

## **March 24, 2008**

The Board of Brown County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Chairman Steve Roberts, Warren Ploeger and Glen Leitch. 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**

John Merchant informed the Commissioners that he had received his appointment from the Governor and will commence his duties as Brown County Sheriff effective today. Sheriff John Merchant reported that he will work with the current Sheriff's staff and will not be bringing new people into the department. A possible floor plan for a new jail was viewed and discussed. Merchant will welcome visitors to tour the jail.

### **SHERIFF SWEARING IN**

County Clerk Debbie Parker swore in newly appointed Sheriff John Merchant.

### **MINUTES**

Motion by Glen Leitch to approve the March 17, 2008 minutes. Seconded by Warren Ploeger. Motion carried.

### **ROAD FOREMAN**

Road Foreman Darrin Matthias reported on projects for the coming week.

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Emergency Management Director Jennifer Ploeger reported a hazmat spill of 35 gallons of diesel on March 22, 2008.

Director Ploeger requested a meeting with the new Sheriff regarding shared duties between her office and the Sheriff's Department. A Storm Spotters meeting will be held Tuesday evening March 25, 2008.

### **COURTHOUSE WINDOWS**

County Attorney Kevin Hill discussed the letter from the Kansas State Historical Society in regards to replacement of the Brown County Courthouse windows. The Historical Society recommended that the County revamp the old windows and install interior storm windows in lieu of window replacements. The County is requesting bids as directed by the Historical Society before a final decision will be made.

### **RAINBOW TELEPHONE BID**

Rainbow Communications submitted a bid for local telephone service for the Road Departments and Courthouse.

Motion by Steve Roberts to accept the Rainbow Communications estimated bid of \$1,519.60 per month. Seconded by Warren Ploeger. Motion carried with Glen Leitch abstaining from the vote.

### **NEK AREA AGENCY OF AGING**

Motion by Warren Ploeger to grant the Northeast Kansas Area Agency of Aging an appropriation of \$1,378.30, which is the same appropriation as the two prior years. Seconded by Steve Roberts. Motion carried.

The Commissioners denied the requested appropriation of \$1,516.00.

### **SHERIFF**

Sheriff John Merchant was questioned on who in the Sheriff's Department would be assisting in the Emergency Management duties. Merchant stated that he will get the qualifications needed to assist in the duties.

### **COUNTY ROADS**

The Commissioners discussed the condition of the County Roads after the Pipeliners and the very wet winter weather.

Motion by Steve Roberts to adjourn. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m. The next meeting will be Monday March 31, 2008, to approve month end bills.