

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

October 25, 2021

The Jewell County Commissioners met October 25, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners Brent Beck, Steve Greene and Keith Roe were present. Carla J. Waugh, County Clerk was present for the meeting.

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

Anna Porter said the re-inspection of real property is completed. They are currently collecting data on new construction.

Nora Rhoades reported that they now have a livestock agent, Blaire Todd.

Kevin Peroutek provided the following reports: EMP – Jewell County received through Homeland Security a light tower that one person can deploy. He said the two Jewell County signs are back in operation with updated messages. Noxious Weed Dept. – Kevin said that Jewell County will be hosting the District Meeting on November 18th. He said he is working on the Emergency Operations Plan which is due by December 31, 2021.

Chris Petet reported that the boilers are on and running.

Travis Garst said they have had a busy month. He said the dozer is back from the repair shop. Travis is working on permits.

Nancy Marihugh said that Jewell County has had 73 COVID-19 cases in October thus far. The department has provided 168 flu vaccines to date. Nancy said the FDA & CDC approved Moderna & J&J for booster shots for COVID-19. She said the school has had outbreaks and they are collaborating with the school on their modified quarantine protocol. Nancy said they have been overwhelmed with COVID-19 cases, so the Jewell County EMS helped with COVID-19 testing. She has submitted grant applications that were due October 15th. The Home Health client cases have decreased due to deaths.

Brenda Eakins said the Treasurer's Office will continue to limit the number of people in office this week as they recover from COVID-19 exposure. They will do all functions but will limit the number of people in the office at a time.

Carla Waugh said that the General Election is next Tuesday, November 2nd. She said that the Election Board Worker training is tomorrow, and the election equipment test is this Thursday. The post-election audit will be Friday, November 5th. Carla said she is waiting for levies from other counties to complete the tax checklist and prepare tax statements for printing.

Steve Greene said he attended the Juvenile Detention Center meeting in Junction City.

Brent Beck said he worked with the road department on road concerns.

Keith Roe said he attended the North Central Regional Planning meeting via Zoom. Keith said the Commissioners approved to continue the health insurance through BCBS with a 3.6% increase for next year.

Travis Garst, Solid Waste Director, reviewed the monthly report for September.

The minutes of the October 18, 2021, County Commissioners meeting were approved.

The Commissioners reviewed a quote from Mankato Plumbing & Appliance to replace the water cooler on the second floor of the Courthouse as they are unable to get parts to repair the current one. Steve Greene moved, and Brent Beck seconded to accept the water cooler quote from Mankato Plumbing & Appliance of \$1152.00 plus \$70 for cleaning and flushing drain. Motion passed unanimously.

Steve Greene moved, and Brent Beck seconded the motion to approve the contract with Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris Chartered for audit services for years ending 2021, 2022 and 2023. Motion passed unanimously.

Carla Waugh said that Rick Warneking telephoned last week to express his concerns about the Sheriff's Department "Speed Trap" on Highway 36 in Mankato. He feels it is a deterrent for residents to come to Mankato Businesses.

Amanda Davis, Register of Deeds, asked if the Commissioners had determined the cost of annual maintenance on the new lawn. She questioned what Chris Petet's responsibilities are around the courthouse if it is maintenance and custodial or just one. She also reported that employees are parking in the handicap space in back parking lot. Amanda asked if the sand can be swept off the back parking lot and lines painted for designated parking spaces.

Rex Boley, USD 107 Superintendent, discussed the school nurse and COVID-19 testing. Rex invited the Commissioners to the USD 107 Facility Study Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday night.

Don Jacobs, Sheriff, provided the October stats. He reported the part-time dispatcher trainee resigned. Don requested permission for the deputy to drive the patrol car from Beloit to Hutchinson for KLEC training. The Commissioners gave their approval.

Joel Elkins, General Superintendent, and Curt Slate, Road Supervisor, discussed maintenance and personnel.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Brent Beck, Member

Keith Roe, Chairman

Carla J. Waugh, County Clerk

Steve Greene, Vice-Chairman