

THE PRATT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019 AT 4:00 P.M. IN THE COURTHOUSE COMMISSION ROOM WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: JOE R. REYNOLDS, GLENNA L. BORHO AND TOM JONES. ROBERT SCHMISSEUR, COUNTY COUNSELOR, GALE ROSE, PRATT TRIBUNE REPORTER AND SHERRY KRUSE, COUNTY CLERK, WERE ALSO PRESENT.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

DOUG FREUND, ROAD & BRIDGE DIRECTOR, SUBMITTED A SALARY SHEET FOR A NEW EMPLOYEE; WILL POST THREE (3) OLD PICKUPS ON PURPLE WAVE; TWO BRIDGES ON SW 70TH AVE & 90TH AVE HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY THE WIND FARM; KLAVER CONSTRUCTION DID THE WORK; HAVE BEEN HAULING DIRT FROM WIND FARM CONSTRUCTION.

TRACY PETZ, RSVP, SUBMITTED BILLS AND CHECKS THE COMMISSIONERS APPROVED AND SIGNED.

COMMISSIONER JONES MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 2019. COMMISSIONER BORHO SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CHAIRMAN REYNOLDS SIGNED EMERGENCY VEHICLE PERMITS FOR CITY OF PRATT FIRE.

ROBERT SCHMISSEUR, COUNTY COUNSELOR, REQUESTED A FOUR MINUTE EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE; COMMISSIONER BORHO MADE A MOTION AT 4:25 P.M. TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR FOUR MINUTES TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. AT 4:29 P.M. COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH NO ACTION TAKEN. COMMISSIONER BORHO SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

TRACEY BEVERLIN, COUNTY ATTORNEY, DISCUSSED HER REQUEST TO HIRE A COMMISSIONED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FOR THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE TO ASSIST WITH INVESTIGATIONS AND PREPARING OF CASES FOR PROSECUTION; THE CLEO WILL WORK INDEPENDENTLY FOR THE PRATT COUNTY ATTORNEY BUT WILL COLLABORATE WITH AND ASSIST LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN PRATT COUNTY IN THE PREVENTION, INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF CRIME AND CHILD WELFARE CASES; TRACEY PRESENTED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN HER OFFICE AND THE PRATT COUNTY SHERIFF AND THE PRATT POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF OF POLICE IN SUPPORT OF THE CREATION OF THIS NEW POSITION; TRACEY SAID THE SHERIFF HAD NOT SIGNED THE MOU BUT APPROVES; ESTIMATED COSTS ARE FIRST YEAR INVESTMENT COSTS; REQUESTING \$30,000 FOR PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE, INCREASE PERSONAL SERVICES BUDGET OF \$50,000 FOR SALARY TO ALLOW THE OFFICE TO HAVE A TOTAL OF \$65,000 FOR SALARY CONSIDERATION AND INCREASE IN CONTRACTUAL SERVICES BUDGET OF \$20,000; USING THE FORMER COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN THE COURTHOUSE AS AN OFFICE AND MEETING SPACE FOR OFFICER; CHAIRMAN REYNOLDS ASKED IF SHE WAS AWARE OF THE BUDGET STATUTES AND THAT HER BUDGET WAS ALREADY SET FOR 2019; TRACEY SAID SHE CAME BACK AFTER THE NEW COMMISSIONER TOOK OFFICE AS THE COMMISSIONERS REQUESTED; CHAIRMAN REYNOLDS STATED THAT THE CITY AND COUNTY ALREADY HAVE INVESTIGATORS AND WHY DID SHE NEED ONE; COMMISSIONER JONES SAID THE INVESTIGATORS ALREADY HAND OVER INFORMATION TO THE COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR PROSECUTION; TRACEY SAID THE INVESTIGATIONS CONTINUE AND THEY ARE NOT DUPLICATE AT ALL; COMMISSIONER JONES ASKED HOW MANY OTHER COUNTIES HAVE INVESTIGATORS; TRACEY SAID BARTON, LINN, SUMNER, SEDGWICK ETC.; COMMISSIONER JONES REPLIED THAT THOSE ARE ALL LARGER COUNTIES THAN PRATT AND CHAIRMAN REYNOLDS SAID BARTON COUNTY EMPLOYEE IS ONLY PART-TIME; COMMISSIONER BORHO

SAID THE \$50,000 FOR THE VEHICLE THAT WAS REPORTED IN THE NEWSPAPER HAD A LOT OF PEOPLE UPSET; COMMISSIONER JONES AND CHAIRMAN REYNOLDS SAID A LOT OF CITIZENS TOLD THEM THERE WAS NO NEED FOR AN INVESTIGATOR IN THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE; COMMISSIONERS TOLD TRACEY TO LOOK AT INCREASING HER BUDGET FOR 2020; COMMISSIONERS ALL AGREED THAT SHE WAS DOING A GOOD JOB.

