

Kay County E911 Authority
Monday, May 7, 2018
Special Meeting
Newkirk, OK

The Kay County E911 Authority had a special session scheduled at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 7, 2018, in the Commissioners Court of the Kay County Courthouse in Newkirk, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting was posted for public information on May 2, 2018, at the Courthouse front door, Commissioners Court, and basement handicapped entrance of the Kay County Courthouse in Newkirk, Oklahoma.

Chairman Jason Shanks called for the roll call. Those present were as follows: Paul Skidmore, County Commissioner; Jack Godberson; County Commissioner; Dwayne Woods, Blackwell Municipal Official; Cory Hanebrink, Blackwell Designee; Steve Long, Kaw City Municipal Official; Jane Thomas, Newkirk Designee; Butch Herring, Ponca City Designee; Justin Kienzle; Susan Keen, Kay County Assessor; Amber Boyer, Kay County Deputy Assessor; John Wilson, Braman; Claude Williams, Taxpayers for Transparency; Tammy Reese, Secretary/Kay County Clerk. Absent: Tammy Wingo, Kaw City Designee; Dennis Bradley, Newkirk Municipal Official; Lt. Regeneia Vanarsdale, Ponca City Municipal Official; Kirk Henderson, Tonkawa Municipal Official and John Whitham, Designee, Tonkawa

Motion was made by Jason Shanks and seconded by Jack Godberson approving special meeting minutes of February 5, 2018. Motion carried: Shanks, aye; Skidmore, aye; Godberson, aye; Woods, aye; Long, aye; Thomas, aye; Herring, aye.

PSAP Collection Report from each City Clerk listing revenues/expenditures: Butch Herring presented the Ponca City/Newkirk report from July 2017 to current. He told \$94,352.78 was collected from Emergency 911 on IP based phone collections, \$10,011.10 debits leaving an ending balance of \$84,341.68. Herring noted E911 cell phone current fiscal year total is \$212,862.45 and the Expenditure Report balance-\$153,207.85. Jane Thomas asked if Newkirk collections were included in those reports and if so what portion was Newkirk. Mr. Herring said the figures did include Newkirk but it did not have the breakdown. Ms. Thomas told Newkirk needed to replace communication and asked how to do this. Herring suggested she draft a letter with request and submit it to the City Manager of Ponca City.

Motion was made by Skidmore and seconded by Godberson approving/acknowledging PSAP Collection Report from the City of Ponca City. Motion carried: Shanks, aye; Skidmore, aye; Godberson, aye; Woods, aye; Long, aye; Thomas, aye; Herring, aye.

Community Updates and Ambulance Districting Act: Cory Hanebrink Blackwell Designee said the City of Blackwell is considering pulling back ambulance services just to the city limits due to lack of funding. Tonkawa Fire Chief Justin Kienzle said Tonkawa may be considering doing the same, however, he told Tonkawa does receive some money from Noble County; he said Garber EMS is closing down their ambulance service and Tonkawa Ambulance is servicing the town of Billings for Garber EMS upon closure. Jane Thomas said there is law in place for county funding if the county votes for this. Mr. Hanebrink told they cover the largest district with just two ambulances; he talked about lack of funds, personnel issues and the areas they service.

Commissioner Skidmore asked what can be done and asked if we should redistrict. Hanebrink said the districts are already set and we do not need to redistrict. Hanebrink said we need to go after that bill stating the rural citizens pay for the ambulance services just like the city citizens pay. Commissioner Shanks said city people pay for these services through their utility bills. Many different scenarios were discussed on how to go about charging rural citizens for ambulance services. Currently, rural citizens receive these services but do not pay. Commissioner Godberson asked if Kay Electric would be willing to add ambulance service fees to their billing statements. It was reported that they would not. Ms. Thomas explained why the cities were able to add the fee to their billing statements. Thomas told if the state law passed it could go on citizen's property taxes and could be raised up to three mills; it was noted it would take a vote of the people. Herring said Ponca City's ambulance service was funded through the general fund.

