

February 20, 2024

The Stanton County Board of Commissioners met in regular session February 20, 2024. Present were Commissioners Lonnie Brown, Chris Floyd and John Smith, County Attorney Clint Floyd, and County Clerk Sandy Barton. Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes of February 5 were read and approved.

Vouchers were approved and paid as follows:

General	\$	98,497.11
Road & Bridge		35,548.45
Airport		923.19
Golf Course		1,007.89
4-H Bldg.		518.57
Noxious Weed		505.18
Fire & Rescue		447.93
County Improvement		<u>2,100.00</u>
Totals	\$	139,548.32

Solid Waste Manager Vaughn Lorenson met with the Commissioners for a public hearing concerning the Stanton County Solid Waste Management Plan. No other attendees were present. Commissioner Smith moved to approve the plan as presented, seconded by Commissioner Floyd. Motion carried 3-0.

Road Supervisor Troy Brickman met with the Board to discuss his department. Some supplies have been ordered to start wiring the new machine shed. He is waiting on further information on overhauling the Kenworth engine, quotes for new mobile radios and re-surfacing of roads. The railroad will fix the crossing on Road I soon. They continue to work on roads and replacing culverts.

Noxious Weed Director Alan Stevenson met with the Board to update them on his department. The Board signed the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report. Alan is having to rename all the chemical containers with stickers containing the new EPA chemical names. Alan has sprayed around 4,500+ road signs and bridges for weeds. A proposed wage increase presented by Alan was not approved.

County Appraiser Cindy Wellbrock met with the Board to discuss valuations. Overall valuation is down 11% for 2024. Oil prices are lower. Gas price will be figured at 1% of value instead of the .80% in 2023. PVD has rendered dryland to \$10.00 per acre feet (the same as grassland) in 6 of the southwest counties. Dryland has steadily decreased from 2020 \$78.00, 2021 \$69.00, 2022 \$54.00 and 2023 \$38.00. Ag land is down 29% and commercial and real estate are up 15% for 2024. Ms. Wellbrock will contact PVD to see if there is a means to protest the dryland price.

County Health Nurse Ruth Walker met with the Board to discuss January financials for the Health Department. December 2023 financials are still being updated and reviewed. Chairman Brown signed the KDHE grant application. Ruth is creating a list of tornado shelters for the county so in case of an emergency citizens will have options of where to go. WIC and Family Planning number are up.

Register of Deeds Susan Lucas met with the Board to ask about the proposed wage increase for Nicole Coffey. The proposed increase was not approved.

Park Board member Bryan Ellis and Pool Manager K.C. Higley met with the Board to discuss resurfacing the county pool. Joe Tucker Painting for \$50,000 and C & D Painting Co. for \$90,000. After some discuss, Commissioner Floyd moved to approve the bid from Joe Tucker Painting, seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried 3-0. Bryan has applied for a grant from the Cooper Clark Foundation and is looking for other grants to help with the cost.

Sheriff Clayton Kester met with the Board to let them know the roof was completed and the guttering fixed. Clayton had a quote from GB Technologies for a new backup system for the 911 dispatch center for \$21,311.55. E911 funds will be used to pay the cost of the new backup system. Clayton has had 4 applications for a new dispatcher and will be conducting interviews.

Chairman Brown signed the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks 2024 Annual Operation & Maintenance Assurance Statement.

The Board look at the EMS January income/expense report.

The Stanton County Historical Society submitted minutes of their January 11, 2024, meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

ATTEST:  
Sandy Barton  
County Clerk

SIGN:  
Lonnie M. Brown  
Chairman