

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
June 12, 2023

JW called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. with open doors.

Present: JW Finn, Chairman; Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman(10:30); Andy Bane, Commissioner; Clint Floyd, County Counselor and Gina Shores, County Clerk. Also in attendance Ed Anderson and Jeff Pate.

Jess Lee with Jake’s Barn Church opened with prayer.

Commissioners approved May 8th and 22nd-23rd amended minutes on a motion by JW, seconded by Andy. Commissioners signed 1 P/R form and Warrant Register; 1 A/P Warrant Registers listed below; Added/Abated; 2022 44-45.

	2023
General	\$50,730.76
Road/Bridge	\$30,607.61
Hospital	\$389,001.06
Soil	
Cons.	\$8,063.97
Extension Council	\$36,704.85
Sheriff	\$5,405.00
Airport	\$5,638.67
Emp. Benefits	\$462.78
Ambulance	\$3,179.92
Health	\$12,685.48
Fair	\$30,329.46
Fire	\$172.94
Sales Tax Health	\$20,389.82
P/R Withholding	\$3,329.73
Treas. M/V	\$866.02
Emerg. Prep.	\$374.64
Civic Center Dep	\$250.00
Council on Aging	\$32,381.93
Intellectual	
Disability	\$1,287.26
Historical	\$34,588.02
Mental Health	\$4,900.47
Library	\$61,560.46

Special Equipment Reserve	\$1,549.39
911	\$546.11
Capital Improvement	\$1,821.11
Totals	\$736,827.46

Barbie—Civic Center. She presented quotes on a new passport camera and printer. CFS for \$695.00
Deluxe \$495.00

A motion by Andy, seconded by JW to approve passport equipment from CFS at \$695. This one has better photo quality. She discussed applications received for part-time assistance. A motion by Andy, seconded by JW to go into executive session for personnel at 9:42 for 5 minutes. Back in regular session at 9:47. Commissioners approved Barbie’s recommendation; Donie Barnes for the part-time position.

Chris—Public Works. Noxious Weed department has started spraying and will start on the State highways next week. Chris expressed his concern of people not being considerate of the spray vehicles traveling opposite traffic. To date the tipping fees at the landfill for out of state/county are \$92,000. Skid loader quotes on used 2019 Cat \$69,500(Foley) and 2022 Bobcat \$64,500(White Star Machinery). Brand new Bobcat is \$75,000. The Commissioners suggest he check into a lease option on the 2019 Cat. Approved on a motion by Andy, seconded by JW for the 2019 Cat for \$69,500 from Special Road Machinery, contingent to Chris and Sheldon looking at it. Seaboard used equipment on state line road that caused damage to the road, Chris discussed with Jason Hall from Seaboard options to fix damage. County Counsel advised it’s not in the counties best interest to have them repair it, instead they should pay the costs to repair.

Alexis—Economic Development. She presented the grant paperwork for the museum windmill upgrades. She processed the 1st E-community loan for Cornerstone Physical Therapy. There is possibly a new owner of the fitness center on main street.. Both locations for the Rural Champion project are getting closer to being up and running. Compass Behavioral Health is having a luncheon and presentation on Friday. Organizations have been busy with BAK(Bike Across Kansas) and business appreciation luncheon. Still working on the housing opportunities/needs and details.

Dusty—EMS. Presented information from a meeting on EMS compliance, there is a group they can use to ensure that they have all appropriate forms and questions completed, and still doing some research. Local emergency operation plan meeting in Ulysses tomorrow. The tablets are working out very well. Call volume has been up lately. Dusty, Crystal and Melinda passed EMR written and will move on to practical’s.

Commissioners welcomed the students from Morton County that recently received significant accomplishments in their sports. Jim recognized Nakaela O’Hair on her 2nd

year as 2A Pole vault champ. Andy recognized the Rolla scholar bowl champs; Samantha Dunn, Carissa Sohm, Tina Martens, Ethan Compaan and Dakota Compaan, he says his dad would be real proud of these accomplishments. JW recognized the Golf team that received 4th in State; Clayson Nave, Bodie Higgins, Murray Houtz and Gavin Schumacher. Commissioners wish to recognize any past or current achievements and encourage the public to contact them.

Kevin—Golf. He has a busy 4-person golf tournament coming up. He also wanted to let the Commissioners know that he will be on vacation at the end of the month.

Clerk updated the Commissioners that the valuation numbers are very close to last years, so that will help with the budget. Verified that we could have the budget workshop with the Auditors/supervisors on July 10th. Discussed and planned the next meeting being Supervisors. Clerk and Greg, maintenance had a conference call with the Federal government about the improvements on our building rented by the USDA. A motion by JW, seconded by Andy to approve the Bankhead Jones funds \$340,704.23 to be transferred to Road fund. The Commissioners reviewed an email from Kendra, health department director, a motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to approve estimate for the breakroom cabinets from LD Custom Cabinets \$9,875. She still has approximately \$22,502.43 in the ELC-EI grant.

A motion to adjourn at 11:36 by Andy, seconded by Jim, UYV.

JW Finn, Chairman

Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman

Andy Bane, Commissioner

Attest:
Gina Shores, County Clerk