

March 7, 2022

Commissioner Mayo, Commissioner Thurlow, Commissioner Carlson, were present at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. The minutes were approved as printed. Payroll in the amount of \$199,306.98 was reviewed and approved by the Board. Account payables in the amount of \$3,730.37 to be paid out of the 2021 Budget was reviewed and approved by the Board. Account payables in the amount of \$280,175.49 to be paid out of the 2022 Budget was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Abatements 2021A24 thru 2021A30 in the amount of \$366.80 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Austin Gillard, CCMC CEO, met with the Board to give the monthly report. Mr. Gillard stated that everything is going well at the Medical Center. With the number of positive COVID cases being down, the staff is feeling better about work. The provider services at Clay Center Family Physicians are working well with making 20 to 30 same day appointments. In mid-April the Medical Center will start providing General Surgeries 4 days a week. This will be a great advantage for the community. CCMC will be doing marketing for radiology services in the Manhattan area. CCMC can provide same day or next day radiology services where in Manhattan the appointment is several days out.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason discussed the subscription for West Law in the County Attorney's Office. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to approve the monthly reoccurring charge of \$136.11 for the subscription of West Law with a balance of \$658.60 due at this time. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The contracts for each entity that is a part of the Clay County Residential NRP 5- Year Plan was reviewed. These contracts need to be provided to the Appraiser's Office and to the County Clerk's Office as soon as possible.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department bladed roads, moved rock, cleaned up roads, trimmed trees on 14th Rd., removed trees at 23rd Rd. & Buffalo Rd., replaced road signs that were down, hauled sand, hauled rip rap, and transported one of the semis to MHC Kenworth – Salina for repairs at an estimated cost of \$8,400. Mr. Shomper reported that there are 7 types of freon that needs to be removed from old appliances at the Landfill. This means that they need to purchase 5 additional recovery tanks. In order to be able to get rid of the removed freon you need to keep each type separate. Quotes on the purchase of additional tanks are as follows:

Napa Auto Parts – 50 lb. tank - \$224.99 + 24.99 shipping

Carquest – 30 lb. tank - \$313.00

50 lb. tank - \$305.00

Rush Truck Center – 30 lb. - \$227.66 + shipping

50 lb. - \$250.02 + shipping

After reviewing the quotes, Commissioner Carlson made the motion to purchase 5 additional 50 lb. recovery tanks in the amount of \$224.99 + 24.99 each from Napa Auto Parts. These will be paid for out of the Landfill Fund. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Shomper provided the Board with the quotes on a patching machine and a sealing machine. Mr. Shomper stated that he has been in contact with a couple of the Companies to get a price on renting a sealing machine for this year to see how they like it before purchasing one. The Board thought that would be a good idea to rent one for this year. They will review the cost of purchasing against the cost

of renting one next week. There is a concern with the changes in the law concerning new CDL Licenses. You will be required to take a class that will now cost approximately \$4,200. Who will pay for this expense for current employees that would like to get their CDL's or how will we move forward in hiring employees that are willing to get their CDL's but don't currently have one? Dickinson County is looking into what it takes to become a trainer to provide this service for their employees. The Board instructed Mr. Shomper to find out this information also. The County could pay for one employee to take the class to become a trainer and provide this service to other Departments.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer reported that he had ran some statistics and reported that the Department is making on an average of 4 emergency runs per shifts for a total of 237 runs so far in 2022. Out of those 237 runs, 20% are out of town transfers. Mr. Cramer asked to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to go into Executive Session under the Personnel Exception of non-elected personnel for 10 minutes beginning at 9:50 a.m. with Commissioner Mayo, Commissioner Thurlow, Commissioner Carlson, Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, and Kayla Wang, County Clerk present. The subject to be discussed is employee performance. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m. with no action being taken during the session. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to donate an EMS employee 80 hours of sick leave out of the County Pool. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Kansas Board of EMS License has been completed and approved last week. The Board granted permission for Mr. Cramer to provide food at the staff meeting that will be held on Tuesday evening.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID pandemic. Ms. Kemp stated that as of this morning she had not received the updated numbers of positive COVID cases. As of last Friday, there were 3 positive cases reported in Clay County. Ms. Kemp presented the quotes on the purchase of a pickup for Emergency Management. The quotes were reviewed as follows:

