

## **November 28, 2005**

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 County Clerk Debbie Parker and Deputy County Clerk Marla Hathhorn. Assistant County Attorney Benjamin Cook was present for a portion of the meeting.

Warren Ploeger opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

### **PAYROLL**

The November 23, 2005 payroll was approved as follows:

General	\$41,406.70
Road & Bridge	9,591.39
Election	205.77
Appraiser	2,592.00
Noxious Weed	1,295.75
JCAB	5,152.62
Diversion	360.00
ACC	3,749.26
Services for Elderly	2,451.58
Solid Waste	2,060.62
Court Trustee	4,155.61
Special MVT	864.00
Employee Ben FICA	4,935.34
Employee Ben KPERS	2,356.93
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$81,177.57</b>

### **SHERIFF**

Sheriff Lamar Shoemaker reported a quiet holiday weekend with the exception of a vehicular accident on K-20 involving seven people in a pickup rollover.

### **MINUTES**

Motion by Glen Leitch to approve the November 21, 2005 minutes. Seconded by Steve Roberts. Motion carried.

### **RURAL DEVELOPMENTAL ASSOCIATION**

Motion by Steve Roberts for a 15-minute Executive Session on confidential data with the three Commissioners, County Clerk Debbie Parker and Nancy Gafford of the RDA. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried. Closed 9:20 a.m. Opened 9:35 a.m.

Motion by Steve Roberts to approve the \$15,000.00 microloan application of Happy Heart Christian Daycare, owned by Jannette and Brian Adcock. The business will be located in Hiawatha. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried.

### **ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Assistant County Attorney Benjamin Cook visited with the Commissioners about the meth problem.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Motion by Steve Roberts to approve the October report of the Brown County Health Department. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried.

### **APPRAISER**

Tom Brown, Appraiser, was present to discuss the renewal of the Neighborhood Revitalization program. There are currently two programs in place, a 10-year program and a 5-year program. Applicants receive rebates on their property taxes, the amount depending on which program and the location of the applicant's property. The program causes much additional paperwork in the Treasurer, Appraiser and Clerk's Offices.

County Clerk Debbie Parker will contact Nancy Gafford and request that Gafford contact all participating taxing entities to gauge their interest in renewing the program. Gafford will be asked to report back at the December 12, 2005 meeting.

#### **ELECTION VOTING EQUIPMENT**

Debbie Parker, County Election Officer, reported that Brown County will receive \$47,170.00 from the State of Kansas to provide for the costs of new voting equipment required by the Federal Government's HAVA (Help America Vote Act) Program. Each automark voting machine will cost \$4,850.00 and each precinct scanner will cost \$5,025.00, for a total cost of \$9,875.00 for each voting location. Additional hidden costs include printer ribbons, batteries, training, memory cards and installation. The life expectancy of each machine would be approximately 5 to 10 years, with the County responsible for purchase of any replacement machines and the maintenance contract.

Parker and the Commissioners discussed the option of combining polling locations with everyone in the County voting at either Hiawatha or Horton. Advance voting would also be available to all voters.

Another option would be to raise the tax levy by 2 mills, thereby raising taxes to finance the two or three elections per year. The Commissioners have budget authority over the Election department.

Parker reported that "early voting" had been requested for all counties in the State. Currently only the larger Counties are allowed early voting, in which individual precincts would be allowed to vote days before the election at their current polling locations. Parker is not optimistic about the early voting being allowed in the small counties.

#### **HEALTH INSURANCE**

Rate options for health insurance for Brown County Employees was discussed. Motion by Glen Leitch to accept the 4% increase proposed by Principal Insurance, the County's Health Insurance, with the County paying 100% of the single policy and 67% of the family policy. The 4% increase would include the higher deductible of \$1,000.00, a higher office co-pay of \$20.00, and a higher rate of 2 ½ co-pays for three months prescriptions for mail order medicines. Seconded by Steve Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **2006 BROWN COUNTY EMPLOYEE RAISES**

Motion by Glen Leitch to approve a fifty-cent per hour raise for full-time employees and a twenty-five cent per hour raise for the three Commissioners, part-time employees and seasonal employees. Seconded by Steve Roberts. Motion carried unanimously. The raises will be effective for the first payroll in 2006.

#### **HOWARD WIST**

Howard Wist requested a second road tube be installed for a circle driveway at his residence at 2165 Mulberry Drive in Road District 1. Foreman Herb Roland will be asked to contact Wist and make arrangements for the tube.

#### **OVERTIME PAY ADJUSTMENT**

Motion by Steve Roberts that overtime will only be paid on hours actually worked over 40 hours, effective for the payroll beginning January 1, 2006. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Steve Roberts to adjourn. Seconded by Glen Leitch. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. The next meeting will be held Wednesday November 30, 2005, to approve end of month bills.