to provide the appraisal services for a contract price of \$25,000.00. Larry King, County Counselor, had earlier prepared the contract wording and the County Clerk will print the contract for signature.

Danny Williams made a motion to appoint Jeremy McCully to a four year term as the Chautauqua County Appraiser. Goff Searl seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Danny Williams made a motion to sign resolution 13-06 appointing Jeremy McCully as the Chautauqua County Appraiser. Goff Searl seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

A letter was presented to Commissioners that Deputy Appraiser, Jeremy Hendren, had prepared thanking Mr. Mike Montgomery, Crawford County Appraiser, for his offer of services to Chautauqua County. Chairman, Jack Carpenter, signed the letter.

Danny Williams made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for July 23, 2013. Goff Searl seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners reviewed and approved the Warrants Payable and Payroll expenses for end of month expenditures as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Totals</u>
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General Fund	\$79,668.97
Appraiser	\$8,899.21
Equipment Reserve	\$10,000.00
Ambulance Dist. #1	\$3,492.50
Ambulance Dist. #2	\$11,295.83
Employee Benefit	\$91,361.52
Health	\$26,273.07
Noxious Weed	\$11,088.39
Road and Bridge	\$37,329.29
County 911	\$342.06
Unreimbursed Medical (Flex)	\$77.76
Vins to State	\$62.00
Solid Waste	\$11,257.93
Treasurer Auto	\$1,770.84
R of D Tech Fund	\$560.95
Total All Funds	\$293,480.32

Mrs. Lena Duncan sent a letter to commissioners regarding the lack of emergency responders (EMS and County Law Enforcement) for medical emergencies.

Danny Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 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