**April 2, 2024**

The Graham County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday April 2, 2024. Commissioner Tremblay called the meeting to order with the flag salute. Commissioner’s, Kendra Robinson, Jarrod Knoll, and Melissa Atkins were all present. Commissioner Tremblay made a motion to approve the minutes from March 26, 2024. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

**Graham County Hospital, Melissa Atkins**

Melissa was present. She reported the CFO was making a list of what the Health Care Sales Tax has all paid for to the penny. Melissa said she would bring the Commissioner’s the list to review and said she thought it would be a good thing to publish on the Facebook page. Melissa said she brought a request for payment for the “doc on wall” and presented Commissioner’s with invoices to support request. She said a couple years ago, they got a doc on wall, and what that is, it allows the doctors and nursing staff to get help and provide great accuracy and results. Melissa said this request was for 7 months, September 2023 – March 2024 for a total of $32,192.16 to be taken out of Health Care Sales Tax like previously agreed to. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the payment of $32,192.16 out of Health Care Sales Tax. Commissioner Tremblay seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. Melissa said other then that, the hospital has been very busy, they currently have 6 patients which is a lot for this time of year. Melissa said the weeks prior, they were slow with only 1-2 patients. Melissa said they had their financial statement audit last week so they will be working on their cost reports.

**Community Development, Dan Steffen**

Dan arrived at this time. He asked Commissioner’s if they had any questions on the weekly report, he provided them. Commissioner’s both said no. Dan asked if they had any questions on the Graham County Community Development budget, he provided the Commissioner’s. Commissioner’s said no. Dan said he still had not received the check from Community Foundation or the City of Bogue and would be reaching out to them to follow up. Dan said he had a bunch of committee meetings coming up this week and he was still working on obtaining a good map for the HAT program. Dan said the HAT was where they would drive by houses and rate them based on appearance from excellent shape to demolition. Dan said this week he had a meeting with a couple people on referrals for concrete on the pocket park project. Dan said the Hill City High School is helping, Todd Ashbaugh’s class will be building frame for kiosk (sign holder). Dan said all “pitch your porch” applications are out and due back by 6/1/2024. Dan said he had helped the youth that participated in the YEC program prepare for state. Dan said Corina will be presenting today at 11:00 a.m. information on the CBDG grant. Dan said he put out another E-Community application for someone who already had an existing building but looking at expanding and potentially hiring employees. Dan said the max for this grant used to be $45,000, but they have increased that to $50,000. Dan went on to say that becoming an E-Community has been great for YEC and some of the other programs as its an opportunity for improvement and does not cost us anything. Dan said he met with Chuck P in Hays about the potential for a “Krispy Chicken” franchise. Dan said he put it in his gas station, and it is doing really well. He said someone Chuck got ahold of the books from Sub Station and seen how well the Krispy Chicken did when sub station had it and thinks it would go over well.

**Graham County Landfill, Chris Mikkelson**

Chris Mikkelson arrived at this time. Chris presented the Commissioners with a packet of information and a quote on a Morton building for the recycling center out at the landfill. Commissioner Nelson asked if he had heard if KDHE had anything. Chris said he would not need and special licensing of any sort to do this per KDHE. Commissioner Nelson said he wondered about grants through KDHE. Chris said the only one he knew about from KDHE was the one for $25,000. Chris said he looked at the quote and thought if they took off the 30’ on the skirt and lower the concrete an inch, that would lower the estimated cost. Commissioner Tremblay said he still thinks they should put cardboard in a hole and burn it. Chris said the building did come with a 5-year warranty that covered wind damage and doors being ripped off. Chris went on to say he did go with the cheapest on insulation he could. Commissioner Tremblay said a 50’ x 80’ for $318,000 is to much. Chris said that Van Koon, Morton representative did say he would come present this to Commissioners and answer any questions they had. Commissioner Tremblay asked if it was legal to burn the boxes with incinerator. Chris said the problem is he will just take on more cardboard and will have to go to Garden City more then once a week, and this building is a Morton building, they are good buildings. Chris went on to say, he thinks Cole takes at least 2000 lbs. of cardboard a week to the recycling center now. Dan Steffen said it is definitely a need. Chris said he wasn’t excited about bringing the bid to the Commissioners when he saw the price, but the only thing he can think of to help take down cost was to cut the footage of skirt and an inch of concrete. Commissioner Tremblay said Corina will be here at 11:00 a.m., let’s see what she says. Chris asked Commissioners if they wanted Van Koon to come in and do a breakdown. Commissioner Tremblay said there are other building manufacturers our there like QSI. Chris said in the future it could become an actual recycling center where they do plastic and glass as well once it’s developed which would be good for the community. Commissioner Nelson asked Wayne Pfeifer if they could do 50’ x 80’ concrete work. Wayne said they probably could, would just have to find time to do it. Commissioner Nelson said he priced a building through Pinnacle for $45,000. Chris said the engineer with Penco said they could get away with doing 5” concrete. Wayne asked what happens to recyclables once the city shuts theirs down on 4/17/2024, do they go to Garden City. Chris said yes. Commissioner Nelson asked Wayne if he seriously thought they could do the concrete work. Wayne said they could do it, they would just need to find the time to do it. Commissioner Nelson said maybe they need Van to come in next Tuesday to give an itemized breakdown or call him on the phone. Commissioner Tremblay said maybe they could find a cost share or KDHE funding or Federal funding or something.

