

MINUTES  
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS  
November 17, 2022

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

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

Pastor Ed Richards with First Baptist Church and Jess Lee with Jake’s Barn Church opened with prayer.

Commissioners approved October 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> minutes on a motion by JW, seconded by Bill, UYV. Commissioners signed 1 P/R form and Warrant Register; 3 A/P Warrant Registers listed below.

			2022
General			\$53,835.99
Road & Bridge			\$38,266.36
Payroll W/H			\$1,894.15
Airport			\$1,616.93
Ambulance			\$3,634.96
Fire			\$18,307.15
Health			\$4,616.26
Capital Improvement			\$4,338.94
Civic Center Deposit Fund			\$2,310.00
Noxious Weed			\$1,684.40
Sheriff			\$8,034.17
Employee Ben			\$2,876.93
Corona Virus Relief			\$13,506.15
	911		\$3,191.66
County Clerk Tech Fund			\$1,012.31
Special Eco Devo			\$1,500.00
Special Hwy Improvement			\$17,958.25
Sales Tax-Health System			\$13,850.60
Treasurers		-	
Treasurers M/V		-	\$311.94
Emergency Preparedness		-	\$104.72
		-	\$192,851.87

Commissioners accepted the resignation letter by Adam Carey for County Counselor position effective 12-31-22. Discussed advertising as soon as possible.

Canvassed 2022 General Election.

9:30—Public Comment. Garold Fisher, Darren Buck and Reid Shrauner entered to discuss the road conditions on State line road and the airport with Chris and the Commissioners.

Becky Ellis and Jennifer Barnes with the Museum. 75 Pheasants have been released for the Rooster Roundup, combined with the Longest Tailfeather contest. They have asked for contribution for this, as prices have increased. In the past the County has donated \$1,000. It brings people to Morton County. A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to donate \$1500 this year from the Commissioner fund.

Chris and Sheldon—Public works. Tipping fees amount to date are \$137,000. They discussed with the Commissioner elect Andy Bane how Public works is operating.

Hospital--Patrick, CEO and Richard Adams, CFO. Patrick updated the Commissioners that they just interviewed a new Dr. whose wife is a nurse. Could be here around May next year. They are almost done completing the North Wing. With that they have about 20 job openings as well. Dr. Clark is working out well, seeing 20-25 patients a day and keeping a full schedule of patients. Dec 10<sup>th</sup> they will have a new nurse practitioner, she has previously worked with Dr. Clark and she will work a similar schedule as Darnell Ganley. The hospital recently signed with a consultant to help get a critical access designation with the updated requirements, hoping to qualify and have done with by February. Grant funds have purchased a pain management system and colonoscopy equipment. Dr. Frankham has agreed to come back. 3 new individuals moving into the assisted living. Richard gave his update on benefit enrollment and will have lower medical insurance premiums. Finalizing term with Azalea, current billing software. They are now contracting with Serner, this will be a 14-month process to build the system with what we currently have, instead of just a big switch. The software and staff are 2 big costs. Richard explained the ERC funding, with Vicki the treasurer in attendance. Vicki and Adam will do some checking on the details of this as well.

A motion by JW, seconded by Jim, UYV to go into executive session for personnel for 5 minutes with the Clerk at 12:33. Back in regular session at 12:38. No action taken.

A motion by Jim, seconded by Bill, UYV to appoint Tina Weatherman to the Council on Aging Board. Commissioner Tucker updated the others on the meeting he and the Clerk had with Ilan Brand with/Cowboy Energy expressing interest in solar energy in the County.

A motion to adjourn at 12:42 by JW, seconded by Bill, UYV.

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Jim Tucker, Chairman

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Bill Light, Vice-Chairman

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JW Finn, Commissioner

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gina Shores, County Clerk