

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton Street
January 10, 2022

JW called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. with open doors.

Present: JW Finn, Chairman, Bill Light, Vice-Chairman; Jim Tucker, Commissioner; Adam Carey, County Attorney; Gina Shores, County Clerk.

Jim opened the meeting with prayer.

At this time the election of officers took place. A motion by JW, seconded by Bill, UYV for Jim Tucker to be Chairman. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV for Bill Light to be Vice Chairman.

A motion by JW, seconded by Bill, Jim abstained to designate Heartland Tri-State Bank of Elkhart and TBK Bank as the official depositories for Morton County.

A motion by Jim, seconded by Bill, UYV that the Tri-State News as the official newspaper for Morton County and www.mtcoks.com for publications.

Motion was made by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to sign Resolution 2022-1 (Salary Resolution). Motion was made by JW, seconded by Bill, UYV to sign Resolution 2022-2 (A Resolution Adopting Standards for Financial Statements and Reporting).

The Commissioners signed 3 Voided Accounts Payable Warrant Registers; 1 P/R Form and Warrant Registers; 2 A/P Warrant Registers listed below; Resolutions 2022-1 & 2.

		2022	2021
General		\$140,993.88	\$17,072.50
Road/Bridge		\$2,529.87	\$3,970.61
Employee Ben		\$448.19	<u>\$848.48</u>
Airport		\$17,506.17	\$1,956.43
Ambulance		\$754.54	\$1,149.46
Sheriff		\$4,593.29	
Treasurer M/V		\$658.97	
Co Building		\$36,507.13	\$1,138.27
Health		\$123.51	\$3,917.41
Fire		\$217.11	\$36.73
Diversion		\$40.00	

Emergency Prep		\$104.72	\$205.00
911		\$496.11	
Civic Center Deposit			\$50.00
Spec Eco Devo		\$150.00	
Sales Tax-Health System		\$19,398.41	
Spec Ambulance			\$2,455.00
Total		\$224,521.90	\$32,799.89

A motion by Jim, seconded by Bill, UYV to approve minutes of December 28th as amended. The Commissioners discussed the WEKANDO meeting that was held in Elkhart last week.

Chris—Public Works. He is recommending to hire Drake Lewis at \$14/hr for the Landfill and Calum will be transferred to the Weed department. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to hire Drake. Chris also asked if he and Calum can attend the annual weed conference in Topeka Feb. 28th – March 3rd. He is getting bids on 4-wheeler snow plow that can be used to bait Prairie dogs also. Road department is looking at ordering supplies for the 2022 project of grinding and sealing County Road 16 and a total of 10 miles chip sealing. They would like to order rock now for starting project in the spring. They would need to rent the grinder for a week. They would like to add concrete to this, he feels it holds better. Was \$522,000 with concrete it will be closer to \$700,000.

Tracie—IT. Commissioners called her at 10:00. She requested to purchase 10 more 365 licenses from CDW at \$94.75 each, it may be less when she calls them. Approved on a motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to proceed. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to approve 8 Microsoft 365 licenses for about \$800, and \$400 annual renewal of Dotgov domain.

Commissioners set up a call to the President of KLPG, Mike Baughn. They asked what they provide and how it helps us in Southwest Kansas. Mike shared a few things coming up for 2022 that lobbyists will speak on in legislation. A motion by Bill, seconded by Jim, UYV to stay in the KLPG this year and pay the dues.

Hospital—Patrick, CEO. Patrick gave an update on the Senior living facilities, a water pipe did bust, so they have had to have that repaired. They are still working on getting the name change to be correct for insurance and 501 C3 status. Contract is being put together for the Independent Living. He has 3 people getting ready, and when one has passed the test they can go from Independent to an Assisted Living. Also, working on the coding side of things before getting the

North wing set up for patients. He is still concerned about the REH designation, there will be a meeting on Feb. 3rd.

Dusty—EMS. He entered and Patrick stayed to discuss the transfer policy. Last year 66 transfers requested and only 39 taken. He gave examples of why some were canceled or handled differently. Dusty also gave information he received from surrounding counties. Patrick stated he thinks the insurance difference is a little higher. Patrick also stated he is not very familiar with this policy, he will look into it and suggested he and Dusty discuss it again. Patrick left the meeting. Dusty discussed the salaries and EMS budget overage. Dusty also said they could get volunteer first responders as drivers as long as it wasn't a critical transfer.

Clerk presented time off due to Covid, with the email that Kendra sent out on guidance changes. The Commissioners want to stay with our sick/vacation time off with note after 3 days off. Commissioners suggested scheduling interviews for Economic Development director position at the next meeting. The County Attorney had the Commissioners sign an amendment to the contract with Kirkham-Michael for the Syracuse Dairy project. A motion by Bill, seconded by Jim, UYV to pay KWORC Annual premium of \$32,534.

A motion to adjourn by JW, seconded by Bill UYV at 1:05.

Jim Tucker, Chairman

Bill Light, Vice-Chairman

JW Finn, Commissioner

Attest:

Gina Shores, County Clerk