



## MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

The monthly financial report was submitted.

## EXAMINATION OF TOWNSHIP ANNUAL REPORTS

County Clerk Maskus has received the nine 2018 Annual Township Reports that require the Commission to review. Maskus announced that the starting and ending balances are verified. Commissioners reviewed the reports. As required by Kansas Statute Maskus will sign the 2018 Township Annual Reports.

## EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS FOR 2018

Human Resource Generalist Janet Schmidt read the employee names that received service awards for 2018. County Administrator Phillip Smith-Hanes handed out the awards with the Commissioners shaking hands to the honored employees.

County awards were:	5 years	\$20	ball cap or scarf with County logo
	10 years	\$25	blanket throw with County logo
	15 years	\$30	polo with County logo
	20 years	\$35	one additional paid day off
	25 years	\$40	fleece jacket with County logo and one additional paid day off
	40 years	\$50	plaque and one additional paid day off

The following employees were recognized for their years of service to Ellis County:

### Rural Fire Department:

Steve Seefeld	35 years
Chris Brungardt	25 years
Terry Riedel	20 years
Edmund Meis	15 years
Will Montgomery	15 years
Russtin Weese	15 years
Todd Nieman	5 years

### County Departments

5 years of service:

Bobbi Dreiling  
Ruth Mermis  
Eric VonLintel  
Eleanor Durr  
Kimberly Gabel  
Andrew Powers  
Lori Balzer  
Blaine Dryden

10 years of service:

Becky Schumacher  
Carla Meier  
Bill Ring

15 years of service:

Austin Thalheim  
Joshua Gibson  
Sheresa Brull  
Michelle Baalman  
Brenda Basgall

20 years of service:

Wanda Gibson

Tim Deines  
25 years of service:  
Creta Leiker  
Kerry McCue  
Jaime Summer  
Micki Dreiling  
40 years of service:  
Becky Herzog

Kansas Association of County Awards:

40 years of service:  
Becky Herzog  
24 years of service:  
Roberta Oborny  
16 years of service:  
Roy Aschenbrenner  
Wilmer Dinkel  
Judy Werth  
8 years of service:  
Laura Leiker  
John Walz  
Ken Collins  
Brian Schmidt  
Dean Haselhorst

**ELLIS COUNTY ATTORNEY BUDGET AUTHORITY INCREASE – COUNTY ATTORNEY TOM DREES**

Ellis County Attorney Tom Drees addressed the Commission with concerns to his current budget and asked for a budget increase of \$35,423 to allow re-hiring a full-time assistant county attorney position after the loss of the previous Assistant County Attorney Christopher Lyon. Attorney Lyon had been successful being elected as the Trego County Attorney and then recently has taken on some other jobs and has resigned his position in the County Attorney's Office on November 1, 2018. Attorney Drees is asking to restore this to a full-time assistant county attorney position.

His office staff of Attorney Brenda Basgall, Attorney Charlene Brubaker and Attorney David Aschwege commented in support to filling the full-time attorney position to help with the workload.

Also sharing support in hiring for this position was Undersheriff Scott Braun, Sheriff Ed Harbin, Northwest Community Corrections Director John Trembley and Hays Chief of Police Don Scheibler. They all referenced the importance for the County Attorney Prosecutors to handle the court cases in a timely manner.

Several reports were shared with Commissioners showing comparable data with other Kansas County Attorney Offices in staff, salaries, case load, and convictions.

Drees stated that five full-time prosecutors in his office would help the workload.

County Administrator Smith-Hanes discussed possible Contingency Funding available.

Commissioners agreed to table this request until the March 4, 2019 meeting.

**NEW MOWING TRACTOR – PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR BILL RING**



the Center of Life Experience, capital equipment reserve fund or assist with funding for a full-time assistant County Attorney.

Motion: Roths Second: Schlyer

Adopt a revised budget for Commission, Department 04, as presented and direct the County Administrator to make appropriate changes.

