The regular meeting of the Board of Texas County Commissioners was called to order by Jack Strain, Chairman. Ted Keeling, Richard Bryan members and Wendy Johnson, County Clerk were present. April Coble with Guymon Daily Herald and Harold Tyson, Audrey Gilmore, Kim Sherer, Robert Carter, Emmanuel Barias, MD., Jerry Lynn Barby, Lucinda Ray, Raymond Holbert, Dondie Rogers, David Rasmussen, James M. Boring were also present.

The agenda was filed on March 4, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in compliance with the Open Meeting Act.

Strain verified we were in compliance with the Open Meeting Act with all board members present.

Tyson gave update on Emergency Management.

Motion by Keeling, second by Bryan to approve blanket purchase orders for usage.

DISTRICT #2: 164036, Yellowhouse Machinery Co., \$5,000.00.

DISTRICT #3: 164029, Texhoma Supply, \$2,000.00; 164030, NAPA, \$1,000.00; 164031, Bearing & Allied Supply Co., \$600.00; 164032, Seward County Waste Hauling MGT, \$3,000.00; 164033, Gene Sewells Welding, \$300.00; 164035, Specialty Clinics of St. Anne, \$750.00; 164027, Unifirst Corporation, \$1,500.00.

JUVENILE NUTRITION: 164051, Mills Ideal Foods, \$500.00; 164054, Walmart, \$1,500.00

JUVENILE DETENTION: 164053, Walmart, \$500.00.

LEPC: 164047, Southern Office Supply, \$400.00.

REVALUATION: 164058, Mathis Oil Co., \$200.00.

Aye: Keeling, Bryan, Strain. Nay: none.

Motion by Bryan, second by Keeling to approve the following claims and purchase orders for payment.

GENERAL: 163902, 1451, \$25.00, Adams Community Association, use of community building; 163437, 1452, \$182.57, Ameripride Linen & Apparel Services, supplies; 163929, 1453, \$100.00, charity; 163754, 1454, \$178.00, Comfort Inn, lodging; 163991, 1455, \$250.00, County Clerks & Deputies Assn., membership dues; 163814, 1456, \$1,082.58, Fronk Oil Company Inc, unleaded fuel; 162471, 1457, \$160.49, Guymon Tire & Auto, repairs & supplies; 163438, 1458, \$986.20, The Hooker Advance, publication; 163987, 1459, \$11.88, Arleen James, travel; 163424, 1460, \$245.89, L&J Auto Parts Inc., supplies; 163901, 1461, \$5,193.00, Landmark GSI, maintenance contract; 163530, 1462, \$68.30, Mathis Oil Co., fuel; 163646, 1463, \$50.00, Mathis Oil Co., services & repairs; 163615, 1464, \$23.56, Mathis Oil Co., fuel; 163439, 1465, \$448.73, Mayfield Paper Company, supplies; 163896, 1466, \$41.10, Mayfield Paper Company, supplies; 163153, 1467, \$134.85, Mayfield Paper Company, supplies; 164009, 1468, \$78.68, Karen McGrew, per diem & meals; 163807, 1469, \$162.25, Midwest Printing Company, supplies & shipping; 164001, 1470, \$78.68, Lacey Ortiz, per diem; 162384, 1471, \$1,178.12, Otis Elevator Company, maintenance contract; 162400, 1472, \$225.00, PTCI, phone system maintenance;

163974, 1473, \$145.67, PTCI, phone service; 163761, 1474, \$3,948.00, Raw Enterprises, supplies; 163925, 1475, \$316.00, S&H Recycling LLC, shredding of outdated records; 163733, 1476, \$191.00, Soft Mart, software license; 160299, 1477, \$16.98, Sound Service/Radio Shack Dealer, supplies; 163981, 1478, \$99.99, Sound Service/Radio Shack Dealer, router; 163903, 1479, \$28.99, Southern Office Supply Inc., light bulb; 163750, 1480, \$18.58, SPC Office Products, paper; 163900, 1481, \$38.57, SPC Office Products, supplies; 163435, 1482, \$101.72, SPC Office Products, supplies; 163212, 1483, \$112.89, SPC Office Products, supplies; 163436, 1484, \$10.36, SPC Office Products, recording supplies; 163924, 1485, \$4,262.56, State Of Oklahoma, 2013-2015 audit; 163535, 1486, \$1,185.14, Superior Plumbing & Construction, repairs; 163152, 1487, \$850.50, Tisdal & Ohara PLLC, legal service; 163561, 1488, \$1,194.00, TM Consulting Inc., monthly maintenance; 163564, 1489, \$280.00, TM Consulting Inc., hardware leasing fee; 163930, 1490, \$100.00, Tri-County Electric Coop Inc., charity; 162808, 1491, \$45.00, Water Barrel, monthly rent & water; 163441, 1492, \$81.77, Wirtz Lumber & Supply Inc., supplies.

