

THE PRATT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 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, COUNTY 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, STATED THE CITY OF IUKA GAVE HER AUTHORITY TO WORK WITH THE STATE FOR THE ARPA REPORTING. SHE IS STILL WORKING WITH A COMPANY WANTING TO COME TO PRATT. SHE REPORTED SHE HAD MET WITH THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE NEW WATER POLICY ADVISOR TO UNDERSTAND BETTER WHAT THE JOINT LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR AND US SENATOR JERRY MORAN MEANT FOR THE DAYS TO COME IN TERMS OF REACHING AN AGREEMENT ON THE QUIVIRA IMPAIRMENT. ESSENTIALLY WHAT WAS LEARNED IS THAT THE DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES WITHIN THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IS THE LEAD ON THIS ISSUE. THEY WILL BE HOSTING VARIOUS COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD WITH THE GOAL OF FINDING COMPROMISES WHICH WILL RESULT IN LOCAL PRODUCERS USING LESS WATER, POSSIBLE AUGMENTATION, RETIREMENT OF WATER RIGHTS, ETC. OR ANY COMBINATION OF USING LESS WATER AND MOVING WATER WHICH WILL CREATE COMPROMISES THAT ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES. IT IS NOT THE STATE OF KANSAS THAT HAS TO AGREE TO THE COMPROMISE SOLUTIONS BUT IT IS THE FEDERAL US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES. THIS PROCESS TOWARD COMPROMISE IS THE LAST OPPORTUNITY TO NOT HAVE A SITUATION OCCUR WHERE THE STATE WOULD HAVE TO ISSUE AN ORDER WHICH COULD DRAMATICALLY CUT THE ABILITY TO USE WATER WHICH HAS BEEN BEING USED BY LOCAL CITIZENS FOR YEARS. IT IS CRITICAL THAT A COMPROMISE IS REACHED WHICH WILL GRADUALLY (BUT WITHIN A FEW YEAR WINDOW) REDUCE THE IMPAIRMENT RATHER THAN HAVE AN ORDER THAT IMMEDIATELY SEVERELY CUTS WATER USE WHICH WOULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC IMPACT. STAKEHOLDERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BE REASONABLE AND SEEK COMPROMISE TO AVOID A SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON THE AREA. ALSO, THE CITY OF HAYS REQUEST TO MOVE WATER FROM THE WATER RIGHT THEY PURCHASED IN EDWARDS COUNTY TO ELLIS COUNTY HAS REACHED THE END OF ITS LENGTHY COURT PROCESS. IT IS LIKELY THAT IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS THERE WILL BE A RULING ON THIS MOVEMENT OF WATER FROM ONE BASIN TO ANOTHER WHICH WILL SET THE PRECEDENT FOR HOW THESE SORTS OF WATER MOVEMENTS ARE HANDLED IN THE FUTURE. FINALLY, THE GOVERNOR OPENED UP \$1.5 MILLION IN GRANT FUNDS FROM THE KANSAS WATER PLAN FOR ENTITIES TO APPLY FOR TO FUND PROJECTS WHICH ACHIEVE THE GOALS WHICH HAVE BEEN OUTLINED IN THE WATER PLAN.

DARCIE VANDERVYVER, HEALTH DIRECTOR REQUESTED AN EXECUTIVE SESSION. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR TEN MINUTES AT 2:06 PM FOR NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL, CONCERNING AN EMPLOYEE. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE

MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:11 PM WITH NO ACTION TAKEN. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. SHE REPORTED THEY ARE ADMINISTERING FLU SHOTS AND COVID SHOTS. THE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANT HAS BEEN RESUBMITTED BECAUSE MANY THINGS WERE NOT APPROVED SO SHE REWROTE THE GRANT REQUEST.

VICKI MADER, HORIZON MENTAL HEALTH, GAVE AN UPDATE ON THEIR SERVICES AND FINANCIALS.

MARK GRABER, IT DIRECTOR, REPORTED HE HAS BEEN WORKING WITH SC TELCOM TO GET PHONE SERVICE INSTALLED AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. HE PRESENTED THE COST SAVINGS COUNTY WIDE GOING WITH SC TELCOM OVER AT&T.

TARA PAGENKOPF, RSVP DIRECTOR, PRESENTED CHECKS FOR SIGNATURES. SHE REQUESTED THE COUNTY PAY THE INTEGREN BILL FOR SHUTTING OFF THE GENERATOR. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO PAY THE INTEGREN INVOICE FOR SHUTTING DOWN THE GENERATOR FOR \$92.65 TO BE PAID OUT OF THE COMMISSIONER BUDGET. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES AT 2:31 PM TO DISCUSS AN ATTORNEY/CLIENT MATTER CONCERNING A CONTRACT. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:46 PM WITH NO ACTION TAKEN. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

BRIAN ATTEBERRY, EMS DIRECTOR, PRESENTED A QUOTE FOR A 2024 FORD TRANSIT AMBULANCE FROM OSAGE SUPPLY FOR \$144,550, INCLUDES \$6000 GRAPHICS ALLOWANCE. HE WILL CONTACT HEATHER TO WORK ON THE PROCESS OF PURCHASING WITH ARPA FUNDS. THE CONTRACT WITH CAREER SEARCH FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION EXPIRED. HE WOULD LIKE TO CONTRACT WITH FOAMFRAT, LLC FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR EMS FOR \$2799.80. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH FOAMFRAT, LLC FOR \$2799.80. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DJ MCMURRY, APPRAISER, REPORTED HE HAD AN EMPLOYEE QUITTING AT THE END OF THE MONTH. HE WILL BE ADVERTISING FOR THAT POSITION.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A DONATION TO LEMON PARK LIGHTS. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A ROAD CROSSING FOR A GAS LINE NINE MILES NORTH ON 281 HIGHWAY, 90TH & 50TH FOR MCGINNESS ENERGY COMPANY, INC. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF WESLEY HALLEY FOR THE ROAD DEPARTMENT AT \$17.00. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 16, 2023. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A RAISE OF \$2.00 FOR SUSAN PIXLER IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF MAKENZIE BAIRD PART TIME FOR THE COUNTY CLERK OFFICE AT \$15.50. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RECESS FOR A FIVE-MINUTE BREAK AT 3:05 PM. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM BREAK AT 3:10 PM. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:10 PM FOR THIRTY MINUTES TO DISCUSS ATTORNEY/CLIENT MATTER CONCERNING MUTIPLE LEGAL ISSUES. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:32 PM WITH NO ACTION TAKEN. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT VOUCHERS FOR OCTOBER 23, 2023. COMMISSIONER SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER STATED AT THE 911 MEETING THEY TALKED ABOUT A TREE GROWING INTO THE TOWER THAT NEEDS TRIMMED. TYSON STATED THE COUNTY OWNS THE PROPERTY SO THE COUNTY WILL NEED TO HAVE IT TRIMMED.

COMMISSIONER SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 3:40 PM. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

THOMAS W JONES III CHAIRMAN

DWIGHT ADAMS MEMBER

LORI VOSS, COUNTY CLERK

RICK N SHRIVER MEMBER