Friesen Auto – 2017 Dodge Ram Pickup with 26,269 miles - \$45,995

Glavan Ford – 2021 Ford F150 XLT Crew Cab 4WD Pickup with 450 miles - \$58,285

After much discussion concerning the cost, warranty and availability, Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to purchase the 2021 Ford Crew Cab Pickup from Glavan Ford in the amount of \$58,285. This will be paid for out of the Emergency Managers Grant Fund. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board signed a State of Kansas Department of Health and Environment Grant Application for nine separate grants.

The Board granted permission for the District Court Office and the Court Services to purchase Microsoft 365 software at the State rate of \$12.25 monthly per user. This is to be paid for out of the District Courts Budget.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga reported that the Rescue Truck is in need of the batteries being replaced. There are four of them and they should all be replaced at one time. The Board granted permission to purchase all 4 batteries from Avery Auto Parts in an amount of \$154 each for a total of \$616. Sheriff Benninga reported that a phone company by the

name of CPC provides phones with tracking software for the prisoners. The company is now offering cell phones that the prisoners can use to text on at a cost of .10 per text. The company sets up an account tied to a credit card to be able to charge the fee if used. Clay County is not responsible for the phones or the cost of the service, but will receive .02 off of each text. Cloud County has them and thinks that they are a good tool to use. The Board granted permission if there is no expense towards Clay County.

Danny Mesalles, Appraiser, met with the Board to present two NRP applications for approval. Mr. Mesalles presented two residential NRP applications for the Boards approval. The Chairman signed both applications. Mr. Mesalles would like to remind people that the Personal Property Renditions are due by March 15th, 2022 before penalties start to accrue.

Natalie Muruato, Executive Director, Grow Clay County, met with the Board to answer any questions that they may have for her since the merge of Economic Development Group and Clay Center Chamber of Commerce to form Grow Clay County. Commissioner Mayo asked about the funds that the County levies for Economic Development within the County. The Board wants to make sure that this money is put towards Economic Development and not absorbed within the new Organization. This was a voted-on levy that specifically states to be for Economic Development in Clay County. Ms. Muruato stated that the funds levied by the County are strictly used by Economic Development and this will continue to be the plan. Ms. Muruato stated that she represents the entire County not just the City. Ms. Muruato provided a graph showing what percentage of time that she spends on each section of the Growth Alliance. Commissioner Mayo stated to Ms. Muruato that the Travel & Tourism fund will still need to be kept separate for there are specific laws that have to be followed in order to be able to collect the tax. The Board stated that the current contract was with Economic Development Group and asked Ms. Muruato to draft a new contract between the County and Grow Clay County for both parties to sign. Commissioner Carlson asked about the sale of the property that is located on the west side of Clay Center on Meadowlark Road that was to be used for industrial development. Ms. Muruato reported that the Clay County Economic Development Group decided to auction the property because the organization was having difficulty selling the lots, for the property was in the 100-year flood plain and had poor soil conditions, making it unsuitable to build on. It would require a significant investment to dig out the unstable soil and build it back up to remove it from the flood plain. So instead, EDG hopes to re-invest the funds in a better suited parcel of land for development. Ms. Muruato would like to report to the Board of Commissioner monthly unless an additional meeting is needed. The Board stated that they would look forward to her monthly report.

Commissioner Carlson made the motion to purchase 20 bags of fertilizer in the amount of \$33 for a total of \$660 from Van Diest for the Courthouse Square. This will be paid for out of County General. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Jerry F. Mayo, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
March 14, 2022
Clay Center, Kansas