DISTRICT #1: 163643, 1588, \$92.82, Airgas MidSouth Inc., supplies; 163271, 1589, \$721.72, Ameripride Linen & Apparel Services, supplies; 163597, 1590, \$606.30, City Of Hooker, utilities; 163534, 1591, \$1,188.00, Doris Davis Gravel Pit, gravel; 163766, 1592, \$178.84, Freightliner Liberal LLC, supplies; 163720, 1593, \$16.82, Guymon Daily Herald, bid publication; 163718, 1594, \$16.86, Guymon Daily Herald, publication-oil & asphalt; 163719, 1595, \$17.02, Guymon Daily Herald, publication-crack seal; 163721, 1596, \$17.01, Guymon Daily Herald, publication-delivery of rock; 163812, 1597, \$10,426.00, Highway Contractors Inc., proline; 163268, 1598, \$236.70, Hooker Hardware & Auto LLC, supplies & parts; 163267, 1599, \$522.77, Hooker Hardware & Auto LLC, supplies & parts; 162483, 1600, \$21.90, Kost Truck Supply Inc., parts; 162763, 1601, \$499.92, PTCI, phone & internet services; 163755, 1602, \$126.59, The Victor L Phillips Co., parts; 160004, 1603, \$1,566.26, Willborn Brothers Company, yearly testing fuel tanks.

DISTRICT #2: 163511, 1604, \$28.56, B&B Sales Co., supplies; 163512, 1605, \$51.72, Carter's, supplies; 163910, 1606, \$18.30, City Of Guymon, utilities; 163249, 1607, \$75.00, CODA, registration-Richard Bryan; 163813, 1608, \$8,086.05, Fronk Oil Company Inc., diesel; 163514, 1609, \$287.73, Green Country Equipment LLC, parts & repairs; 163704, 1610, \$16.82, Guymon Daily Herald, bid publication-rock; 163702, 1611, \$16.87, Guymon Daily Herald, bid publication-crack seal; 163705, 1613, \$17.02, Guymon Daily Herald, bid publication-delivery of rock; 163516, 1614, \$1,708.00, Guymon Tire & Auto, tire repair; 163897, 1615, \$3,209.00, Highway Contractors Inc., proline; 163273, 1616, \$178.00, Holiday Inn Express & Suites, room; 163517, 1617, \$1,355.53, L&J Auto Parts Inc., parts; 163519, 1618, \$43.96, Miller Paper & Packaging Co., supplies; 162982, 1619, \$204.45, NAPA, parts; 163658, 1620, \$1,164.88, Oklahoma Dept. Of Transportation, lease payment; 163898, 1621, \$469.48, Panhandle Printing-Hi Plains Sports, supplies; 163520, 1622, \$120.75, Prairiefire Coffee Roasters, supplies; 163523, 1623, \$15.48, SPC Office Products, supplies; 163528, 1624, \$71.55, Wirtz Lumber & Supply Inc., supplies.

