

October 14, 2021

The Board of Mayes County Commissioners met in a Special Meeting, with all members present: Matt Swift, Chairman, Darrell Yoder and Ryan Ball members, Brittany True-Howard, Mayes County Clerk. The initial notice of the meeting was received in writing October 8 2021, and the agenda for this meeting was posted on the lower floor of the Court House at 12:00 p.m. October 8,2021. Matt Swift called the meeting to order in compliance with the Open Meeting Law and the following business was done:

The Commissioners met with the Mayes County Hospital Trust Authority to hear the results from the Mayes County Hospital Construction Study, from Kyle Loveless with Shapard Research (Sooner Poll). Kyle presented the Board with some info behind the study. The survey was conducted June 23-July 7, 2020 with the sample n=399 likely voters in Mayes County with a margin of error 4.79% with a confidence level of 95%. Likely voter Universe of 4,878. They made over 12,032 phone calls to achieve the 399 respondents. Calls were made in three shifts, 10 am-2 pm, 2pm-6 pm and 6 pm to 8:30 pm. Over 6 percent of respondents were done on their cell phone, 25 percent on landline and the rest through an online questionnaire. SoonerPoll/Sharpard Research has been consistently over the years rand as "Oklahoma's most Accurate Public Opinion Pollster". Darrell Moore asked Kyle to explain how they get the phone numbers since that was one the big questions. Kyle explained that voters registrations were public and they could use private companies to match up phone numbers with the voters addresses. He said that most people did not complete the online survey. Mr. Loveless also went over some of the questions that were asked. Overall, the majority of people polled agreed that it is beneficial to have a local hospital that is well staffed using modern technology and up to date techniques. They also mostly agree that the hospital is meeting the needs of the community. Some other questions were if they believed that a new hospital should be built so that new doctors and specialties could be recruited with people strongly agreeing. If they were aware the Hospital was over 60 years old and the expenses were over five times what they should be monthly. Most were not aware of this. Most were not aware of the economic impact of the hospital with over \$12 million a year in salaries, benefits, along with \$7 million a year in discounts for lower income families to help the community with their health care costs. They study also revealed that there was a strong support of costs being evenly distributed to all the population through a variety of revenue enhancements to construct a new hospital. Sales tax extension seemed to be the most supported proposed fee. Commissioner Ball, wondered if there was any way to scale back the price. The operator believes with COVID that the prices will actually be even higher. Commissioner Ball wondered if after the hospital was built if rent could be negotiated to help pay the debt down faster. He even wondered if there was a way to propose a plan to put the ambulance authority with the hospital and use that tax towards the building of a new hospital. Overall, the Commissioner's believe we need a new hospital they just want to fund it the right way.

Motion made by Commissioner Swift, seconded by Commissioner Ball, to Adjourn. Swift, Yes; Ball, Yes. Commissioner Yoder had to leave to attend another meeting.

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Approved this October 18, 2021

(SEAL)

BOARD OF MAYES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

S/MATT SWIFT \_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

S/DARRELL YODER \_\_\_\_\_  
MEMBER

S/BRITTANY TRUE-HOWARD  
COUNTY CLERK

S/RYAN BALL \_\_\_\_\_  
MEMBER

Mayes County does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in its admission to, or access to, or treatment in or employment in its programs or activities.