

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

December 10, 2013

Chairman Jack Carpenter called the meeting of the Chautauqua County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the courthouse. Commissioners Goff Searl and Danny Williams were present as was County Counselor Larry King and County Clerk Janice A. Fine.

Joel Haden, Road & Bridge Supervisor, provided the commission with his weekly report. Crews have hauled rock to the following: Peru Shortcut, Independence Shortcut, still working on the Independence shortcut, on a road west of Cedar Vale and on Lariat Rd. Employees attended a forklift class last Thursday as required by KCAMP. Crews applied chips on the roads Sunday and ice control chips on the roads today. The 2013 inventory has been worked. Crews continue to patrol roads. Haden talked with commissioners as he wants to pay off his graders and anticipates replacing at least one truck.

Goff Searl made a motion to distribute the Special Parks funds to the following cities: Sedan, Cedar Vale, Peru, Chautauqua, Elgin and Niotaze in the amount of \$1,000.00 each. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Randall Allen, Executive Director of Kansas Association of Counties (KAC), and Kimberly Skillman-Robrahn, KAC Board Member, joined the meeting to discuss the benefits and opportunities of re-joining KAC. Crystal Wade, Human Resources Manager, joined the meeting. KAC works with the Legislature to make sure they understand the impact of introduced legislation to counties. A handout was provided to commissioners detailing KAC policy and priorities. KPERS Liability to entities was discussed briefly. Allen provided an overview of all aspects of the benefit of being a member of KAC. The membership fee schedule is formulated on the assessed value of the county.

Annie Blankinship, Health Department Administrator, joined the meeting to talk with commissioners regarding Joleen Eden's 90 day evaluation. Blankinship offered that Eden's is a good employee and she is well liked by those she serves. Blankinship recommends permanent status.

Commissioners discussed enclosing the Health Department's north door. The option would cut utilities and help maintain the stairs.

Danny Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of December 3, 2013. Goff Searl seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Carpenter announced that the Solid Waste Authority is distributing funds. Chautauqua County expects to receive \$3,000.00.

Tim Nordell joined the meeting.

Jonathan Cude, Sedan Floral, joined the meeting to review the wording for the Tax Abatement program. The approved documentation needs to follow protocols to begin the process. Existing structures will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Resolution needs to be adopted to begin the structure of the program. Goff Searl made a motion to adopt resolution 2013-12 Policy Statement relating to Economic Development Tax Exemption. Danny Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Janice Fine, County Clerk, offered information to the commissioners regarding county business. Fine also advised the commissioners that the Treasurer's Office continues to receive calls regarding the issue of tax statements not being received by the rightful owners. Fine reminds the commissioners that the issue involved the clerk not bringing over the real property file a second time. This only impacted individuals who sold or transferred property from June to October 2013. The Treasurer's Office simply prints the tax statements using the files they are provided with. Again, no value changes were a part of this issue and I apologize to the citizens who were impacted by this oversight.

Commissioners discussed the upcoming employee training to be held on January 7, 2014. The question to address was if offices were to close for the training? Commissioners request that one staff member remain in each office so our citizens can conduct county business as usual.

Goff Searl made a motion to adjourn at 10:19 a.m. Jack Carpenter 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