

THE PRATT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET REGULAR SESSION, MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2021 AT 2:00 PM IN THE COMMISSIONER ROOM, 1ST FLOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: RICK N. SHRIVER, THOMAS W. JONES III, 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, THEN PLEASE LET MARK KNOW VIA THE CHAT FUNCTION. MARK WILL THEN INFORM CHAIRMAN SHRIVER, 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, COVID FEDERAL FUND AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT, UPDATED THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF THE FEDERAL COVID CRF FUNDS REPORT DUE AUGUST 31 AND STATED THAT SWINDOLL WAS STILL WAITING ON SOME INFORMATION FROM VARNEY AND ASSOCIATES, THE PRATT COUNTY AUDITOR TO FINISH REVENUE LOSS CALCULATIONS. SHE CLARIFIED THAT THE SMALL CITIES IN PRATT COUNTY (TITLED NEU'S BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT) DID NOT HAVE TO SUBMIT REPORTS UNTIL OCTOBER 31, AS SOME WERE CONFUSED ABOUT WHEN REPORTS WERE DUE. SHE HIGHLIGHTED NEW FEDERAL COVID GRANTS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE TO ARTS ORGANIZATIONS, THE REAP PROGRAM WHICH CAN HELP PAY FOR 25% OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS ENERGY EFFICIENCY INVESTMENTS, THE KANSAS EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TO ASSIST TENANTS AND LANDLORDS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED INCOME LOSS RELATED TO COVID), AND A NEW PROGRAM BEING STARTED BY THE STATE OF KANSAS WHICH IS SIMILAR TO THE RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BUT FOR PEOPLE WHO OWN THEIR OWN HOME. SHE ALSO PRESENTED ON THE CENSUS DATA WHICH WAS RELEASED LAST WEEK AND PRATT COUNTY LOST 499 PEOPLES OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS. SHE MENTIONED HOW THE CENSUS DATA WILL IMPACT THE RE-DISTRICTING PROCESS FOR THE KANSAS CONGRESSIONAL, HOUSE, SENATE, AND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RACES. SHE SHOWED A GRAPHIC RECENTLY RELEASED THAT SHOWED PRATT COUNTY IN A POSITIVE SPOT COMPARED TO MANY OTHER KANSAS COUNTIES RELATED TO CHILDCARE AVAILABILITY. HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH PRATT COUNTY LOOKS GOOD IN COMPARISON THERE ARE STILL CHALLENGES WHICH MUST BE ADDRESSED BECAUSE PRATT HAS ABOUT TEN CHILDREN ON A WAITING LIST FOR EACH OPEN CHILD CARE SLOT. SHE MENTIONED THAT PRATT ENERGY WILL BE HAVING A TOWN HALL ABOUT THEIR CO2 SEQUESTRATION PROJECT AND ITS IMPACT ON THE PRATT COUNTY ECONOMY. SHE ALSO ENCOURAGED COMMISSIONERS TO DISCUSS HOW LAND THEY OWN BUT HAVE NO USE FOR MAY BE ABLE TO BE SOLD TO INTERESTED PARTIES FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS AMENDED HIS MOTION FROM AUGUST 23, 2021 TO PAY PREMIUM PAY ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2021, IT WAS STATED IN THE EARLIER MOTION IT WOULD BE THE FIRST PAY PERIOD IN SEPTEMBER. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

HEATHER STATED THE TOWER BY BELVIDERE MIGHT QUALIFY FOR THE ARP FUNDS. CHAIRMAN SHRIVER STATED THERE ARE OTHER COUNTIES THAT NEED TO PROVIDE FUNDING. SHE STATED TIM BRANSCOM WAS WORKING WITH THE OTHER COUNTIES. SHE PROPOSED THE COUNTY NEEDS TO HAVE PROJECTS IN MIND THAT COULD BE COVERED BY THE ARP FUNDS.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 23, 2021 AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DARCIE VANDERVYVER, HEALTH DIRECTOR, GAVE A COVID UPDATE. FIFTY-TWO ACTIVE CASES AS OF TODAY, THOSE NUMBERS ARE NOT INCLUDING THE HOME COVID TESTS. SCHOOLS ARE NOT TESTING YET. FLU SHOTS ARE IN FOR PRIVATE PAY AND WILL BE CHARGED. WORKING ON HAVING FLU CLINICS. IT IS POSSIBLE THEY MIGHT BE HAVING COVID PODS FOR THE THIRD SHOT BOOSTER. THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE COVID SHOTS ONE DAY AND FLU SHOTS ON ANOTHER DAY. COMMUNITY CENTER IS ALMOST FINISHED, BATHROOMS, PAINTING, WITH A FEW THINGS LEFT TO DO.

ROBERT TORRES, NOXIOUS WEED/ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR, DISCUSSED THE JOB DESCRIPTION AND AD TO FILL THE DIRECTOR POSITION. IT WILL BE PUT ON THE PRATT COUNTY WEB SITE AND PUBLISHED IN THE PRATT TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2021 TAKING APPLICATIONS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 17, 2021. POSITION OPEN UNTIL FILLED. COMMISSIONERS ASKED ROBERT TO SIT IN AND HELP WITH QUESTIONS DURING INTERVIEWS.

