

THE PRATT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 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. ALSO, PRESENT, MICHEAL BLACKFORD, PRATT TRIBUNE.

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 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 AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT, REPORTED ON FEDERAL COVID RELATED FUNDS AND POLICY. SHE FOLLOWED UP ON THE BIDEN VACCINATION EXECUTIVE ORDER WHICH WILL IMPACT BUSINESSES WITH OVER 100 EMPLOYEES OR BUSINESSES WITH CONTRACTS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. SHE INDICATED THAT THERE IS STILL A LOT OF UNCERTAINTY AND MANY THINGS ARE NOT CLEAR. HOWEVER, EARLY INDICATIONS ARE THAT PUBLIC ENTITIES IN KANSAS WOULD NOT BE IMPACTED BECAUSE THEY WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED PRIVATE BUSINESSES UNDER THE OSHA ORDERS WHICH IS HOW THE MANDATE WOULD BE ENFORCED. SHE INDICATED THAT THE FEDERAL ARPA FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY ARE NOT TIED TO THE VACCINATION ORDER AND THAT ANY ENTITY IMPACTED BY THE GOVERNMENT CONTRACTOR PROVISION WOULD BE AN ENTITY WHO HAD A NEW CONTRACT NOT AN EXISTING PROVIDER. SHE INDICATED THAT IT IS HIGHLY LIKELY THAT THE EXECUTIVE ORDER/OSHA VACCINE MANDATE WOULD BE LITIGATED AND THE BEST THING BUSINESSES CAN DO IS WAIT PATIENTLY TO SEE HOW THIS ISSUE PLAYS OUT IN THE COURTS. SHE THEN BRIEFED THE BOARD ON THE STATE SPARK COMMITTEE WHO IS SOLICITING MEMBERS TO SERVE ON VARIOUS WORKGROUPS WHO WILL ADVISE THEM ON NEEDS ACROSS THE STATE IN AREAS SUCH AS EDUCATION/WORKFORCE/ECONOMIC REVIALIZATION, BROADBAND, AND ON-GOING STATE NEEDS. THIS GROUP PLANS TO AWARD 500 MILLION PRIOR TO 12/31/21 AND HAS UNTIL 12/31/24 TO HAVE OVER 1 BILLION DOLLARS EMCUMBERED FOR EXPENDITURES WHICH ARE ALLOWABLE UNDER THE ARPA. SHE THEN THANKED THE COMMISSIONERS FOR HELPING SPREAD THE WORD TO LOCAL BUSINESSES ABOUT THE NEW BUSINESS LOANS THAT ARE AVAILABLE AND THE CHANGES IN THE AMOUNTS AND TERMS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE. FINALLY, SHE MENTIONED THAT THE GOVERNOR'S TAX COUNCIL PROPERTY TAX SUB GROUP IS GOING TO BE RECOMMENDING PROPERTY TAX CHANGES WHICH WILL IMPACT A NUMBER OF HOMEOWNERS IF PASSED INTO LAW BY THE LEGISLATURE. THE CHANGES BEING PROPOSED INCLUDE EXPANDING THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAM TO HOUSEHOLDS WITH INCOMES OF UP TO \$75,000 FROM THE CURRENT \$36,000. THE GROUP ALSO SUGGESTED INCREASING THE PROPERTY VALUATION EXEMPTION FROM \$20,000 TO \$40,000 FOR THE STATEWIDE 20 MILL PROPERTY TAX SUPPORT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS. SHE INDICATED THAT SHE WANTED TO KEEP THE COMMISSIONERS UPDATED AS PROPERTY TAX ISSUES WILL IMPACT LOCAL CITIZENS AND BUSINESSES AND THERE WILL BE MANY TAX CUT OPTIONS CONSIDERED BY THE KANSAS LEGISLATURE THIS SESSION.

DARCIE VANDERVYVER, HEALTH DIRECTOR, GAVE THE COVID UPDATE. THERE ARE THIRTY-SIX ACTIVE WITH TEN NEW CASES. THE PFIZER BOOSTER VACCINE HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED FOR THE GENERAL

PUBLIC. FLU CLINICS WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY MORNINGS, THEY PREFER APPOINTMENTS ON OTHER DAYS. THERE ARE ELEVEN FLU CLINICS ALREADY SCHEDULED. THE PART TIME HELP WANTED AD HAS BEEN POSTED.

TIFFANY AILSTOCK, RSVP DIRECTOR, PRESENTED CHECKS FOR SIGNATURES.

DOUG FREUND, ROAD SUPERVISOR, GRADER OUT FOR REPAIR SHOULD BE FINISHED IN A WEEK. NEW DUMP TRUCK HAS BEEN RETURNED FOR WARRANTY WORK. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES AT 2:22 PM. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:37 PM WITH NOTHING TO REPORT. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. CHAIRMAN SHRIVER DISCUSSED A ROAD THAT HAS A WATER HOLE THAT SOMEONE GOT STUCK IN HE WAS SENT A PICTURE PEOPLE DRIVING OUT IN THE FIELD. DOUG WILL GET THE ROAD FILLED IN.