LORI ANSCHUTZ, BRUCE PINKALL AND LARRY EISENHOWER THANKED THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH THEM; SKYLINE BOARD VOTED TO IMPLEMENT BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL PROGRAMS IN 2019; CITY OF PRATT RECREATION DEPARTMENT AND SKYLINE ARE MAKING COMMITMENTS TO MAKE IT WORK; THERE ARE NO FACILITIES AT SKYLINE FOR BASEBALL OR SOFTBALL; UPDATES WOULD BE AT DICKERSON DIAMOND IN LEMON PARK AND DIAMOND #1 AT SIXTH STREET PARK; 1ST SOFTBALL GAME IS MARCH 25; A NUMBER OF STUDENTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO DUEL SPORT WITH TRACK; NEED SCOREBOARDS AND BLEACHERS; EQUIPMENT IS BEING SUPPLIED BY SKYLINE ALONG WITH UMPIRES, TRAVEL, ETC.; BRUCE EXPLAINED THE UPDATES WOULD BENEFIT THE WHOLE COMMUNITY; COMMISSIONERS WILL DISCUSS THEIR REQUEST.

STAN REIMER, VERNON FILLEY ART MUSEUM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REPORTED THE KANSAS CREATIVE ARTS COUNCIL SPENT TIME HERE AND SAID WHAT A GREAT FACILITY WE HAVE; MUSEUM IS GOOD FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; ANNUAL BUDGET IS \$155,000; 22% IS EARNED INCOME FROM GIFT SHOP AND 75% FROM DONATIONS; GRANT FROM ARTS COMMISSION WILL ALLOW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO BE INVOLVED IN A BRONZE ARTIST PROJECT; THIS IS A TWO YEAR PROJECT; THEY ARE ASKING THE COUNTY TO HELP WITH THE MATCHING GRANT; COMMISSIONERS WILL CONSIDER HIS REQUEST.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO SIGN PAYMENT VOUCHERS FOR FEBRUARY 11. 2019. COMMISSIONER BORHO SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONERS HAD A PHONE CONFERENCE WITH HEATHER MORGAN, PRATT COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ABOUT CURRENT LEGISLATION; HEATHER SUGGESTED AN IN-PERSON MEETING WITH LEGISLATORS IN TOPEKA ABOUT THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, PARKS AND TOURISM HEADQUARTERS; HEARING ON THURSDAY TO RE-INSTATE THE ENTERPRIZE ZONES; RURAL OPPORTUNITY ZONE PROGRAM WILL BE EXTENDED OR BE CHANGED EXTENSIVELY; SB91 WILL FREEZE THE VALUATION OF PROPERTY VALUATIONS FOR TAXPAYERS OVER 65 AND VETERANS; HB2144 TAX LID FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES; HB2173 PRODUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL HEMP; HB2219 KANSAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT AND RECORDING OF MEETINGS FOR MORE TRANSPARENCY.

SHERRY KRUSE, COUNTY CLERK, REPORTED THE COMMITTEE MET TO RECOMMEND AN ENGINEERING FIRM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TWO PARCELS THE COUNTY RECENTLY PURCHASED; FOUR COMPANIES SUBMITTED PROPOSALS AND THE TOP TWO WERE EBH AND KIRKHAM MICHAEL; THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS KIRKHAM MICHAEL, ELLSWORTH,KS; PRATT COUNTY HAS HAD A GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM; THEIR PROPOSAL INCLUDED HOW THE HWY 54 BYPASS MIGHT AFFECT DEVELOPMENT AND THEY HAD ALREADY TALKED WITH KDOT; KIRKHAM MICHAEL HAS VERSATILE PROJECT EXPERIENCE; COMMISSIONER BORHO MADE A MOTION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KIRKHAM MICHAEL ON DEVELOPMENT OF TWO PARCELS OF LAND OWNED BY PRATT COUNTY. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO DONATE \$5000 TO THE VERNON FILLEY ART MUSEUM OUT OF TOURISM FUNDS AND \$10,000 TO CITY OF PRATT RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR UPGRADES TO