Herring said if you look at the millage on property and the amount of land per person versus the surcharge on electric bills it would seem it would not be accurate to raise mills on large land owners. It is definitely a dilemma. He talked about the response area for Ponca City and noted the funding stream is much different than the rural cities. Steve Long gave an out-of-state ambulance run scenario and talked about the difficulties of the billing issues.

Herring brought up HB 1888 making the counties responsible for providing ambulance service within their jurisdiction. Herring said Kay County is very fortunate and has been able to provide this service to our citizens. Herring said from looking at Health Department records Kay County has one of the best response times in our entire state. He stated cash flow is a crucial problem for the smaller communities and stressed the need to keep them in business. Herring explained the requirements prior to HB 1888 and stated HB 1888 put the responsibility in the hands of the county commissioners. Herring said Kay County as a community has kept those gaps filled for a long time but now the pressure is on and we need to move forward. He said we don't want to get pulled back to just the city limits because there is a wide area to cover outside the city limits. Discussion was made regarding the areas that were covered outside of city limits and areas that have been picked up outside Kay County.

It was discussed how Noble County handled this problem. Herring explained about the property tax assessment on the three mill maximum and talked about the 522 Districting established by state law. He went on to say there are several 522 Districts set up in the state and said the Health Department could be instrumental in setting this up. Herring said it basically parallels the school districts. He said if, as a county, we chose to put forth a 522 District it could be made to fit very well.

Commissioner Godberson asked if a surcharge on electric was a better choice than millage on land owners. Many opinions were expressed and other counties similarities were discussed. It was mentioned that Kay County is the only county in the state that does not operate privately and it was noted that was good.

Herring talked about Noble County and how they started pursuing funding. He mentioned failures at the ballot box before finally passing a funding solution. Commissioner Shanks said before any vote would pass the citizens of Ponca City would need to be on board and he stated he didn't think a sales tax for this service would pass. He stated his reasoning was because the majority of the voters are citizens in Ponca City and they are already receiving this service. Herring said the last thing we as public servants want to do is limit our ability to respond. Steve Long, Kaw City, noted they do not have an ambulance service. Herring said Ponca City has a separate budget for fire than for ambulance whereas the smaller cities have to overlap their funds and their people are cross-trained.

Much more discussion was made regarding the lack of funding issue and the related problems this causes. Discussion was also made on how to solve this problem. It was the consensus of all in attendance to gather help information from other counties, etc. and bring back suggestions/plans to the next meeting. No action was taken.

Motion was made by Herring and seconded by Shanks removing Lt. Regeneia Vanarsdale Municipal Official-Ponca City; Jerry Johnston Braman Designee and Dennis Bradley Municipal Official-Newkirk; adding Adam Longcrier Fire Chief Municipal Official-Newkirk and Sandra Barrows City Clerk Municipal Official-Braman. Motion carried: Shanks, aye; Skidmore, aye; Godberson, aye; Woods, aye; Long, aye; Thomas, aye; Herring, aye.

Motion was made by Jason Shanks and seconded by Paul Skidmore to adjourn at 11:20 a.m. Motion carried: Shanks, aye; Skidmore, aye; Godberson, aye; Woods, aye; Long, aye; Thomas, aye; Herring, aye.

Approved this 6th day of August, 2018.

Kay County E911 Authority
County of Kay, State of Oklahoma

Jason Shanks, Kay County Commissioner/Chairman,
Kay County E911 Authority

Paul Skidmore, Kay County Commissioner
Jack Godberson, Kay County Commissioner
Dwayne Woods, City of Blackwell Municipal Official; Cory Hanebrink Designee
Sandra Barrows, Town of Braman Municipal Official
Steve Long, Town of Kaw City; Tammy Wingo, Designee
Adam Longcrier, City of Newkirk Municipal Official; Jane L. Thomas, Designee
Butch Herring, City of Ponca City Designee
Kirk Henderson, City of Tonkawa; John Whitham, Designee

Attest:

Tammy Reese, County Clerk
County of Kay, State of Oklahoma
Secretary, Kay County E911 Authority
(Seal)