TIM BRANSCOM, EMERGENCY MANAGER/ZONING DIRECTOR, REPORTED ON THE TRAINING THEY ATTENDED IN MULVANE. HE DISCUSSED THE GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE THAT ALLOWS INDIVIDUALS WITH ACCOUNTS PRIORITY ACCESS FROM LANDLINES DURING DISASTERS. PRATT COUNTY HAS AN ACCOUNT WITH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AS THE PRIMARY ACCOUNT HOLDER. THE CITY OF IUKA GOT APPROVED FOR THE STORM SHELTER. THE CITY OF PRESTON IS LOOKING AT USING THE NEW FEDERAL FUNDING FOR A NEW WATER WELL. TIM IS LOOKING AT GRANT FUNDING FOR A NEW WEATHER TOWER. HE WANTS TO CHANGE COMPANIES FOR MASS NOTIFICATION ALERTS. ALERTSENSE IS REPLACING CIVIC READY. HE IS CHECKING INTO EVERBRIDGE THE COMPANY HOMELAND SECURITY REGION IS USING FOR THEIR MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM,

CHAIRMAN SHRIVER DISCUSSED THE WALL ISSUE BETWEEN THIRD AND FOURTH FLOOR ON THE LANDING. COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO CONTACT JA KNIGHT & SON TO REPAIR THE WALL FOR NO MORE THAN \$1200.00. IF ADDITIONAL WORK IS NEEDED, HE WILL NEED TO STOP AND LET US KNOW WHAT ELSE NEEDS TO BE DONE AND THE APPROXIMATE COST.

CHAIRMAN SHRIVER BROUGHT UP THE ISSUE OF COVID/QUARANTINE PAY. THEY DISCUSSED THAT IT WAS A FEDERAL PROGRAM THAT ENDED. THERE IS NO INCENTIVE FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO PARTICIPATE. EMPLOYEES WILL HAVE TO USE PERSONAL SICK PAY FOR COVID AND COVID QUARANTINE TIME OFF.

CHAIRMAN SHRIVER DISCUSSED THE TRANSFER OF 911 FUNDS TO THE CITY OF PRATT. TYSON EISENHAUER REPORTED THE CITY OF PRATT HAS RECEIVED EVERYTHING THEY NEED TO PROCEED. HE EXPLAINED WE WOULD ONLY NEED A BUDGET AMENDMENT IF THE GENERAL FUND WENT OVER BUDGET. THE CITY OF PRATT WILL HAVE TO SET UP THEIR BUDGET. A CHECK WILL BE WRITTEN TO TRANSFER THE MONEY TO THE CITY OF PRATT.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 13, 2021. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE RNR/BUDGET HEARING MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2021. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A PAY RAISE FOR NICHOLAS MOSS, EMS IN THE AMOUNT OF .25 PER HOUR. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

TYSON EISENHAUER, COUNTY COUNSELOR, STATE HE WILL NEED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMERICAN TOWER AGREEMENT. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE AMERICAN TOWER LEASE AGREEMENT. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. DOCUMENTS WERE SIGNED, WITNESSED AND NOTARIZED.

TYSON EISENHAUER, COUNTY COUNSELOR, PRESENTED DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE HOSPITAL REFINANCING BONDS. CHAIRMAN SHRIVER MADE A MOTION TO SIGN THE INVESTMENT DIRECTIVE. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO SIGN THE COSTS OF ISSUANCE DIRECTIVE FOR SPECIFIC AMOUNTS NOT TO EXCEED THE TOTAL OF \$82,228.05. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO SEND A LETTER TO THE TRUSTEE RELATING TO COUNTY REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE COST OF ISSUANCE ACCOUNT FOR FEES OF THE COUNTY COUNSELOR TOTALING \$2,580.00. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. ALL INVOICES RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY CLERK RELATING TO COSTS OF ISSUANCE SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE TRUSTEE FOR PAYMENT OUT OF THE COST OF ISSUANCE ACCOUNT.

COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:22 PM FOR SEVEN MINUTES TO DISCUSS AN ATTORNEY/CLIENT MATTER. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:30 PM WITH NOTHING TO REPORT. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CHAIRMAN SHRIVER GAVE AN UPDATE ON THE PSB. THE TRIM DID SHOW UP AND IS BEING INSTALLED. INTERIOR PANELS ARE IN AND WILL BE INSTALLED. FRAMING WILL START THE MIDDLE OF OCTOBER.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:30 PM FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES TO CONDUCT AN EMS DIRECTOR INTERVIEW. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 3:45 PM WITH NOTHING TO REPORT. COMMISSIONER JONES SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 4:00 PM FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES TO CONDUCT AN EMS DIRECTOR INTERVIEW. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 4:15 PM WITH NOTHING TO REPORT. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT VOUCHERS FOR SEPTEMBER 20, 2021. COMMISSIONER ADAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMISSIONER JONES MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 4:34 PM. COMMISSIONER ADAMS
SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:34 PM.

RICK N SHRIVER CHAIRMAN

DWIGHT ADAMS MEMBER

LORI VOSS, COUNTY CLERK

THOMAS W JONES III MEMBER