

OFFICE OF COUNTY CLERK

March 21, 2011

The Board of Brown County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Chairman Steve Roberts, Warren Ploeger and Keith Olsen. Also present were County Clerk Debbie Parker and Deputy County Clerk Marla Hathhorn. County Attorney Kevin Hill was present for a portion of the meeting.

Steve Roberts opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

SHERIFF

Sheriff John Merchant reported there are currently 13 inmates currently in the county jail. Drug arrests were discussed. Deputy Doug Brammer and Emergency Management Director Jennifer Ploeger discussed making Brown County a storm ready community. Horton is currently the only storm ready city. Plans are currently being made with equipment being reviewed.

The proposed communications tower was discussed. Private property is being viewed as a possible location of the tower as no agreement has been reached with the City of Hiawatha.

MINUTES

Motion by Keith Olsen to approve the March 14, 2011 minutes. Seconded by Warren Ploeger. Motion carried.

CRP GROUND

Options were discussed for the CRP ground at the Brown County Transfer Station. Brown County is going to reapply for the CRP program.

ROAD & BRIDGE TRACTOR

Steve Roberts reported he had reviewed the tractors and he recommended the John Deere 6430 at a cost of \$45,000.

Motion by Steve Roberts to purchase the John Deere for \$45,000. Seconded by Keith Olsen. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #11-11

Motion by Warren Ploeger to approve Resolution #11-11, which announces the time for the hearing and the publication of a County-wide Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for Brown County. Seconded by Steve Roberts. Motion carried.

HORTON CITY BRIDGE

Powhattan Township resident Bill Pollock and Horton residents Kari Stirton Smith discussed the closing of a bridge in the City of Horton. Horton resident Laura Strube expressed her support of the bridge by speaker phone. Horton Mayor Tim Lentz stated that Horton is trying in good faith to provide a good road for better access without the bridge. Lentz stated the bridge is not safe according to BG Consultants and it would cost an estimated \$400,000 to replace the bridge. Major repairs to the current bridge was not considered a viable option. After checking County records it was determined the bridge is a Horton City bridge and Mayor Lentz stated that the city would not be fixing the bridge. Both Smith and Strube complained about Road Foreman Dick Geiger's attitude and remarks during a meeting with Horton citizens and Horton officials. Keith Olsen stated that he had spoken with Geiger about his behavior during the meeting.

TOWN & COUNTRY AMBULANCE

Jim Reigle, owner Town & Country Ambulance, discussed purchasing new digital radios and would like to continue the ambulance lease with Brown County. Reigle would like to purchase 3 radios at an estimated cost of \$4,000 each.

PERSONNEL POLICY ADDITION

Motion by Keith Olsen to approve an addition to the Brown County Personnel Policy: KSA 46-247 will be applied to Brown County employees in regards to employees not being allowed to accept gifts in excess of \$40 value. Seconded by Steve Roberts. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL POLICY PROPOSED AMENDMENT

A proposed Personnel Policy Amendment was discussed which will institute a 30 day probationary period for Brown County employees effective April 1, 2011. The employee would receive no insurance, or holiday/sick day accrual during this 30 day period. The amendment will be made as a Resolution on Monday March 28.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Warren Ploeger for a 5 minute Executive Session on non-elected Personnel with the three Commissioners, County Attorney Kevin Hill, County Clerk Debbie Parker and Deputy County Clerk Marla Hathhorn. Seconded by Steve Roberts. Motion carried. Closed 10:19 a.m. Opened 10:24 a.m. No binding action was taken.

NOXIOUS WEED

Noxious Weed Director George Bruning will attend a Household Hazardous Waste Certification program in Wichita, to receive his recertification in the HHW Program.

Motion by Keith Olsen to adjourn. Seconded by Warren Ploeger. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m. The next meeting will be held Monday 28, 2011.