

January 10, 2022

Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo and Commissioner Thurlow were present at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. The minutes were approved as printed. Payroll in the amount of \$202,824.84 was reviewed and approved by the Board. Account payables in the amount of \$60,306.72 for the budget year 2021 were reviewed and approved by the Board. Account payables in the amount of \$384,141.78 for the budget year 2022 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to nominate Commissioner Mayo as the Chairman of the Board for the year 2022. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Mayo made the motion to nominate Commissioner Thurlow as the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Commissioner for the year 2022. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Mayo read the partial list of businesses for the annual meeting. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to sign the partial list of businesses for the Commissioners annual meeting which is used for the reorganization of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to adopt Resolution 2022-03 setting the reimbursement of mileage at .56 per mile actually incurred in the performance of such duties by such official or employee effective January 1, 2022. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to adopt Resolution 2022-04 setting the financial statements and the financial reports of the County of Clay to be prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements as adjusted to show compliance with the cash and budget laws of the State of Kansas. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board approved the estimate from McGee Roofing for the roof repair on Clay County Emergency Services Academy building that was caused by the wind in the amount of \$496.20.

Abatements 2021A20 and 2021A21 in the amount of \$4,544.40 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Commissioner Carlson made the motion to approve the Workers Comp Insurance renewal with Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties (Kworcc) for the year of 2022 in the amount of \$81,336. This will be paid for out of Employee Benefit Fund. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Jeff Germann, Assistant Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department removed snow, worked on a ditch project and did maintenance work in the shop. The Board reviewed the bridge replacement projects that are planned in 2022.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer stated that the Department has been extremely busy with emergency runs and out of town transfers. They have had 43 runs in the first 9 days of January, 2022. They are still short staffed and filling the shifts have been difficult. Commissioner Thurlow asked if this was Statewide issue with other EMS Services having vacant positions. Mr. Cramer responded that a lot of EMS Services are having the same issue with staffing. Mr. Cramer reported that the commercial vacuum at the EMS has broken and would like to purchase a new one. The Board granted permission to purchase a new commercial vacuum, but to check prices at the different businesses in town.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, and Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give and update on the COVID pandemic. Ms. Kemp requested a signature on the Emergency Management Performance Grant pay out application so that the County can receive reimbursement funds from the State. Chairman Mayo signed the application. Ms. Kemp also presented the Emergency Management Performance Grant application for 2021 to have the Chairman sign. Dr. Timothy Penner, and Brett Nelson, USD 379 Superintendent, joined the meeting. Ms. Kemp provided the COVID-19 update as of January 10, 2022 to the Board. Clay County currently has 70 active cases and are following 16 individuals. Ms. Kemp reported that the State has reactivated the EOC Webinar meetings on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for all of the Counties. Ms. Kemp made a statement of would a mask mandate do any good. Dr. Penner replied that he does not feel that a mask mandate is the way to go as of now. Dr. Penner is asking everyone to not overrun the Healthcare system. He will continue to wear a mask for he feels that there are benefits from wearing one. Dr. Penner reported that he participated in a conference call that KU Medical Center hosted and they reported that they had 700 employees out with sickness. With the new CDC Quarantine guidelines, Dr. Penner would recommend wearing a mask in public, get the COVID booster shot, this is a unique step in helping, and get the flu shot. Ms. Kemp stated that businesses can request you to wear a mask in their business and that is alright. Mr. Nelson stated that the School District is not too bad right now, but knows that it could change fast. Some School Districts are going to remote learning again because they are short staffed from the teachers being sick. The School District decided that if they can help control the sickness then let's try to do it now. They are going back to washing hands, using hand sanitizer, social distancing and using the plexi glass in places. Everyone had gotten a little relaxed on some of the items that can help with the sickness. Mr. Nelson stated that the system that they have in place has worked well and has kept a lot of kids in school. Commissioner Mayo stated that he does not feel that a mask mandate would do any good now. Ms. Rickley reported that they are meeting people afterhours to administer the vaccine or booster. They are trying to accommodate the people so that more are able to be vaccinated. Dr. Penner asked how much the vaccine cost through the County Health Department and Ms. Rickley stated that it is free for individuals to receive. Dr. Penner stated that last year it took up to 2 hours to transfer someone out of our Medical Center to now it takes 6 hours to even up to 1 week to find a bed and to get someone transferred. The larger hospitals have beds but they do not have the staff to care for the patients. Dr. Penner stated that he is not trying to scare people, but he is asking to humbly and respectfully try to stay out of the hospitals and to take care of yourself and stay healthy.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga presented prices on an intercom system that they need to replace that will have three stations. Sheriff Benninga stated that he is still researching different units that are available. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to

allow Sheriff Benninga to spend up to \$350 on a three-station intercom system for the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Danny Mesalles, Appraiser, met with the Board to give a report on building permits. In 2020 they issued a total of 100 permits, of those 49 permits were in the Cities in Clay County and 51 permits were in the County with 9 of the total permits being new dwellings. In 2021 they issued a total of 124 permits, of those 59 permits were in the Cities in Clay County and 65 permits were in the County with 16 of the total permits being new dwelling and 2 mobile homes. Personal Property Renditions were mailed out on January 7th, 2022 and will need to be returned to the Appraiser's Office by March 15th or a penalty will be added to those that are returned late. Mr. Mesalles reviewed the Ag values with the Board as follows:

| | 2022 | 2021 |
|---------------------|------|------|
| Dry Crop | -2% | -1% |
| Average of all soil | | |
| Irrigation Land | -6% | -3% |
| Tame Grass | +2% | +1% |
| Native Grass | +4% | +3% |

So, over all there are no huge increases on the Ag Values but Mr. Mesalles stated that he is concerned on the Values for Residential. The Residential Values are going to increase with the high prices that individuals are paying for homes and with the increased prices to build new homes.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to discuss a quote that was received on the repairs that need done to the dump truck at the Landfill. Ms. Carroll presented a quote from Bloom Welding & Repair for a reman transmission in the amount of \$6,166.19. After discussion, Commissioner Carlson made the motion to accept the bid from Bloom Welding & Repair in the amount of \$6,166.19 for repairs to the Landfill dump truck. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Carroll asked permission to take the recycling truck to Barnes Automotive for repairs. The Board granted permission for repairs to the recycling truck. Ms. Carroll asked the Board for 10 hours of sick leave from the County Sick Leave Pool for an employee that was sick last week and has not been employed long enough to receive sick leave benefits. The Board granted a donation of 10 hours from the County Sick Leave Pool for an employee at the Landfill.

Christine Swaim, County Treasurer, met with the Board to discuss Legislation that is being presented on the fees that are collected with Motor Vehicle. Also, providing the service for the renewal of Driver's License by appointment for County residents was reviewed.

The Board agreed to extend the extra COVID \$5.00 per hour for contact tracing on three County Health employees until January 31st, 2022. The Board will discuss this subject with Dana Rickley, County Health Director before extending the date again.

The Board adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk

January 18, 2022
Clay Center, Kansas

Jerry F. Mayo, Chairman