DISTRICT #3: 163659, 1625, \$7,502.30, Anchor D Bank, lease payment; 163136, 1626, \$1,738.33, Bruckner Truck Sales Inc., parts & supplies; 163708, 1627, \$16.87, Guymon Daily Herald, bid publication-oil & asphalt; 163709, 1628, \$17.02, Guymon Daily Herald, bid publication-crack seal; 163710, 1629, \$16.81, Guymon Daily Herald, bid publication-rock;

163716, 1630, \$17.02, Guymon Daily Herald, bid publication-delivery of rock; 163741, 1631, \$125.00, High Plains Clinic, DOT physical; 163660, 1632, \$1,839.29, Oklahoma Dept Of Transportation, lease payment; 163661, 1633, \$3,372.02, Oklahoma Dept Of Transportation, lease payment; 163979, 1634, \$253.51, PTCI, phone & internet services; 160046, 1635, \$33.20, Sewell Machine & Welding, parts & supplies; 163743, 1636, \$25.60, Sewell Machine & Welding, angle iron; 163497, 1637, \$451.86, Texhoma Supply, parts & supplies; 163926, 1638, \$1,079.96, Tri-County Electric Coop Inc., all accts; 163148, 1639, \$1,075.13, Unifirst Corporation, uniforms & supplies; 162902, 1640, \$227.87, Westair Praxair Distribution Inc., parts & supplies.

COUNTY CLERK LIEN FEE: 162365, 60, **\$24.95**, Advanced Water Solutions, filtration services; 163686, 61, **\$150.00**, County Clerks & Deputies Assn., County Clerk School; 163408, 62, **\$30.55**, Prairiefire Coffee Roasters, supplies.

FAIR/ACTIVITY CENTER: 163982, 36, \$1,129.95, City Of Guymon, gas & water; 163985, 37, \$95.73, PTCI, phone service; 163984, 38, \$738.03, Tri-County Electric Coop Inc., electric; 163690, 39, \$78.23, Wirtz Lumber & Supply Inc., supplies.

SHERIFF FEE CASH ACCOUNT: 163906, 197, **\$50.00**, Moore Lewis & Russwurm PC, paper service.

HEALTH MILL LEVY: 163112, 275, \$32.00, Advanced Water Solutions, rent on water station; 162931, 276, \$250.00, Cimarron County Free Fair Assoc., rent for WIC services; 162291, 277, \$30.00, L&L Custodial, lawn service; 162932, 278, \$450.00, Paul J Ferguson, janitorial services; 162935, 279, \$450.00, Russell K Ferguson, janitorial services; 162936, 280, \$312.50, Main Street Guymon, healthy moments community events; 162890, 281, \$913.14, Kayla N McCarter, travel; 162891, 1082, \$190.54, Miller Paper & Packaging Co., supplies; 162892, 283, \$119.49, Miller Paper & Packaging Co., supplies; 163258, 284, \$328.00, PTCI, maintenance contract; 163988, 285, \$167.72, PTCI, cell phone service; 163669, 286, \$167.90, Worldpoint ECC Inc., supplies.

SALES TAX JAIL: 163415, 530, \$489.40, Carter's, groceries; 163787, 531, \$248.64, Golden Light Equipment Co., maintenance; 163210, 532, \$225.00, JJ'S Plumbing, maintenance; 163905, 533, \$70.00, TLC Pest Solutions LLC, pest control; 163412, 534, \$779.87, United Discount Drug, medical; 163778, 535, \$1,170.21, US Foodservice, groceries.

COMMISSIONER GRANT: 163531, 10, **\$820.40**, Lumber Mart, supplies; 163736, 11, **\$700.00**, RM Construction, labor.

Aye: Keeling, Bryan, Strain. Nay: none.

Motion by Bryan, second by Keeling to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as written. Aye: Keeling, Bryan, Strain. Nay: none.

Raymond Holbert with the Memorial Hospital of Texas County Board of Control discussed the next plan of action with the Commissioners after the sales tax failed.

Memorial Hospital of Texas County Board of Control President Raymond "Buddy" Holbert gave a report of the financial situation at the hospital as well as work currently taking place to make decisions on where the hospital will go next.

Raymond "Buddy" Holbert start off by informing the commissioners that he didn't yet

have much to advise them on the financial state of the hospital as of this morning.

Raymond "Buddy" Holbert: "I would like to know if you're able to tell me the level of assistance the county is going to be able to provide for the hospital moving forward. If there's none, I need to know that so we can make a decision. If there is a level of assistance that you feel comfortable with moving forward in addition to something I need to be able to figure in."

Jack Strain: "I'll just speak personally here to start with." "I'm not willing to abandon the hospital. That's not in my plans."

I would like to see Memorial Hospital move aggressively to get some things done."

