

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 18, 2019

Chairman Rodney Shaw called the regular meeting to order and opened with prayer on February 18, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the Court House.

Commissioner Jack Carpenter, Commissioner Parker Massey, Clerk Niki Collier, Deputy Clerk Becky Smilko, and County Counselor Zoe Newton were all present.

Commissioner Shaw moved to approve the minutes of February 11, 2019, with one revision. Commissioner Massey gave the second and the motion passed 3-0.

Road & Bridge Superintendent Joel Haden stated rock had been applied at Highway 166 & Rd. 25, Marshall & Rd. 14, and Union & Rd. 31. The crews applied ice control as well. The Board discussed road conditions caused by the winter weather. The Board requested that Mr. Haden review a culvert on Road 11 and improve the drainage.

Courthouse Maintenance Richard Hambleton joined the meeting to review the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) report. Discussion was held about improvements that could be made. County Counselor Zoe Newton advised there is an April 11, 2019, deadline to advise the State of improvements made.

Health Department Administrator Annie Blankinship joined the meeting with Misti Byers and provided a copy of Mrs. Blankinship's original request for a 2% department raise. The increase would only apply to employees that have been with the county for more than a year. Mrs. Blankinship stated everyone had excellent evaluations and has worked hard to cross train. Commissioner Shaw clarified that with the \$35,000.00 reduction to the 2019 budget the Health Department was still able to afford the raises. After discussion Commissioner Massey moved for a 2% raise as originally requested. Commissioner Shaw gave the second, and the motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Haden rejoined the meeting to review the Road & Bridge department portion of the KDOL report. Mr. Haden will contact KWORCC about trench safety training and most items in the report related to Road & Bridge have already been addressed. Mrs. Newton noted the April 11, 2019, deadline to advise the State regarding improvements and if needed an extension can be requested.

Commissioner Shaw moved for a 20-minute executive session to consult with their attorney under the justification of attorney-client privilege with Mrs. Newton and Mrs. Goode in attendance. Commissioner Carpenter gave the second and the motion passed 3-0 at 9:20 a.m. The open meeting resumed at 9:40 a.m.

Mrs. Newton provided information regarding the LexisNexis database. The government price is much less than for a private entity and Mrs. Ritthaler is interested in using the service as well. Mrs. Newton is awaiting more information from the sales representative. Mrs. Newton provided information regarding HB 2219. If passed the bill would require any public body subject to the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA), to record audio or video of meetings and make that recording accessible to the public within 24 hours after the meeting. This would include Board of County Commission meetings. Mrs. Newton further advised that currently, the Boards minutes are more detailed than the law requires and

suggested the minutes should reflect only the action taken by the Board. Mrs. Newton stated that she has received documents dismissing Chautauqua County from the previously discussed lawsuit without prejudice.

County Clerk Niki Collier provided the Board with a travel request for approval regarding a training seminar she attended.

Commissioner Shaw stated he was searching for a tractor for the County to purchase and asked if Commissioner Massey would search in his area as well.

Commissioner Shaw inquired about the differences between delinquent taxes and fees. Mrs. Newton explained the differences in the two.

Commissioner Shaw motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Massey, motion passed 3-0.

/s/ Parker Massey

Parker Massey, First District Commissioner

/s/ Rodney Shaw

Rodney Shaw, Chairman, Second District Commissioner

/s/ Jack Carpenter

Jack Carpenter, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

/s/ Niki Collier

Niki Collier, County Clerk