

THE PRATT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION MONDAY, JULY 24, 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 EISENHAUER, COUNTY COUNSELOR, LORI VOSS, CLERK, AND MARK GRABER, IT DIRECTOR.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

TYSON EISENHAUER, 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 UNEMPLOYMENT IS 2.7% FOR PRATT COUNTY. THERE IS A NEW PROGRAM TO REGISTER FOR APPRENTICESHIP, WORKING PART TIME WHILE GOING TO TRAINING. THE STATE PAYS BACK THE EMPLOYER FOR THE HOURS WORKED. IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT HEATHER. CYBER SECURITY ATTACKS ON GOVERNMENT AGENCIES CONTINUE TO BE A SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH MAJOR ECONOMIC SETBACK. SHE STATED THERE IS KANSAS NATURAL RESOURCE COALITION THE COMMISSIONERS MIGHT CONSIDER JOINING. THIRTY COUNTIES HAVE FILED A LAWSUIT ABOUT THE LESSER PRAIRE CHICKEN IMPACT PROTECTION HAS ON FISHING AND HUNTING IN OUR AREA. SECRETARY OF KDOT, CALVIN REED, WILL HAVE MEETINGS IN NEWTON OCTOBER 5 AND IN WICHITA OCTOBER 18. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RELEASED ANOTHER WATER/WASTE WATER 1% INTEREST LOAN GUARANTEE, TO UPGRADE WATER OR WASTE WATER DISPOSAL.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER RECEIVED A CALL FROM BJ HAYES, LOCAL USDA WOULD LIKE TO USE THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING FOR A MEETING. TYSON STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 17, 2023.
COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO HIRE ZACHARY WRIGHT FOR THE ROAD DEPARTMENT AT \$15.00 PER HOUR. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DJ MCMURRY, APPRAISER, PRESENTED MCKENZI HOOVER'S SIX-MONTH PAY RAISE OF .50.
COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE MCKENZI HOOVER'S .50 RAISE.
COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

JON ROACH, NOXIOUS WEED, REPORTED HE HAD ATTENDED A CONFERENCE IN COLBY. HE STATED HE NEEDS TO GO THE CITY COUNCIL TO GET AN EXEMPTION TO SPRAY WITH THE FOUR-WHEELER IN THE CITY LIMITS. THE CITY HAS AN ORDINANCE AND THEY COULD RECEIVE A CITATION. HE REPORTED A COUNTY IS INTERESTED IN PURCHASING THE SPRAY TRUCK THAT IS GOING TO BE REPLACED. IT WAS STATED IF SOLD IT WOULD HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE BID PROCESS. HE BROUGHT UP HIRING A THIRD FULL TIME PERSON.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:24 PM FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES TO DISCUSS ATTORNEY/CLIENT MATTER CONCERNING THE USE OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING AND OTHER LEGAL MATTERS. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:39 PM WITH NO ACTION TAKEN. CHAIRMAN JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CHAIRMAN JONES MADE A MOTION TO BREAK FOR FIVE MINUTES AT 2:41 PM. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. CHAIRMAN JONES CALLED THE MEETING BACK TO ORDER AT 2:46 PM.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER REPORTED HE GOT THE MAPS BACK ON THE LOTS AROUND THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING. HE SHARED THE MAP ON ZOOM.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MET WITH THE NURSE COALITION. HE REPORTED THEY ARE HAVING A PUSH BACK ON GETTING CHILDREN VACCINATED. HE ALSO QUESTIONED THE PHONE SYSTEM AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

CHAIRMAN JONES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT VOUCHERS FOR JULY 24, 2023. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 3:05 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