"Could we look into the previously discussed business venture, and to see the viability of moving to critical access care?" Holbert said two different studies were done two years ago, and one of the studies showed a positive reimbursement rate for Medicare and Medicaid. However, the company forgot to include a portion that was factored in later on that showed otherwise.

"A new study is expected to come in the next few days to help the board assess whether critical access is a viable option now."

Jack Strain: "As long as it has been pursued and looked into is my biggest deal. There's too many little hospitals around here that have gone to critical access that have made a tremendous difference."

Richard Bryan: "I am disappointed the one cent sales tax had been voted down."

"It doesn't say that we can't use the money that we have available, we still have 40 percent money that is, a portion of that is available for the hospital and I think with reasonable care and reasonable usage, I think we have the ability to use it."

"I don't believe those who voted against the tax are against the hospital, but rather against paying a higher sales tax in Texas County."

Jack Strain: "I agree with that statement."

"I don't think there's that many people that don't want the hospital, I think there's that many people that either do not want the tax or do not feel they were presented a plan substantial enough to know what they were actually going to be voting on."

Ted Keeling: "My personal opinion as well, is I feel like the hospital is needed, and the county has a large investment in it."

"We're going to do the very best we can to get you guys back on your feet. But those funds are becoming limited and getting to where that account is shorter now and we still have to think about the other entities that have a piece in that. I am not ready to give up on the hospital."

"You go to Washita County and it is thriving. You see it in the news, the hospital is growing and the doctors are working with the hospital, and they've got it going strong. In this instance, we've got doctors that campaigned against it. Management, we've changed management several times. We've fought to keep good board members. It perplexes me that you've worked against something that you serve."

"I'm going to do everything in my power to keep that hospital going and take care of those people that have been there, struggling to keep their jobs and provide services. How far we can go and how much we can do to help: I don't know. But I know just the same as you do. If it comes a point we ever close those doors, they won't reopen."

Raymond "Buddy" Holbert: "I appreciate the commissioners' support and efforts. Once the board has more information, the commissioners will be included in getting that information."

Robert Carter: "I think an aggressive role is the only one to take when it comes to the hospital. If we sit back and do nothing, start going in the other direction, we're going to lose the momentum that's out there. We had a lot of negatism, I believe there's a lot of misinformed. There was things that might could have helped come out that didn't."

"The other thing is I think you comment is so true. The doctors have to work with us. If you're going to have doctors opposing it, you've got a problem. That's what we end up with. I would like to see more doctors and more revenue."

"One thing I did see that bothers me, just as a citizen of the county, there's just been more candy-coating of the problem than I think should be. There's a serious problem. When you lose \$2 million in seven months, it's a serious problem. The hospital is in dire straits financially."

"We have nearly a million dollars in creditors that are entitled to some money. That was one thing the sales tax could have handled, help get that money paid to these people. I don't know what the plan might be down the road, but I can tell you this...the hospital is a profitable entity that we just haven't developed to the fullest extent that it needs to be."

"I don't believe Northwest Texas Health System has done Memorial Hospital of Texas County any favors, and that the contract is lucrative for Northwest."

"It could have been of benefit to the county hospital, but I don't see that it happened. What is the plan for (Northwest) in this situation, because I didn't see a plan? I've looked into it, I didn't see a plan."

"To me, the serious question is to do for the funding, for the amount of money we're paying Northwest Texas, what are we getting out of it, and what's going to be the plan for them down the road?"

Dr. Manny Barias: "I think there is a sense of urgency at the hospital to move forward."

"This is an emergency, and it looks like we have two weeks, to get this information, It's not urgent enough."

"The formula being used isn't working, and something needs to be done soon."

Ted Keeling: "We've went through management over and over again on the demand of the same group that protested this tax and we've changed. Board members, they don't like them, got to change them. We've had board members in the past that have been bullied and run off. We've got board members now that are standing their ground to protect the hospital and are still being attacked."

"The only way this community is going to have a hospital is if we can all find a way to work together. You can complain about management, you can complain about board members, but until you participate to help, you're doing nothing but causing more harm to the hospital."

