

September 6, 2016

The Harper County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, with Chairman Carla Pence calling the meeting to order to Commissioners Lee Adams and Brian Waldschmidt. Also in attendance was Melinda McCurley, Recording Secretary and resident Kevin Alexander.

Commissioner Waldschmidt motioned to approve benefits withholding in the amount of \$72,644.67 and the minutes of August 29, 2016; both were approved unanimously.

Commissioner Pence opened the public hearing for the 2017 budget. Kevin Alexander expressed his appreciation for the county holding the mill levy. There was discussion about EMS shifts and the importance of rotating to the different communities.

Ruth Elliott, County Clerk, entered the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

Kevin Alexander, Harper County Community Foundation, reminded the Board that County Departments can apply for grants. The Board expressed their appreciation for the Foundation and the group's willingness to work through the grant process.

Commissioner Pence closed the public comment portion of the budget hearing. Commissioner Adams motioned to approve the budget as presented; approved unanimously.

Ruth Elliott left the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

Kristie Clark, HR, presented travel requests for Department on Aging and Register of Deed's. Audrey Anderson came in to explain the request, with the Board asking that only one staff person attend the meeting. Audrey asked about part-time help and it was the consensus of the Board to only utilize existing part-time staff when necessary.

Kristie presented personnel status forms for signature for an annual evaluation for a Health department employee, and three resignations for EMS. Kristie went over the policy on paying out accumulated leave when employees leave the County. Several applications have been received for the HR Director position. The Board will review them this afternoon and determine interview schedules.

Bob Randall, IT and Facilities, received quote for PC replacements for rotation and a computer for Community Development. He has been checking for damage since the major earthquake over the weekend. There was discussion about a part-time cleaning position, mainly for when the current custodian is out of the office.

John McClure, Road and Bridge, reported that Andale Construction has had additional delays on the Danville Road project. Chip and Seal project on Conway Road has been completed and they are working on the Cemetery Road (NE 100 Rd). John will contact Andale about cracking on Bluff City Road.

John McClure, Mike Feist (Solid Waste/Landfill), Greg Barlow (Noxious Weed) were present to discuss the possibility of cross-training employees in the three departments. The Board will talk individually with the department heads on the pros and cons of the change. Greg and Mike reviewed licensing requirements for their department and training times.

Greg Barlow gave a department update. He continues to work with insurance on truck damage. Greg expressed the difficultness of getting ahead of the Johnson Grass as it is really flourishing around the County.

Lori Reedy and Matt Booker, Appraiser's Office, went over their travel requests and the eligibility requirements to be a County Appraiser per State Statute. The classes that Matt is signed up for will help him obtain his RMA license. They want to take advantage of the classes that are offered in Kansas. An Appraiser Trainee must work for 5 years under the County Appraiser in order to obtain RMA license. Lori then explained that the Oil/Gas class is beneficial as she can represent rural Kansas and speak up for possible changes and work for Harper County. Commissioner Adams signed all of the travel requests.

Lori reported that their office received 100% procedural compliance review. When Lori took over the office 3 years ago, the office was at 56%. Discussion was held regarding the ongoing oil/gas appeal. It was the consensus of the Board to send the revised values to the interest owner to see if it can be settled prior to the hearing in October. The Appraiser's office has scheduled the week of the 29th to move to the 4th floor. Commissioner Waldschmidt motioned to appoint the Appraiser's Office as the County Sanitarian; approved unanimously.

Ruth Elliott provided the Clerk's quarterly department update. The State has finalized the primary election and so the Clerk's office can now update voter registration information. Staff is working on the upcoming general election and state indebtedness reporting for the taxing districts within the County. There was discussion about the changes in the forms of payment accepted for hunting and fishing licenses and boat registrations. Cash is no longer an acceptable form of payment at the courthouse for those items. Licenses can be purchased at other businesses within the County, as well as on-line.

At 11:47 a.m. Commissioner Adams motioned to enter into executive session for 15 minutes with Tracy Chance for non-elected personnel; approved unanimously. At 12:00 p.m. the meeting returned to open session with no binding action taken. Tracy reported on a successful back to school bash last week. The car was won by Tanner Asper.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:03 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m

John McClure, Road and Bridge, entered the meeting to discuss road projects. He has left messages with Andale Construction, asking for updates. There was ongoing discussion about the next phase of road projects. Commissioner Adams motioned to accept bids for phase 3 of hard surfacing soil sampling and design for Murdock Road, Attica Road south of Attica to K2 Highway and Bluff City road from the bridge to Spring Road; approved unanimously.

At 1:57 p.m. Commissioner Waldschmidt motioned to enter executive session for 15 minutes with Kristie Clark for the purpose of non-elected personnel; approved unanimously. The meeting returned to open session at 2:10 p.m. with no binding action taken.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, September 12th, at 9 a.m. in the Courthouse Commissioner Room.

APPROVED



Carla Pence, Chair

ATTEST:



Melinda McCurley
Recording Secretary