**Graham County Road & Bridge, Wayne Pfeifer**

Wayne reported he doesn’t have much. Wayne said he has guys blading. Wayne asked Commissioners if Road & Bridge was supposed to be buying a new mower this year since they didn’t get one last year. Commissioner Tremblay said he thought that was part of the Carrico bid. Wayne said it was. Wayne said he would tell the others they’d have to knock off $3,000 on their bid if they wanted to compete. Commissioners told Wayne he didn’t need to tell the other two anything and just reach out to Carrico to get the ball rolling.

**NW Kansas Planning & Development Commission, Corina Cox & Cannan Glover**

Corina Cox & Cannan Glover arrived at this time. Corina said in regards to the CVR, as we know, they submitted a plan, they have environmental review done and prepared letter for bid. Corina said they received 3 back yesterday and now they are waiting on doing bid package. Corina presented Commissioners with a packet and said based on the three bids, she would recommend to go with the lowest bid which was Paradigm. Commissioner Tremblay asked what happens if there is asbestos found. Corina said they can either do project specific inspections or whole building inspections and if it’s found it would ultimately have to be removed before moving forward. Corina asked Commissioners for a motion to accept the lowest bid for asbestos inspection. Commissioner Tremblay made a motion to accept bid from Paradigm for $1,490.00. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. Corina said she would get with Paradigm and get them the contact information for Averages Joes so they could get the asbestos inspection scheduled. Corina said the only other one they have is for Cameron’s Corner to replace the 2 gas pumps on the east side. She said they have the bid packet ready they are just waiting to hear back from the state. Dan Steffen asked if they would need an environmental review. Cannan said yes, it is already completed. Corina said if they don’t get anymore applications, they will reach back out to the businesses that originally applied before opening it up to everyone again. Commissioner Tremblay asked Corina if she knew anymore on the problem, they had with the recycling center. Corina said KDHE had a grant with a max of $25,000 but you could apply for more. Corina said she had not seen a cost proposal on the building yet. Wayne provides Corina with his copy of the information from Morton. Dan said since it was infrastructure, he wondered if it wouldn’t fit under the BIL program. Corina said the County could potentially apply for a grant from Dane G Hansen Foundation but she would need to know how much they were requesting and where the matching source would come from. Commissioners agreed to have her apply for it requesting $100,000. Corina said they do charge $250 to complete the application, Commissioners agreed to that. Corina asked Clerk Kendra to obtain a formal letter from the city explaining what was happening with the recycling center and there last day of operation. Corina said she would be in touch when she knows more.

**New Business**

Graham County Clerk, Kendra Robinson presented Commissioners with 1 Freedom Claims voucher for weekly health insurance claims paid in the amount of $719.42 for review and signatures. Kendra presented Commissioners with the Abstract of minutes for 3/12/2024 to be signed by Chairman Tremblay. Commissioner ensured Commissioners received and reviewed information from Register of Deeds. Kendra presented Commissioners with a Nex-Tech TaaS Renewal Agreement for 5 years at $5,875.00 a month. Kendra presented along with renewal a breakdown of cost increases of the equipment provided by Nex-tech. Commissioner Tremblay made a motion to approve the Nex-Tech Taas Renewal Agreement. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

As there was no further information to be discussed, Commissioner Tremblay made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Kendra Robinson, County Clerk Troy Tremblay, Chairman