

February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Board of Woodson County Commissioners convened for its regular session on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, with Chairman Justin Clark, Vice-Chairman Kevin Stuber, Member Jerry Sedlacek, County Attorney Zelda Schlotterbeck, and the Certified County Clerk in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Stuber motioned to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Sedlacek and unanimously approved by Clark.

Sedlacek then motioned to approve the amended minutes from February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, with Stuber seconding the motion, and Clark again making it unanimous.

Attorney Schlotterbeck presented a packet discussing the settlement for the opioid addiction lawsuit.

Clark motioned to recess into executive session for Attorney-Client privileges to discuss contractual negotiations for 10 minutes with the Commissioners and County Attorney, starting at 8:41 a.m. and reconvening at 8:51 a.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room.

Sedlacek motioned to recess into executive session for non-elected personnel to protect employee confidentiality; for 20 minutes with the Commissioners only beginning at 8:55 a.m. to reconvene in the commission room at 9:15 a.m. Stuber seconded it; Clark making it unanimous.

The Road and Bridge Supervisor provided a road progress report, including the consideration of appointing an interim supervisor after Dimick's departure on Friday. Sedlacek also relayed a road maintenance request.

Sheriff Jeff McCullough provided an update on the jail plumbing, outlining the necessary steps for repairs, with a total bid of \$3,000. However, no quote was provided for the replacement of the plumbing. Several weeks ago, Head Dispatcher Annette Benteman, Sheriff McCullough, and Yates Center Police Chief Mike Strode engaged in negotiations for the dispatch contract, which was subsequently taken to the city council and rejected. McCullough highlighted that if a formula were applied to determine the contract's cost, it would exceed the proposed amount from the Sheriff's Office. McCullough proposed that Jarred Helkenberg and Mike Strode oversee the special Deputy Coroner position. Helkenberg will reach out to the coroner to arrange an appointment with the Commissioners' approval. Additionally, letters were dispatched to citizens with property parked in the right-of-way, requesting them to relocate it.

EMS Director Cari Cavender addressed the board, expressing the need for 2 front tires for the ambulance and presenting a quote. The board granted approval for the purchase of the tires. Additionally, a leak in the roof of the ambulance barn was reported, which H & H promptly patched. Cavender also requested wage increases for her employees.

Sedlacek motioned to recess into executive session for non-elected personnel to protect employee confidentiality; to discuss employee job performance for 11 minutes with the Commissioners and the

County Attorney beginning at 9:40 a.m. to reconvene in the commission room at 9:51 a.m. Stuber seconded it; Clark making it unanimous.

The discussion on the raises for the ambulance staff was tabled for another week.

Clark motioned to recess into executive session for non-elected personnel to protect employee confidentiality; to discuss employee job performance for 5 minutes with the Commissioners and the County Attorney beginning at 10:00 a.m. to reconvene in the commission room at 10:05 a.m. Stuber seconded it; Sedlacek making it unanimous.

Solid Waste Supervisor Tracy Parks discussed his plan to purchase a truck. Stuber and Clark suggested a lease purchase through a local bank. Sedlacek preferred to wait until the end of the year to assess the remaining funds. Stuber requested Parks investigate the lease purchase terms further. Sedlacek also proposed increasing the rate for monthly dumpster fees from \$23 to \$30. Sedlacek made the motion to increase dumpster fees. However, this motion did not receive a second and did not pass. It was recommended by the board to increase rate and dumpster fees and sent to the Solid Waste Board. Sedlacek then suggested raising the rates for roll-off dumpsters, which was approved by the board.

Stuber motioned to recess into executive session for Attorney-Client privileges to discuss legal liability for 10 minutes with the Commissioners and County Attorney, starting at 10:25 a.m. and reconvening at 10:35 a.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room. Sedlacek seconding the motion; Clark making it unanimous.

During public comments, Bill Douglas expressed concerns about the treatment of Dimick and the need for employee confidentiality.

Following public comments, Chari Bauman presented a tourism request for the Bull Bash. Stuber proposed raising the gate fee. Discussion was tabled for another week.

Clark motioned to recess into executive session for non-elected personnel to protect employee confidentiality; to discuss confidential data trade secrets for 16 minutes with the Commissioners, David Lee and Harry Lee beginning at 11:14 a.m. to reconvene in the commission room at 11:30 a.m. Stuber seconded it; Sedlacek making it unanimous.

Both generators are undergoing repairs.

Stuber motioned to take a 5-minute break. Sedlacek seconded it, with Clark making it unanimous.

Stuber then made the motion to approve the purchase of a refrigerator for the Woodson County break room and for the old one to be removed from the courthouse. Sedlacek seconded the motion, with Clark making it unanimous.

Stuber further motioned to approve Resolution 24-03, concerning a moratorium on commercial renewable energy. It was seconded by Sedlacek and Clark making it unanimous.

Clark then motioned to approve payroll, which was seconded by Stuber and passed.

Sedlacek motioned to approve vouchers in the specified amount, with Stuber seconding the motion and Clark making it unanimous.

Sedlacek motioned to recess into executive session for non-elected personnel to protect employee confidentiality; to discuss job employment for 33 minutes with the Commissioners and County Clerk Tesla Bayles only beginning at 12:12 p.m. to reconvene in the commission room at 12:45 p.m. Stuber seconded it; Clark making it unanimous.

The board reached an agreement to return payment of the Solid Waste, Noxious Weed, and Road and Bridge bills to the County Clerk's Office.

Stuber made the motion to adjourn at 12:55 p.m. Clark seconded it, with Sedlacek making it unanimous.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tesla Bayles, Woodson Certified County Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Justin Clark, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Stuber, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Sedlacek, Member