

Chairman Roy Ballard called the regular meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were Ben Fox, Paul Hodge, Mac Obourn, Preston Evenson, County Counselor Paul Dean and County Clerk Kathy Robison.

Commissioners led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Road and Bridge report:

- Repairs to the R Road Bridge project have been completed
- Repairs have begun on State Street
- Tadpole Creek Bridge repairs are slated to be completed in September, 2023
- The boxes for the project on 90th and G Road have been postponed
- The bridge below Fall River Dam was discussed; it was noted that the state would pay the county to close the structure. (JE 23-18)
- Chrisman noted that only 5 townships have responded to attend the township dinner; commissioners informed Darrel that if there are less than 40 attendees, to cancel the dinner
- A county mower is in need of replacement
- County contracted engineer Michael Maris will be available in the near future to discuss an upcoming bridge grant that may be available to Greenwood County
- A bridge north of Lamont is in need of cleaning/trimming

Evenson moved to approve the purchase of a mower in the amount of \$8,500 from Riggs Equipment. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0. (JE 23-19)

Fox moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$137,655.33. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Evenson moved to approve special payables in the amount of \$17,505.31. Hodge seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Fox moved to approve payables in the amount of \$196,461.88. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Frank McCollum attended the meeting to discuss the Greenwood County Hospital. The hospital informed commissioners at a previous meeting that the hospital will undergo an upgrade. McCollum would like to see expenditures and expenses printed in the Eureka Herald, as his concern is the county is 'bailing out' the hospital.

GWCH CEO Sandy Dickerson addressed McCollum's concerns, noting that the newspaper has all expenditures for the last six years. Dickerson also noted that neither the taxpayer, nor the county, will be obligated to pay more taxes for the heating/ac upgrades.

Appraiser employee Dawn Larcom attended the meeting to discuss the IBM upgrade in the amount of \$31,091.30, which will not take place until September of this year.

Fox moved to approve an expenditure of \$31,091.30 for upgrades to the IBM/AS400 system. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Greenwood County resident Tammy Vancil attended the meeting to express her concerns regarding Salt Springs Township Board members and things not being addressed. Vancil believes the Treasurer, Tina Kastning, missed a deadline for a \$10,000 grant. Commissioners informed Vancil that an election is the only way to change the board members and it may be in their best interest to hire an attorney.

Health Department Director Vicki Lindsay attended the meeting to provide a quote from Advantage (JE 23-20) in the amount of \$11,607 for a new server and computer; as a virus has been detected. Lindsay noted that she plans on applying for a grant to cover the costs of said equipment but would like permission to utilize funds from her equipment reserve if the grant will not cover the costs.

Fox moved to approve the purchase of a server and computer in the amount of \$11,607, if the grant will not cover the costs of such. Evenson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Fox moved to approve a five-minute executive session with Vicki Lindsay to discuss personnel. Obourn seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened at 10:10 a.m. No decisions were made.

Lindsay informed commissioners that she has plans to apply for a grant to cover the costs to hire a part-time mental health worker.

Obourn moved to approve allowing Lindsay to move forward with applying for a grant to cover costs of a part-time mental health worker. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Darrel Chrisman returned to the meeting to inform commissioners that only 21 township board members planned on attending the annual township meeting. Commissioners came to the consensus to cancel the dinner this year.

Ambulance Director Brian Mongeau provided an update regarding the ambulance fleet; one vehicle is still in the shop. Mongeau mentioned that there is a lag in the new Velocity phone lines and he has addressed those matters with Velocity.

Emergency Management Director Levi Vinson noted that he had received phone calls regarding why the county did not declare a local disaster declaration to the commission during the recent wind storms. Vinson stated that the only way to make such a declaration is when the county has exceeded their capacity to respond locally; which did not occur.

Evenson moved to approve a twenty-minute executive session regarding personnel evaluation. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened at 10:45 a.m. No decisions were made.

Obourn moved to approve a ten-minute executive session to include County Attorney Jill Gillett to discuss legal matters. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened at 10:57 a.m. No decisions were made.

Obourn moved to approve a 3% raise for the County Attorney's office employees. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Evenson moved to approve a ten-minute executive session with Darrel Chrisman for personnel evaluation. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting reconvened at 11:18 a.m. No decisions were made.

Ambulance Director Brian Mongeau returned to the meeting for one employee verification and one status change. Both employees will be part-time.

Evenson moved to approve hiring SunKoda Watts as a part-time employee at a pay rate of \$12.42 per hour for the ambulance department. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioners signed employee status change to allow a current full-time ambulance employee to move to part-time.

Commissioner Evenson moved to adjourn. Fox seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

GREENWOOD COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

AUGUST 7, 2023

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ATTEST: Kathy Robinson
Kathy Robinson, County Clerk

Roy Ballard
Roy Ballard, Chairman

Ben Fox
Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

Paul Hodge
Paul Hodge, Member

Malcolm Obourn
Malcolm Obourn, Member

Preston Evenson
Preston Evenson, Member