

The Gray County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Friday, December 29, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. with Mark Busch, Glenn Oyler, Orville Williams and Ashley Rogers, County Clerk attending.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Abatements #2023-040, Rob Ring for \$320.58; #2023-044, David Schellenberg for \$36.58; #2023-045, Ramon Peregrino for \$85.02; #2023-046, Johan Giesbrecht for \$517.68; #2023-047, Matthew Shaffer for \$493.82; #2023-048, Jacob Peters for \$1,124.80; #2023-049, RMAC Trust for \$484.40; and #2023-050, Aaron Ross for \$525.36; were approved.

Warrants were presented and allowed as follows: Accounts Payable #62562-#62608 and Payroll by direct deposit. Payments by funds were:

Payroll	\$79,660.55
County General	17,640.83
Road & Bridge	144,510.90
Noxious Weed	307.56
County Health	1,010.95
Special Health	275.61
Ambulance	5,131.97
Appraiser	198.54
Payroll Holding	2,270.72
Rural Fire District	157.74

Glenn moved to adopt Resolution No. 2023-15, Transferring any unused funds as per audit from the Road and Bridge Fund to the Special Highway Fund. Orville seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioners also made the decision to transfer any unencumbered funds as per audit from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund up to the 2023 Budget Limit.

Brian McGrew entered the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

At 10:00 a.m. the re-publish of the General Budget hearing was held. The county had to re-publish due to the Dodge City Cooperative tax refund. No members of the public were present. Orville moved to approve the budget and Glenn seconded. The motion carried.

Lyn Wright, Alex Hibbert, Jim Reinert, Brian Wehkamp, Justin Ohman, Jeff Acton, Warren Wright, and Jonathan Goossen entered the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Alex Hibbert spoke from the group. He discussed the city and fire departments are frustrated with rural fire. They have concerns about equipment not being repaired and leadership issues. They presented a proposal to create a board of chiefs and replace the current rural fire coordinator position. The board will meet once or twice a month and all payments and financials will go through the county.

Brian McGrew spoke to the group and then resigned as rural fire coordinator.

Mark then moved to allow the creation of the fire board and Orville seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Once the group concluded Sean met with the commissioners. He discussed fuel and the Avian flu. He also discussed wanting to paint the shop floor. He will get prices. He then talked about procedures for closing roads.

Brian McGrew re-entered the meeting at 11:30 a.m. He discussed the rural fire situation.

Chairman

Attest: _____
County Clerk