

THE PRATT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023 AT 2:00 PM IN THE COMMISSIONER ROOM, 1ST FLOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: THOMAS W. JONES III, RICK SHRIVER, DWIGHT ADAMS, TYSON EISENHAEUER, COUNTY COUNSELOR, LORI VOSS, COUNTY CLERK, AND MARK GRABER, IT DIRECTOR.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

TYSON EISENHAEUER, COUNTY COUNSELOR, PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND TITLE WHEN SPEAKING, PUBLIC COMMENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO THE EXTENT THAT IT IS ON TOPIC. PERSONS PARTICIPATING VIA ZOOM ARE CURRENTLY MUTED. IF YOU HAVE A COMMENT, PLEASE LET MARK KNOW VIA THE CHAT FUNCTION. MARK WILL THEN INFORM CHAIRMAN JONES, WHO CAN TAKE UP THE COMMENT IN A MANNER THAT DOES NOT DISRUPT THE AGENDA. IN THE EVENT AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IS NEEDED, IT WILL BE MUTED WHEN RECESSED AND TURNED BACK ON WHEN THEY RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION.

HEATHER MORGAN, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/COVID CONSULTANT, REPORTED ON THE SB248 FOOD SALES TAX BILL INFORMATIONAL HEARING LAST WEEK. IF PASSED SB309 LABTR FUND WILL BE REMOVED AND THE OTHER BILL WOULD TAKE ITS PLACE. SHE GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE HEARING FOR THE QUIVIRA IMPAIRMENT COMPLAINT. THE STATE WATER ENGINEER WENT OVER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE QUIVIRA WATER MANAGEMENT. BIG BEND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT WAS TOLD NOTHING WOULD HAPPEN IN 2023, BUT AUGUMENTATION HAS TO BE DONE IN 2024. IT WILL HAVE ECONOMIC IMPACT IN THAT AREA, FARMERS NEED TO KNOW IF THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO IRRIGATE CROPS. SHE REPORTED ON THE PRATT AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE CITY OF PRATT IS PAYING HALF OF THEIR PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000, THEY WILL HOLD THE SECOND HALF. FIRST STREET LAUNDRY HAS BEEN AWARDED A FAÇADE GRANT AND WORK IS BEING DONE ON THEIR BUILDING. PRATT AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE IS BRINGING IN SOMEONE FROM ANOTHER COUNTY TO SEE HOW THEY HANDLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. PRATT COUNTY HAS 2.1% UNEMPLOYMENT. THERE IS A WORKFORCE SHORTAGE IN PRATT COUNTY.

AJ AMARO AND BOB WETMORE, GREAT PLAINS DEVELOPMENT, GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE SERVICES THEY PROVIDE AND WHAT IS AVAILABLE THROUGH GPDI GRANTS AND LOANS. THEY ARE STRICTLY A GAP OR BACKUP FUNDING. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COUNTY MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,612.00. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

TARA PAGENKOPF, RSVP DIRECTOR, PRESENTED CHECKS FOR SIGNATURES. SHE REPORTED THEY WILL BE DOING SOME IN PERSON TRAINING.

DOUG FREUND, ROAD/LAKE SUPERVISOR, REQUESTED AN EXECUTIVE SESSION CONCERNING NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:42 PM FOR TEN MINUTES CONCERNING NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL, EMPLOYEE ISSUE. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:52 PM WITH NO ACTION TAKEN. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:52 PM FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES TO DISCUSS NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL CONCERNING EMPLOYEE ISSUE. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. CHAIRMAN JONES MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE

SESSION AT 3:07 PM WITH NO ACTION TAKEN. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. HE STATED THE EXTENDED WARRANTIES ON THE TRACTOR/MOWERS IS A LITTLE MORE EXTENSIVE AND MARLIN STOTTS WILL BE IN NEXT WEEK TO GO OVER IT.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 6, 2023. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:14 PM FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES TO DISCUSS NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL, DISCUSSING CONTRACT. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:22 PM WITH NO ACTION TAKEN. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER STATED HE HAS INFORMATION ON THE USE OF THE ARPA FUNDS IN PURCHASING THE TANK FOR THE FIRE TRUCK. COMMISSIONER ADAMS STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO CHECK WITH A COMPANY THAT REPAIRS TANKS BEFORE PURCHASING A NEW TANK FOR THE FIRE TRUCK.

CALVIN BARNHART QUESTIONED THE PROCESS OF VALUATION AND TAX STATEMENTS BEING SENT OUT. THERE IS ONLY ONE STATEMENT BEING SENT OUT TO THE TAXPAYER EVEN THOUGH THERE MIGHT BE MULTIPLE OWNERS. DJ MCMURRY, APPRAISER, EXPLAINED THERE IS ONLY ONE ADDRESS WHERE THE STATEMENTS ARE SENT AND IT IS USUALLY SENT TO THE FIRST NAME ON THE DEED. SHERRY WENRICH, REGISTER OF DEEDS EXPLAINED WHY IT HAS BEEN CHANGED DUE TO STATE STATUTES. DJ STATED ON VALUATION NOTICES ONLY ONE NOTICE CAN BE GENERATED AND MAILED OUT.

CHAIRMAN JONES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT VOUCHERS FOR MARCH 13, 2023. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 3:53 PM. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:53 PM.

THOMAS W JONES III CHAIRMAN

DWIGHT ADAMS MEMBER

LORI VOSS, COUNTY CLERK

RICK N SHRIVER MEMBER