

August 7, 2006

The Board of Brown County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Chairman Warren Ploeger, Steve Roberts and Glen Leitch. Also present was Deputy County Clerk Marla Hathhorn. County Attorney Kevin Hill was present for a portion of the meeting. Warren Ploeger opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

PAYROLL

The August 2, 2006 payroll was approved as follows:

General	\$40,816.42
Road & Bridge	12,563.74
Election	1,109.77
Appraiser	2,712.00
Noxious Weed	1,809.39
JCAB	4,961.42
Diversion	1,128.00
JJ Prevention	516.72
ACC	4,076.06
Services for Elderly	3,087.91
Solid Waste	2,017.38
Court Trustee	4,633.35
Employer Ben FICA	4,602.68
Employer Ben KPERS	2,491.28
County Share Insurance	.00
Employee Ben JCAB WC & SU	.00
TOTAL	\$86,526.12

SHERIFF

Sheriff Lamar Shoemaker reported on the Courthouse arson investigation.

SERVICES ELDERLY

Services for the Elderly Director Steve Ward presented a resignation letter from Austin and Rhoda Heise from the Services for the Elderly Advisory Board.

ROAD FOREMEN

Road Foremen Herb Roland and Richard Geiger discussed various road problems in Brown County. Also discussed was the possible replacement of aging road equipment. Geiger would also like to trade-in the roadside mower, which was purchased in 2001.

KWORCC

Carl Eyman, KWORCC, presented the 2005 KWORCC Premium and Loss information report.

AUDITOR CONTRACT

Motion by Warren Ploeger to approve and sign the 2006 Auditor contract with Lowenthal, Singleton, Webb & Wilson, at a cost not to exceed \$11,400.00. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Motion by Steve Roberts to approve the July 31, 2006 minutes. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Motion by Steve Roberts to approve the August 4, 2006 minutes. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Warren Ploeger for a 10-minute Executive Session on non-election personnel with the three Commissioners, County Attorney Kevin Hill and Appraiser Tom Brown present. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried. Closed 9:55 a.m. Opened 10:00 a.m. No binding action was taken.

NEK-SEN & BIOENERGY

County Attorney Kevin Hill, County Appraiser Tom Brown, NEK-SEN Representatives Gary Edelman and Gary Howard; and Bioenergy Representatives Crosby Gernon, Steve Smith, Gene Hillyer and Bob Henry were present to discuss the letter sent by Brown County regarding tax abatements on the proposed energy plants.

Gary Edelman discussed the letter in regards to the sliding scale on the tax abatement, with Edelman stating that he thought a 10-year tax abatement had already been decided upon. Edelman feels that only one plant will be able to stay in business.

County Attorney Kevin Hill stated that Brown County would be responsible for determining the percentage and the number of years of the tax abatement, with the Kansas Board of Tax Appeals denying or granting the abatement.

Commissioner Roberts stated that he felt a 10-year 100% tax abatement was not in the best interest of Brown County.

Commissioner Leitch stated that he would still like to see the two groups merge into one group.

Commissioner Ploeger stated that he would stand by his offer of a 10 year 100% tax abatement.

Kevin Hill reported that the Bioenergy group would be agreeable to the sliding tax abatement scale, while the NEK-SEN group would not agree to the sliding scale. Hill stated that both parties need to be treated equally in regards to the tax abatement.

Steve Smith suggested having a 10-year tax abatement program as follows: a 5-year 100% tax abatement for the first 5 years with the following 5 years at a 20% tax abatement, with the groups paying 80% of the taxes for the last 5 years. With both groups seemingly agreeable to the proposal, Kevin Hill will draft a letter to that effect and will send the letter to both boards for approval.

REGISTER OF DEEDS/COMPUTER DEPT

The Commissioners and Register of Deeds Sandy Carter discussed making the Computer Department and the Register of Deeds two separate positions. Office space for the Computer Department was discussed.

RON KARNs

Berry Tractor Representative Ron Karns discussed road equipment.

Motion by Steve Roberts to adjourn. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:38 pm. The next meeting will be Monday, August 14, 2006.