

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
AUGUST 11, 2025

Agenda: 8:30 – Bills
 8:45 – Lynne Fink – Drainage issues
 9:00 –
 9:15 –
 9:30 – Tony Martin – Public Works
 10:00 –
 10:30 –
 11:00 –

The Board of Stevens County Commissioners met in a regular session. County Attorney Paul Kitzke, and County Clerk Amy Jo Tharp were also present. Tron called the meeting to order. Shannon moved to approve minutes from the last meeting. Joe seconded. Motion carried. Joe moved to approve the county vouchers. Shannon seconded. Motion carried. The County Clerk was instructed to draw warrants on the Treasurer chargeable to the various funds of the county for the following amounts:

General	\$	67,899.97
Judicial District	\$	3,694.80
Road & Bridge	\$	61,761.33
Airport	\$	2,332.94
Co Building	\$	279.90
911 Wireless	\$	-
Noxious Weed	\$	6,081.25
EMS	\$	10,211.29
Fire	\$	2,474.50
Community Health	\$	20,408.11
Special Law Enforcement	\$	1,714.00
Landfill Closure	\$	5,420.44
Reg of Deeds Tech	\$	6,395.00
Sheriff	\$	43,940.70
<hr/> TOTAL:	\$	232,614.23

Amy told the commissioners there are more invoices they received which are not on the voucher list. One of those invoices is from Tate and Kitzke for special prosecution. Paul stated the invoice was for work on an appeal case and mentioned the state has a program which handles the appeals for counties. Paul said he did not consider signing up for the state plan as Stevens County rarely has appeals. If the county chooses to use the State for appeals, they need to sign up by January 1st of each year. The commissioners agreed with Paul.

Lynne Fink came in and discussed her concern about the major drain issues on her property in Moscow. She mentioned she spoke with Tony and a state highway representative but had not heard back from the state. Part of the culverts are State property, and she is asking the commissioners to be an advocate for her and other concerned residents. The commissioners said they will do what they can and hopefully resolve the issue.

Rodney Kelling stopped in and asked permission to purchase a subscription for a paging system that would alert the volunteer Fire and EMT's on their phone in a manner of text or call. Rodney mentioned the cost is \$1,600.00 per year but has a thirty (30) to sixty (60) day free trial. The commissioners told Rodney that if he has the funds in his budget he can move forward with the paging system.

Joe asked Paul if he had received anything regarding a possible settlement with the Northwest Cotton Growers (NWCG). Paul has not heard back from NWCG but will reach back out to them.

Rex Evans came in and reported after the recent rains he did not notice any issues in the courthouse with leaks or water coming in. Rex is still waiting for advice from D.V. Douglas on how the flat roof should be repaired. Rex has contacted Pat Hall about the toilet leaks in the courthouse, he has replaced filters, and the ice machine has been serviced. Rex is waiting for the materials he needs to strip and wax the floors in the courthouse.

Commissioners discussed making changes to the rates for Memorial Hall rentals.

Amy spoke with Gwen Rodriguez about a part-time custodial position at the courthouse and Gwen stated she was interested. The commissioners discussed the pay and decided \$15.00 per hour.

Amy passed out recent information she received for the NFIP (National Flood Insurance Plan) and told the commissioners the State is no longer handling this due to cuts, but FEMA is now the contact. The commissioners commented they will wait on doing anything to see if the State brings it back.

Amy presented start pay wages for county positions for the commissioners to look over and approve. The commissioners reviewed the start pay wages for the county and discussed implementing a sixty (60) day probationary period that would need to be met by new employees before merit raises are granted. Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

KCAMP will be paying \$74,312.22 for the damage by high winds done to the transfer station at the landfill.

Tony Martin and Stacey Wood were next on the agenda. Tony, Amy, and Stacey discussed IT issues at the road and bridge department and the commissioners agreed to put road and bridge under Leading Edge IT with the rest of the county. Joe addressed the drainage issue that Lynne Fink discussed earlier. Tony will reach out to the state to see if he can get some answers about the culverts and drainage issues as well as cleaning out the culverts on the county road.

The commissioners told Tony they would like to discuss and have a possible replacement for Tony's position by the first of the year. Tony said he is still deciding his retirement date and will know something by February. Tony did state the county should probably find someone to take over planning and zoning instead of it being part of the public works department.

Joe had Jayme Rich on the phone and asked about the interest in the oil and gas depletion fund. Jayme informed the commissioners the interest goes into the general fund. Jayme also informed the commissioners that the county has CDs at Dream First Bank, Money Market, and Citizens State Bank. Joe asked Jayme to investigate long term CD's and see if that would be more beneficial.

Amy requested an executive session of non-elected personnel regarding job duties. Joe made a motion to go into executive session over non-elected personnel regarding job duties for ten (10) minutes. Shannon seconded. Executive session began at 10:46 AM and concluded at 10:56 AM. No action taken.

Attest: Amy Jo Tharp, County Clerk

Tron Stegman, Chairman