"The facts are the facts, I've watched it for ten years now. I've seen Dallas Mayer, Marry

Beth Eversole, bullied and manipulate until they couldn't stay here. Two of the best board members we've ever had. Now we've got a board member that's standing up to you, and you're attacking him. Unit you're willing to come together and work together as a team, we are punishing every citizen in this county. It's time to put your personal differences aside and think about the people you serve, that's my opinion."

Dr. Manny Barias: "I personally campaigned against the tax, but I am not working against the hospital."

"You can search the census. I am admitting people, I'm sending people there for testing, and rehab."

Ted Keeling: "You can't do it by yourself."

CEO David Rasmussen: "The study that BKD did three years ago. It was a million dollar loss if we had converted at that time to be critical access. We were going through a meaningful use, and that was a governmental reimbursement program to buy additional computers. I think going critical access now is not a problem. Do we meet all the criteria, do we meet all the things, and the meaningful use has run its course. Now; it's time to make the nest change. So that's not a problem."

"The next expediency is there, with efforts and adjustments being made every day to meet demands that come through the hospital doors."

"We rely on other people, because I don't have that expertise to do those analysis. So we're running somewhat on their timeframe. I call every week, say where are we at? That was their answer, that (they'll) have it to you by next week, and it will give us a week before the board meeting to analyze and go through those numbers."

"If you, the board, and the citizens of this county want us to act rapidly, then in 15 days the hospital can be closed. I don't think that's what you want. That's how fast we could go, because that's governmental requirement, you have to give a 15 day notice. That's not something I want to do, but that's how expedient we can be. Will that help anybody: No."

"We've got to stop and think rationally and correctly and make those kind of decisions. It's not us against them. That's not what we're trying to do. We're trying to do what is best for our community."

Ted Keeling: "While the emergency room is a drain on finances, other services offered by the hospital help bring in revenue to support emergency services."

"You've got to generate money somewhere to cover the losses in the other places. When you have the competition it helps cut those services, which has got us to the point we're at.

"I agree that things have to change, as the county supports not only the hospital, but other services as well, including rural fire and EMS services, sheriff, and fairgrounds off of the 40 percent of the one cent sales tax the county currently receives."

"You look around nation-wide, private hospitals small private hospitals as well as county are going under. Look at Washita County, a few of the counties that have a little bit of a sales tax. You know what? They're flourishing, their doctors, the whole town, the thing is working together as a team. They're taking care of their citizens. That's what's got to happen here. What

we've got to do to bring this together, I don't know."

CNO Dondie Rodgers: "One thing you have to take into consideration, there's only so much you can close. You have to have some radiology, or you're not meeting standards of care. So you can go in there and be rash and cut all kinds of things, but are you shooting yourself in the foot? There's a very fine balance of what you can have and what you can't have in order to keep that hospital functioning up to the standards of the federal government."

Robert Carter: Questioned David Rasmussen on what the recommendations for Northwest Texas were for Memorial Hospital of Texas County.

David Rasmussen said "the recommendations given were to grow services and bring in more business to the hospital, increase the primary care base and remodel where possible."

It's always easy to blame the management company. What does it do? All it does is create unrest and it doesn't help anybody. Throw administration out. Go for it. I'll give you my keys right now. After last week, I was ready to.

I'm here to help the hospital, I'm here to work with the doctors, I'm here to work with the community. That's why I'm here.

Ted Keeling: "I've seen the efforts you've put in, and I've seen the people working with you, working to make this work. Personally, it's appreciated."

Robert Carter: "I know you can't just cut costs there's nothing there. You start cutting that, you cut your throat."

David Rasmussen continued, stating that the hospital has continued to make payments on the accounts payable, but finances are stretched out. Cash is what's driving the institution. If we don't have cash, we don't have an institution. Is that Northwest's fault? No. Is it my fault? Not completely. We're trying to do everything we can.

James M Boring: "It's worthy to note that the current cure for the hospital from some doctor's group is that we need to replace the administration, the administrator and all of that. The time before...the administrator before this, and I'm sure the two or three more before that, the same group of doctors have made the same promise."

The last administrator that the prior hospital board got rid of had some considerable additional expense above what they probably should have paid to satisfy this doctor's group. The promise from that doctor's group was if you got rid of this guy and hire this other, we will make this the most profitable hospital in the country. It's worth note that not a thing changed but the change in the administration. Now we're getting the same promise for about the fourth or fifth time."

