

Comanche County Board of Commissioner  
Mar. 17, 2020  
Coldwater, Kansas 67029

The Board of Comanche County Commissioners met on the above date with all 3 Commissioners present.

The Commissioners approved claims for \$108,148.56 for the various departments of the county. All claims are on file in the County Clerk's office.

**Road and Bridge**

Road and Bridge Supervisor Dennis Hernandez and Secretary Britt Lenertz met with the board. They discussed The Miller Farm clean up and KDHE, Commissioner Unruh didn't think the Road and Bridge crew should have helped Miller Farm clean up the dump site. Dennis stated he did it because KDHE said it was the county responsibility to see that it was cleaned up and for public relations. The Road and Bridge crew hauled the old tires to the landfill and Miller Farm took care of the post, wire and cover the pit with dirt. Commissioner Unruh said we're not going to do work for the private sector when we can't take care of our county roads. Commissioner Unruh stated KDHE should have come to the Commissioner not the Road and Bridge Supervisor. Commissioner Unruh wanted the name of the person from KDHE who had contacted Dennis so he can call him.

They discussed the bid for two tractors from John Deere for \$193,000, that is with a \$27,500 trade-in. Larry Harvey moved to purchase one John Deere tractor now. Randy Unruh seconded. Motion passed 3 to 0. The tractor is a John Deere 6155M for \$113,909. Dennis will check on a New Holland tractor in Hutchison.

Harlie Haas moved to purchased rails, pads, sprockets and shoes from Murphy Tractor. Randy Unruh seconded. Motion passed 3 to 0. These parts are for the dozer and are \$9,094.

Dennis reported the Komatsu loader jumps when turning right, he thinks it is the transmission.

Commissioner Unruh suggested greasing the center pins.

Dennis stated that he had talked with Charlie Mobley this morning about noxious weed spraying.

Charlie is willing to attend classes and become certified to spray. Randy Unruh moved to give Charlie \$1.00 an hour raise when he receives his weed spraying license. Larry Harvey seconded. Motion passed 3 to 0.

Dennis said he will resign his Road and Bridge Supervisor job the first of June due to health concerns he wants to continue employment with the county. He is giving the board time to find a replacement before he resigns.

**Emergency Management**

Commissioner Haas asked Emergency Manager Britt Lenertz if the contact list for the emergency planning committees had been updated. He stated we need a printed list to put in our emergency guide book. Britt stated she will have the updated to hand out tonight at the LEPC meeting.

Register of Deeds Heather Puderbaugh, Road and Bridge Supervisor Dennis Hernandez, Emergency Manager Britt Lenertz, Deputy Appraiser Penny Bruckner, Extension Agent Aaron Sawyers, Treasurer Laura Sawyers, Soil Conservation Secretary Angie Martin, Judge Rustin Martin, Western Star Editor/Owner Dennies Andersen and County Clerk Beth Bayne discussed COVID-19 with the board. Ideas were tossed around on what to do to protect county employees and the public during the COVID-19 health emergency. Sheriff Lehl joined the meeting, he stated he has his employees limiting interaction with the public and has taken precautions for his employees. The board decided to wait until after the LEPC meeting tonight to make a decision, they will have a Special Session tomorrow morning at 9 A.M.

**Health Dept**

Health Nurse Jerri McKnight would like to purchase a Lead Care II machine with the money in the Catherine Herd memorial fund for \$2,000 plus shipping. Larry Harvey moved to buy the blood lead monitor. Randy Unruh seconded. Motion passed 3 to 0. Jerri reported that since they purchased new computers with Window's 10 their copier doesn't communicate with the computers. She has a bid from Office Solutions for \$3,375 for a new copier. Harlie Haas moved to buy a copier/printer. Randy Unruh seconded. Motion passed 3 to 0. The copier will be paid out of Health Department Capital Outlay. The talked to Jerri about the

**County Building and Grounds**

Kelsey Thompson, KAT Construction talked to the board about the roof drains on the front of the courthouse. The drain on the southwest corner needs a 6" pipe to carry the water to the curb, Kelsey will do this for \$2,000. The drain pipe on the northwest corner of the building needs to drain in the west yard. This will cost \$1,000. Randy Unruh moved to get Kelsey to do drains for the roof for \$3,000. Larry Harvey seconded. Motion passed 3 to 0. Kelsey will paint the basement meeting room wall that he repaired and he will be done with that project. He has repaired the basement wall in the Clerk's vault. He still needs to put an opener on the door to the roof top.

**Misc.**

The board okayed Deputy Treasurer Zack Ellis and Extension Agent Aaron Sawyers burning the courthouse lawn to get rid of weeds.

Harlie Haas moved to approve minutes from last meeting. Randy Unruh seconded. Motion passed 3 to 0.

The board discussed to advertise the Janitor position in the local newspapers as a full or part time position. The also want an ad for Road and Bridge Supervisor.

Crude Oil Price has been cut in half by the State of Kansas. January 1<sup>st</sup> it was \$46 and March 19<sup>th</sup> it is \$23.00 a barrel.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

IN TESTIMONY THEREOF WITNESS my hand and the seal of approval for Comanche County, Kansas this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.

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Chairman

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County Clerk