

THE PRATT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION MONDAY, JULY 17, 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, 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.

JACOB CROW WITH KIRKHAM MICHAEL, OPENED BIDS FOR THE PRATT COUNTY, PRATT CO NE 30TH STREET, CRACK SEAL PROJECT TO BE COMPLETED BY MAY 3, 2024. TWO BIDS WERE RECEIVED. CIRCLE C PAVING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,424.25 AND PAVEMENT PROS WITH A TOTAL BID OF \$49,484.81. JACOB RECOMMENDED CIRCLE C PAVING, THEY ARE THE LOW BIDDER AND THEY HAVE EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN THIS TYPE OF PROJECT. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM CIRCLE C PAVING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,424.25. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

HEATHER MORGAN, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/COVID CONSULTANT, REPORTED ON A NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY FROM THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ACCEPTING COMMENT FOR HOW TO DISTRIBUTE \$6.2 MILLION FOR EXPANSION OF MEAT PROCESSING OR SPECIALTY CROPS. SHE MENTIONED THAT DUE TO THE EXTREME DROUGHT THE US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LAST WEEK ANNOUNCED PRATT AND BARBER COUNTY PRODUCERS WHO HAVE HAD LOSS DUE TO WATER ISSUES (WELL NEEDING TO BE DEEPEMED, NEW PIPING NEEDED, ETC.) THAT THERE IS A POTENTIAL 75%/25% COST SHARE AVAILABLE AND SHE IS HAPPY TO PASS ALONG INFORMATION TO ANY PRODUCER NEEDING TO MAKE WATER UPGRADES DUE TO THE DROUGHT. SHE ALSO MENTIONED THAT THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN WICHITA SERVES THE PRATT COMMUNITY AND HAS CLASSES TO IMPROVE BUSINESSES MARKETING, DISTRIBUTION OF THEIR PRODUCTS THROUGH A SUPPLIER NETWORK, AND RETIRED SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS PEOPLE AVAILABLE TO MENTOR NEW BUSINESSES. THE PRATT AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (PAEDC) MET LAST WEEK AND HAS ESTABLISHED A NEW MAILING ADDRESS AT THE CHAMBER, IS GETTING THEIR OFFICIAL FILINGS IN ORDER WITH THE KANSAS SECRETARY OF STATE, APPROVED PAYMENT TO EBH FOR THEIR EXTERIOR SIGN AND BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS, AND APPROVED AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE FOR MORGAN DIESEL.

VIKKI MADER, HORIZONS MENTAL HEALTH, GAVE A REPORT ON THEIR FINANCIALS THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023. THEY HAVE ADDED STAFF AND SERVICES. THEY HAVE RECEIVED STATE FUNDING TO DO 24/7 TREATMENT. THEY RECEIVED A \$75,000 GRANT FROM UNITED HEALTH CARE FOR TEEN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. THEY HAVE SIGNED AGREEMENTS WITH THE SCHOOLS TO OFFER MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING.

JACOB CROW, PRESENTED THE NOTICE OF AWARD WITH CIRCLE C PAVING, THE COMMISSIONERS SIGNED THE NOTICE.

CATHERINE ROHRER, SCKCCA, REPORTED THEY WILL BE INSTALLING THE NEW AC AT THE END OF THE WEEK. SHE GAVE A QUARTERLY REPORT ON CASES IN HER OFFICE AND THE RESULTS OF THE SERVICES PERFORMED. SHE PRESENTED THE FORM TO CLOSE OUT FY23, CHAIRMAN JONES SIGNED.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 10, 2023. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

THE 2024 BUDGET FOR DISTRICT COURT WAS APPROVED AND SIGNED.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE INTENT TO EXCEED THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE WITH A PROPOSED MILL LEVY OF 58.399. THE HEARING IS SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 AT 9:00 AM IN THE COMMISSIONER ROOM. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CHAIRMAN JONES COMMENTED GARY BARKER WAS QUESTIONING ABOUT THE SURVEY ON THE LAND AT THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING. THEY APPROVED GARY TO GO AHEAD AND SPRAY FOR WEEDS. CHAIRMAN JONES ALSO STATED HE HAD DONE THE WALK THRU WITH USD 382 AND THEY QUESTIONED WHO WAS GOING TO PAY FOR THE MOWING. IT WAS STATED IT WAS IN THE CONTRACT THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LAWN CARE.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER STATED THE ZONING COMMITTEE WAS MEETING TONIGHT FOR AN INFORMATIONAL DRAFT ON THE SOLAR ENERGY ZONING REGULATIONS.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER STATED HE HAD RECEIVED AN EMAIL FROM AN INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONING IF THE COMMISSIONERS HAD ANY SAY IN THE DATE THE ADVANCE VOTING STARTS AND BALLOT BOXES. CLERK VOSS STATED THAT IS ALL SET BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES AT 3:05 PM TO DISCUSS AN ATTORNEY/CLIENT MATTER CONCERNING TAX EXEMPTION. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:12 PM WITH NO ACTION TAKEN. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATION FOR THE OLD PRRC BUILDING. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT MARJORIE BUCK TO THE SOUTHWEST KANSAS AREA AGENCY ON AGING. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT VOUCHERS FOR JULY 17, 2023. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 3:21 PM. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER
SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

THOMAS W JONES III CHAIRMAN

DWIGHT ADAMS MEMBER

LORI VOSS, COUNTY CLERK

RICK N SHRIVER MEMBER