

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

September 25, 2023

The Jewell County Commissioners met September 25, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners Brent Beck, Keith Roe, and Ed Duskie were present. Carla J. Waugh, County Clerk, was present for the meeting.

The following were present for the office head meeting and provided an update for their department: Chris Petet, Custodian; ; Alexandria Pierce, County Attorney; Don Jacobs, Sheriff; Carla Waugh, County Clerk; Cindy Becker, Health Administrator; and Kevin Peroutek, Noxious Weed Director, Emergency Preparedness Director and 911 Coordinator. Those absent: Amanda Davis, Register of Deeds; Joel Elkins, General Superintendent; Anna Porter, County Appraiser; Nora Rhoades, Post Rock Extension District Director; Brenda Eakins, Treasurer; Shannon Meier, Ambulance Director; and Travis Garst, Solid Waste Director.

Chris Petet thanked Travis and PJ Garst for helping with the tree clean up in front of the Courthouse.

Kevin Peroutek reported for the Emergency Management that he attended the KEMA Conference as well as the Sheriff. Kevin has a Homeland Regional Security Council meeting this week. He reported for the Noxious Weed Department that he sent out a registered warning letter for spraying and received a good response, Kevin continues roadside spraying.

Don Jacobs reported he attended the KEMA Conference. He said they discussed supporting the movement of reinstating Ad Valorem Taxes back to the counties. Don Jacobs and some dispatchers attended the APCO training. He reported that currently they have 5 in jail. He discussed having a job shadow program for dispatchers.

Cindy Becker discussed the various meetings she attended. She is working on a grant for drug take back lock boxes for the Health Department and Sheriff's Office.

Alex Pierce reported 226 Traffic cases; 19 F&G cases; 5 CINC case; and 25 criminal cases. She said that she prepared a new burn resolution, researched a bridge issue, and contacted a tax sale company.

Carla Waugh said she attended the abstract training session on September 15th. She also attended the Multi-County meeting with the Commissioners on Monday, September 18th. Carla Waugh and Myka Zadina attended the North Central County Clerk's District Meeting hosted by the Mitchell County Clerk. Bryan Caskey, Secretary of State provided an update on the Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) on March 19, 2024, for both Democratic and Republican parties. The PPP Election will have some different rules compared to other elections. The State of Kansas will help pay for direct expenses for the PPP Election. The Secretary of State has a grant available to assist counties with physical security of voting equipment. Carla said that September 29th is the last day for real estate value changes as she will be working on certifying valuations and setting levies. Carla said she worked with many entities that have struggled through the RNR process.

Keith Roe said he also attended the Multi-County meeting. He discussed the background of the ad valorem tax program.

Ed Duskie said he also attended the Multi-County meeting and has been looking at county roads.

Brent Beck said he attended the Multi-County meeting as well. He said Jewell County hosted the Juvenile Detention Center Meeting. The Commissioners will be opening bids today for maintenance on the new courthouse lawn. The Commissioners have worked with Alex Pierce and Joel Elkins on a bridge issue. They are also currently interviewing for a new Solid Waste Director. He said the health insurance renewal will be soon.

Travis Garst, Solid Waste Director said he has been working on roofing estimates for hail repair. He also has been closing out reports for the new director and working on equipment.

Don Jacobs discussed allowing ag students to disassemble emblems and lights on the patrol vehicle.

Travis Garst had a bid from Cottonwood Restoration LLC. Ed Duskie moved, and Keith Roe seconded to approve Cottonwood Restoration LLC for hail repair for solid waste for a total of \$200,000.00. Motion passed.

Cindy Becker requested an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. Keith Roe moved, and Ed Duskie seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel for 5 minutes beginning at 9:03 a.m. with Cindy Becker present. Motion passed unanimously. Regular session resumed at 9:08 a.m. with no action taken.

Ed Duskie moved to hire Champ Software for the billing program in the Jewell County Health Department for a total of \$5,129. Keith Roe seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Joel Elkins, General Superintendent, discussed road and bridge maintenance.

Kirby Fox, Lock-IT Technologies, answered Commissioners questions about IT services they provide.

The minutes of the September 11, 2023, County Commissioners meeting and the minutes of the September 22, 2023, special meeting were approved.

Chairman Beck opened the bid for Lawn Maintenance Services at 10:00 a.m.: M&M Lawn Care - \$20,185. Keith Roe moved, and Ed Duskie seconded the motion to accept the bid of \$20,185 from M&M Lawn Care for Lawn Maintenance Services for the period of September 25, 2023, through November 1, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Gail Bartley, former Noxious Weed Director, stopped by to visit.

Ed Duskie moved, and Keith Roe seconded to proclaim October as Down Syndrome Awareness Month. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Ed Duskie, Member

Brent Beck, Chairman

Carla J. Waugh, County Clerk

Keith Roe, Vice-Chairman