TYSON EISENHAUER, COUNTY COUNSELOR, GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE AMERICAN TOWER CONTRACT. HE SHOULD HAVE SOMETHING NEXT WEEK. HE GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE KDOT COST SHARE ON ROAD, COST ASSESSMENT/RIGHT AWAY, HE HAD QUESTIONS FOR KIRKHAM MICHAEL ON THE KDOT COST SHARE ON THE ROAD, COST ASSESSMENT AND RIGHT AWAY, MOST QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED. HE EXPLAINED ANY COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY WITH A VALUE OVER \$50,000 HAS TO BE SOLD THROUGH A BID PROCESS AND ANY BID CAN BE REJECTED. HE STATED THEY COULD GET THE TWO PARCELS OF LAND APPRAISED, SO ANY INTERESTED PARTIES WILL KNOW THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY.

ATTENDING THE KAC CONFERENCE WAS DISCUSSED.

DOUG FREUND, ROAD SUPERVISOR, NOTHING TO REPORT.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT VOUCHERS FOR AUGUST 30, 2021. CHAIRMAN SHRIVER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 3:15 PM. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:15 PM.

RICK N SHRIVER CHAIRMAN

DWIGHT ADAMS MEMBER

LORI VOSS, COUNTY CLERK

THOMAS W JONES III MEMBER

THE PRATT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET FOR THE RNR/BUDGET HEARING MEETING, MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2021 AT 10:00 AM IN THE COMMISSIONER ROOM, 1ST FLOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: RICK N. SHRIVER, THOMAS W. JONES III, 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, STATED 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, THEN PLEASE LET MARK KNOW VIA THE CHAT FUNCTION. MARK WILL THEN INFORM CHAIRMAN SHRIVER, 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 AND TURNED BACK ON WHEN THEY RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION.

THE PURPOSE OF TODAY'S COMBINED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING IS TO ALLOW THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO HEAR OBJECTIONS OF TAXPAYERS RELATING TO THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND THE AMOUNT OF AD VALOREM TAX AND THE PROPOSED USE OF ALL FUNDS.

TYSON EISENHAUER, COUNTY COUNSELOR, STATED WE WILL START WITH THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE. PRATT COUNTY'S REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE FOR BUDGET YEAR 2022 IS 50.527 MILLS. PRATT COUNTY INTENDS TO EXCEED THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND WILL CONSIDER ADOPTING A RESOLUTION TO DO SO UPON CONCLUSION OF PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE. AS NOTED IN THE PUBLISHED NOTICE OF THIS HEARING, PRATT COUNTY ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO EXCEED THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE WITH AN ESTIMATED TAX RATE OF 53.520 MILLS. HOWEVER, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HAVE WORKED DILIGENTLY WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS TO LOWER THE ESTIMATED TAX RATE TO 52.404 MILLS. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE SHALL BE OPENED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

CHAIRMAN SHRIVER OPENED THE MEETING UP TO PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATING TO THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE. IT WAS NOTED THERE WAS NO ONE PRESENT IN PERSON OR ON ZOOM. CHAIRMAN SHRIVER CLOSED THE PUBLIC OPEN COMMENT AT 10:10 M.

TYSON EISENHAUER, COUNTY COUNSELOR READ RESOLUTION NO. 08-30-2021, A RESOLUTION OF PRATT COUNTY, KANSAS, TO EXCEED THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE IN ITS PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR THE TAX YEAR OF 2022. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 08-30-2021. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

TYSON EISENHAUER, STATED WE WILL NOW CONTINUE WITH THE AMOUNT OF AD VALOREM TAX AND PROPOSED USE OF ALL FUNDS FOR THE 2022 BUDGET. UPON CONCLUSION OF PUBLIC COMMENT, THE COMMISSION WILL CONSIDER ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR 2022. AS NOTED IN THE PUBLISHED NOTICE OF THIS HEARING, PRATT COUNTY ORIGINALLY INTENDED BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR EXPENDITURES OF \$20,466,667 AND AD VALOREM TAX OF \$9,588,342. HOWEVER, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HAVE WORKED DILIGENTLY WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS TO LOWER THE BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR EXPENDITURES TO \$20,268,853 AND AD VALOREM TAX OF \$9,388,352. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO THE 2022 BUDGET SHALL BE OPENED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

CHAIRMAN SHRIVER OPENED THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO THE 2022 BUDGET HEARING. IT WAS NOTED THERE WAS NO ONE PRESENT IN PERSON OR ON ZOOM. CHAIRMAN SHRIVER CLOSED PUBLIC COMMENT AT 10:20 AM.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2022 BUDGET AS PRESENTED. COMMISSINER ADAMS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED. 3-0.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:25 AM. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:25 AM.

RICK N SHRIVER CHAIRMAN

DWIGHT ADAMS MEMBER

LORI VOSS, COUNTY CLERK

THOMAS W JONES III MEMBER