Richard Bryan added later in the meeting that members of the medical staff have been scarce at board meetings. They don't have a plan. At least the people here came up with something. Before the vote we had four options. Grow the hospital, shrink the hospital, sell the hospital, close the hospital. After the vote, we now have three options.

Motion by Bryan, second by Keeling to approve the Transfer of Appropriation for General; \$1,000.00 from 2906-2999 maintenance and operations to 2906-4000 capital outlay. Aye: Strain, Keeling, Bryan. Nay: none.

Motion by Bryan, second by Keeling to approve the following officer's reports for the month of February subject to audit: Renee Ellis, Court Clerk - \$29,896.30, Health Department - \$21,192.67, Commissioners 911 - \$10,058.04, Juvenile Detention - \$34,601.62, Matt Boley, Sheriff - \$34,950.04, Wendy Johnson, County Clerk - \$11,756.02, Judyth Campbell, Assessor - \$211.00. Aye: Keeling, Strain, Bryan. Nay: none.

Motion by Strain, second by Keeling to approve the claim to the state for reimbursement of salary for the Election Board in the amount of \$2,550.12. Aye: Keeling, Strain, Bryan. Nay: none.

Motion by Keeling, second by Bryan to approve the request for Allocation of Alcoholic Beverage Tax for the month of January.

ALLOCATION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE TAX

Name of City or Town Amount Guymon 13,451.96 Hooker 2,254.92 Texhoma 1,088.67 Goodwell 1.520.14 **Tyrone** 895.85 Hardesty 249.24 Optima 418.54 Total: \$ 19,879.32

Aye: Bryan, Keeling, Strain. Nay: none.

Motion by Bryan, second by Keeling to approve the appointment of Deidre Sommers as 3rd Deputy and Alisha Perez as 2nd Deputy for County Clerk. Aye: Keeling, Bryan, Strain. Nay: none.

Motion by Keeling, second by Bryan to approve the appointment of Lacey Ortiz as 5th Deputy for Assessor. Aye: Keeling, Bryan, Strain. Nay: none.

Motion by Keeling, second by Bryan to approve the removal of Janna Bennett and adding Deidre Sommers as Receiving Agent for the following accounts: County Clerk General, Preservation Fees, Clerk's Lien Fees and adding Deidre Sommers to the following accounts: Commissioners Grant, 40% Sales Tax ACCO Safety, Capital Improvements, Building Fund and Excise.

Motion by Strain, second by Keeling to approve Resolution #66-15-16 for a Utility Permit with TCEC in the NE/4 of the NE/4 of Section 34-T5N-R13ECM to the SE/4 of the SE/4 of Section 27-T5N-R13ECM all requirement of the permit must be met and it shall be bored. Aye: Keeling, Strain, Bryan. Nay: none.

Bid #9-15-16 for Rock was opened and the following bids were received: Volcanic Stone,

J & R Sand Co., Big Creek Sand & Gravel Inc. and Dolese Brothers Co. Martin Marietta was a no bid. Motion by Strain, second by Bryan to award to J & R Sand Co. due to low bid and most advantageous and the provinces of Dolese Brothers Co. Aye: Keeling, Strain, Bryan. Nay: none.

Bid #7-15-16 for Oil and Asphalt was opened and the following bids were received: Highway Contractor Inc., J & R Sand Co., Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions, Logan County Asphalt, Vance Brothers Inc. Costal Energy Corp. and Paving Maintenance Supply. Motion by Keeling, second by Bryan to approve Proline and Hot Mix-Hot Lay to whatever is most advantageous to the district and Oil to low bidder. Aye: Keeling, Bryan, Strain. Nay: none.

There were two charity request to approve.

Adjourn.

I, Wendy Johnson, the duly appointed and qualified County Clerk in and for Texas County, Oklahoma, do certify the above is a true and complete statement of the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners held in the office on March 7, 2016.

s/ Wendy Johnson

Wendy Johnson, County Clerk

s/ Jack Strain

Jack Strain, Chairman

s/ Richard Bryan

Richard Bryan, Member

s/ Ted Keeling

Ted Keeling, Member