The Board of Woodson County Commissioners convened for its regular session on September 3rd, 2024 with Vice-Chairman Kevin Stuber, Member Jerry Sedlacek, County Counselor Bret Heim, and County Clerk Amanda DeWitt. Chairman Justin Clark arrived at 9:25a.m.

Jerry Sedlacek moved to approve the agenda as amended. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed. KansasWorks and Casey Diver were removed.

Jerry requested to add $13.25 to $14 for the AEMT raises to the minutes along with some minor grammar corrections.

Bret Heim, county counselor, will be revising the policy for employees planning to obtain their CDL with the county. He will bring the revised paperwork next week.

Jerry Sedlacek moved to recess into executive session for attorney client privilege with the clerk, treasurer, commissioners, and counselor to reconvene at 8:45a.m. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Jerry Sedlacek moved to recess into executive session for attorney client privilege with the clerk, treasurer, commissioners, and counselor to reconvene at 9:00a.m. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Jerry Sedlacek moved to recess into executive session for attorney client privilege with the clerk, treasurer, commissioners, and counselor to reconvene at 9:10a.m. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Jerry Sedlacek spoke with Bret Heim regarding a boundary issue on private property.

Carey Spoon with the Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Committee (SEKRPC) came to introduce herself as the executive director and to share what SEKRPC does. They have several grant writers on staff and there is no fee for help with applications for members. If SEKRPC is listed as the grant administrator they charge around 1% of the grant amount as a fee. They have meetings the 2nd Thursday of the month in Chanute at 10:00a.m. but they offer a zoom option as well for those unable to attend in person.

Jared Helkenberg, undersheriff, reported that one of the officers hit a deer over the weekend in a sheriff's office vehicle. It would be going to the shop for repairs. He also stated that the sheriff's office would like to look into adding additional cameras to the exterior of the courthouse.

Gary Ward said that the wire welder has quit working and will cost around $4500 to replace it based on the current multi-purpose model they had priced. Kevin Stuber felt that model was a lot and a simpler model would be better.

Gary Ward brought up the purchase of the excavator. Jerry Sedlacek expressed that the public would have a hard time with the county making such a large purchase after last week's meeting and thinks it would be best to wait until spring. Gary Ward stated that both CAT and John Deere have one ready to go if they were to purchase now. CAT is the cheaper of the two machines however, if they were to do the trade in option then John Deere would be slightly cheaper. The best purchase option going forward would require a down payment now which would result in lower annual payments. The payments would come out of the special machinery budget which has about $180,000 in it. The John Deere representative stated that if the down payment was $44,000 this year, then the annual payments would be around $35,000. Gary Ward did not have the payment information available from CAT but the interest rate was .001% less. There is no penalty with either company for early payoff.

Justin Clark moved to purchase the excavator from John Deere with a $44,000 down payment out of special machinery on a lease purchase agreement with a trade on the Kumatsu. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed 2 – 1, Jerry Sedlacek opposed

Jana Goebel came to request Kathe Hamman be changed from part-time employee to contract labor.

Justin Clark moved to change Kathe Hamman to contract labor. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Kevin Stuber moved to do a roll call vote to approve Resolution 24-13. Kevin Stuber – yes, Justin Clark – yes, Jerry Sedlacek - yes, motion passed.

Kevin Stuber moved to do a roll call vote to approve Resolution 24-14. Kevin Stuber – yes, Justin Clark – yes, Jerry Sedlacek - yes, motion passed.

Jerry Sedlacek moved to approve the August 27th minutes. Kevin 2nd, motion passed.

John Atkin IV said the lock had been cut at the site that houses our repeater for the central radio for the county. The door was also damaged and would need to be replaced. Verizon came out and was able to help secure the site until the door could be fixed. John Atkin IV had a quote from Superior Building Supply to replace the door for about $1,100.00.

Jerry Sedlacek moved to approve up to $1,100 for the communications bunker to replace the door with the funds to be used out of the general fund. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

John Atkin IV is planning to attend the Kansas Emergency Management conference in Manhattan.

Jerry Sedlacek moved to approve the wage sheets for Chris Lomon and Jerek Tancayo to be working at the transfer station. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Kevin Stuber moved to recess into executive session for non-elected personnel with the commissioners, treasurer, and clerk until 12:15p.m. Jerry Sedlacek 2nd, motion passed.

Jerry Sedlacek moved to adopt a policy regarding the commissioners' ability to set a policy in the interest of personnel safety. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Kevin Stuber moved to accept the July monthly department reports. Jerry Sedlacek 2nd, motion passed.

Kevin Stuber moved to pay the vouchers in the amount of $48,208.20. Jerry Sedlacek 2nd, motion passed.

Jerry Sedlacek moved to recess into an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with the commissioners and clerk present until 12:45p.m. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Kevin Stuber moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:46p.m. Jerry Sedlacek 2nd, motion passed.

Justin Clark, Chairman

Attest: _____
Amanda DeWitt, County Clerk

Kevin Stuber, Vice-Chairman

Jerry Sedlacek, Member