

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
April 10, 2023

JW called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with open doors.

Present: JW Finn, Chairman; Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman; Andy Bane, Commissioner; Clint Floyd, County Counselor and Gina Shores, County Clerk.

Ed Richards with First Baptist Church opened with prayer.

Commissioners approved March 27th amended minutes on a motion by Jim, seconded by Andy, UYV. Commissioners signed 1 P/R form and Warrant Register; 1 A/P Warrant Registers listed below; Added/Abated; 2021 82-83 and 2022-14-41.

	2023
General	\$63,876.46
Road/Bridge	\$4,860.63
Sheriff	\$948.00
Airport	\$1,977.92
Emp. Benefits	\$573.40
Ambulance	\$3,180.72
Health	\$6,714.60
Council on Aging	
Fire	\$2,726.74
Sales Tax Health	\$19,514.03
Treas. M/V	\$176.05
Emerg. Prep.	\$2,892.50
Civic Center Dep	\$250.00
Diversion Fund	\$15,882.38
Noxious Weed	\$855.97
Special Eco. Devo.	\$5,600.00
Library	
911	\$496.11
Capital Improvement	\$4,511.15
Totals	\$135,036.66

Alexis—Economic Development. She went to Topeka last week and visited with the Lieutenant Governor Toland about the Rural Champion Grant, may have some additional funding for the rural champion. She presented some information on housing,

will have to complete forms to get started. Discussion took place regarding the motel closing. Alexis will visit with some people to get more information about it. She would like to switch from Great Plains to Network Kansas to assist with E Community loan applications, there is no annual fee and they have been more helpful to her. She will go to Jetmore, to a round table meeting on Friday. April 17th is a meeting by the Chamber of Commerce to work on the Indeed job postings.

Museum—Myrna Barnes, Becki Ellis and Abbey Hollingsworth. They presented reports showing that prior bookkeeping was not done and they have had to go back and try and correct State/Federal and employee wages. They also asked about painting the building, one gentleman keeps asking. Commissioners tabled until all the accounting issues are resolved.

Chris and Dana—Public works/Road. A motion to go into executive session for personnel for 5 minutes at 9:55. Back in regular session at 10:00. A motion to extend 3 minutes by JW, seconded by Andy, UYV. Back in regular session at 10:03. No action taken. They asked to hire Andrew Sutherland, who has a CDL for the Road Department at \$15/hr. approved on a motion by JW, seconded by Andy, UYV.

10:00—Open bids for Road 16 chip seal project. 1 bid received by B&H Paving. B&H Paving--\$499,800. 24 ½ miles of chip seal. Approved on a motion by Andy, seconded by Jim, UYV.

A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to purchase 300 sprayer system for \$19,805.47 from Special Noxious Weed. A motion by Andy, seconded by Jim, UYV to waive our purchase policy agreement. Chris would like Dana and Sheldon to attend the annual road dept conference is in May in Manhattan, approved on a motion by JW, seconded by Andy, UYV. Presented the KDOT Fed Fund Exchange papers for the Commissioners to sign.

Shawn Harding with H & M Architect entered to present two plans. One redoing the existing jail and using the IT room with approximate cost \$3 million. The other plan is using the Command center lot, this cost is \$11.7 million. Commissioners said they appreciate these estimates, we will have to pursue secure funding before proceeding. Shawn will be in touch with the Clerk for updates.

Kevin—He has several good applicants and have interviewed 6. After much discussion, they all agreed to hire his top 3 high school applicants at \$9.50/hour.

Kayla Janko with Cimarron Basin—She presented the FY 2024 grant funding papers for the Commissioners to sign, approved on a motion by Andy, seconded by Jim, UYV. She is also asking for funding this year of \$25,000. To help purchase several vehicles. The County gave them \$460.00 in 2019 to help with funding. This can be decided at budget time.

Patrick—Hospital. They have their allergy and pain management units up and running. Also, the hospital lab can mix allergy serums here. They are full staffed with nurse

practitioners. Dr. Loya is supposed to be here the end of June. Dr. Frankum will be here doing colonoscopies. They are still needing to hire nurses and IT staff.

Dusty–EMS. North side of EMS building has room for approximately 40x30 size building, he will need to get some bids for a small building. They will also have to relocate the generator. This building would be large enough for all EMS stuff currently stored in the Morton building.

Larry–Fire. He presented 2 quotes for tools to cut into vehicles. City of Elkhart will pay the tools if the County will buy the jack stabilizer \$12,519.00 approved on a motion by JW, seconded by Andy, UYV from Fire Capital Outlay.

A motion by JW, seconded by Andy, UYV to approve the water pressure backflow part for the Airport spray pads at the lowest bid by Sprinkler Warehouse at \$1,057.73 another bid by Elkhart Lumber for \$1529.12. The Commissioners are tabling the Civic Center lights quote from Boaldin Electric, until they can look at it later.

Commissioners confirmed budget dates and letters the Clerk had ready to send out.

A motion to adjourn at 12:58 by Andy, seconded by Jim, UYV.

JW Finn, Chairman

Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman

Andy Bane, Commissioner

Attest:
Gina Shores, County Clerk