Disposition: Motion carried by a voice vote of three to zero.

Commission Budget changes:

Codes	Expense detail	Changes	2018 Budget update
001-04-1120	elected officials	-\$3,545	\$56,376
001-04-1191	FICA	-\$265	\$4,319
001-04-1192	Group Health Insurance	-\$12,000	\$42,911
001-04-1193	Workman's Compensation	+72	\$72
001-04-1195	KPERS W/H	-\$2,200	\$3,727
001-04-1251	Private car mileage	+\$1,310	\$1,740
001-04-1258	Subsistence	+\$700	\$2,000
001-04-1279	Other professional fees	+\$2,641	\$2,641
001-04-1289	Registration fees	+\$1,170	\$1,555
001-04-1291	Dues & membership	+\$814	\$54,814
001-04-1302	Food	+\$125	\$125
001-04-1551	County appropriation	+\$1,000	\$1,000
001-04-1735	Transfer to equipment replace	+\$9,385	\$9,385

#### **ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO PERSONNEL POLICY – COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR PHILLIP SMITH-HANES**

County Administrator Smith-Hanes stated that on January 1, 2019 the Personnel Policy had gone into effect. At the January 21, 2019 meeting it was decided to put the Personnel Policy back on the agenda tonight to see if any changes were needed. With no comments given the Personnel Policy will stay effective with no changes noted.

#### **FINANCIAL FORECAST – COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR PHILLIP SMITH-HANES**

County Administrator Smith-Hanes presented consideration of the 2020 Budget with a forecast of the County's General Fund with unaudited 2018 financial reviews, 2019 Budget, and five-year projections for the future. He stated that changes can alter the forecast at any time. The 2018 ending balances were higher than forecasted one year ago, which was good news. He hoped that this may assist Commissioners as they work the 2020 Budget process.

Commissioners discussed a possible sales tax considering the timing of an election. A November Election approval would implement the tax in April. Budget solutions for 2020 may be a three-way split with the need of additional revenue, fewer dollars spent and a draw down on reserves.

Administrator Smith-Hanes stated that health insurance coverage is projected at a 9% increase.

Roths stated that he liked a three-year plan to get things turned around with the current financial situation. He does not like the idea of an increase in sales tax which can have a long-term effect on businesses. At some point we must take care of our County bridges.

Schlyer commented that we may have to see taxes increase but we will have to find ways as exploring the sales tax issue to help the financial situation.

**COUNTY COUNSELOR REPORTS – COUNTY COUNSELOR BILL JETER**

County Counselor Bill Jeter had no report.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR PHILLIP SMITH-HANES**

County Administrator Smith-Hanes stated that Victoria Unified School District 432 is working on a Work Force Grant through the Dane G. Hansen Foundation for an active learning center through their school library.

Commissioners were supportive and signed a letter of support on this grant.

**COUNTY COMMISSION REPORTS**

Schlyer reported that he had attended the new election equipment demonstration last week and was impressed with the voting equipment.

Roths had visited some of the rural fire stations and is working on spending time in other County offices. He will be attending the upcoming Republican State Convention being held in Topeka, Kansas. He did attend the new election equipment demonstration that has a paper trail and was impressed by the presentation. He has spent time in the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department and sees benefits that all EMS Professionals are Paramedics in the County and they provide a higher level of healthcare to the patients.

Chair Haselhorst reported that he has spent time visiting with Dan Hess on the road issues. The recent weather caused fifteen cars to slide into the ditch on these roads.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No Executive Session was called for.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Chair Haselhorst stated that the meeting will be adjourn at 7:02 p.m.

The next Commission Meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m., Monday, February 18, 2019, Ellis County Administrative Center, Commission Chambers, 718 Main Street, Hays, Kansas.

BOARD OF ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

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DEAN F. HASELHORST, CHAIR

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ROBERT "BUTCH" SCHLYER, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

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DONNA J. MASKUS, COUNTY CLERK

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DUSTIN G. ROTHS, COMMISSIONER