

March 8, 2021

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 \$189,777.68 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Board approved an Event Approval for an employee in the County Clerk's Office to attend a meeting in Milford, Kansas.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason stated that sometime in the future they will begin scanning old case files and save electronically so that they can do away with the paper files. This will also help on the storage issue.

The Board reviewed Resolution 2021-04 that such mask mandate that expired on March 1, 2021 without further action by the Board of County Commissioners. This is due to the recent trend in COVID-19 cases showing a reduction in the spread of new cases in Clay County. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to adopt Resolution 2021-04 removing the mask mandate that expired on March 1, 2021. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department bladed roads, hauled dirt, transported equipment from the Fair Grounds to the shop and started maintenance on each piece, did yard work around the shop, hauled rock, removed a tree on Elk Rd., did ditch work on Meadowlark Rd., cleaned out culverts, hauled rip rap to two locations, cut rebar from rip rap at 24th Rd. & Limestone Rd., removed trees and installed a pipe for a driveway, transported excavator for a project at 2nd Rd. & Quail Rd., worked on a ditch project on 20th Rd. between Kiowa Rd. & Limestone Rd. The Board approved the placement of a driveway at a different location further down a hill because of safety issues. The land owner will pay the additional cost to move the location of the driveway. Mr. Shomper received a quote from Alsop Sand concerning the mixing of asphalt. The letter stated that RAP (recycled asphalt pavement) has been used to make cold mix asphalt extensively across the nation for many years. The quote is figured with Clay County Highway Department hauling the RAP from our stockpile at Bayer's Stevens Quarry, to the County's stockpile site. This quote is based on 15,000 tons of RAP Cold mix asphalt. The finished product price per ton would be \$33.35. After much discussion, the Board decided against using the recycled millings. This type of overlay does not last as long. The Board granted permission for Mr. Shomper to contact asphalt companies for their final bid on 20.25 miles of asphalt road to be laid in 2021. Mr. Shomper provided quotes for a Hydraulic Flow Adjustment Value on a salt spreader as follows: Ginder - \$1,569 or Baum - \$1,659. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to purchase the Ginder brand in the amount of \$1,569. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Shomper reported that the starter went out on D956 Dump Truck and they purchased one from Summit Trucks in the amount of \$299. Mr. Shomper provided bids to order 160 feet of I-Beams so that they can build boxes to use for bridge replacements. The bids are as follows:

Valleywide Sales, Inc.
3"X 3/16" - \$8.35 per ft
3"X 5.7# per foot - \$6.00 per ft

Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to purchase 160 ft at \$6.00 per ft for a total amount of \$960.00. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Prices for three new tool boxes with chests from Harbor Freight for the Mechanics Shop area were presented to the Board for an estimated amount of \$5,000. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to purchase three tool boxes and chest from Harbor Freight at an estimated cost of \$5,000. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Board opened bids for the financing of two motor graders in the amount of \$276,812 with two annual payments. The bids were as follows:

GN Bank – 2.09%

United Bank & Trust – 2.25%

Farmers & Merchant State Bank – 1.95%

Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to accept the bid for the financing of two motor graders from Farmers & Merchant State Bank at an interest rate of 1.95%. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Department has passed the number of emergency runs for this year in comparison to last year. The new ambulance has been ordered, but it will take at least 300 days to build. Mr. Cramer will be contacting Osage Ambulances because Medic 4 has two cracks in the paneling and one on the floor of the box. This should all be covered under warranty.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager & Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Kemp reported that there is a good grant opportunity for local government that can be used for cyber security. Ms. Kemp has contacted Network's Plus to see if there is anything that we could purchase to increase the security for the County. There is also a Fire Assistance Grant available that is Matching Funds from FEMA. The only issue is we have to notify the State while the fire is burning out of control and should receive approval within a couple of hours. Ms. Rickley reported that we currently have three active COVID cases in Clay County. Ms. Rickley has been working very closely with the USD 379 to make Prom and After Prom as safe as they possibly can. The Health Department continues to receive vaccines and approximately 284 individuals received a vaccine shot last week. Ms. Rickley presented a quote for a replacement copier from Central Office Service & Supply as follows: A reconditioned full color Sharp MX-414N Copier – with four main drawers – Rent to own at \$200 per month for 15 months or the purchase of a brand-new Sharp MX-414N for \$9,000. Ms. Rickley stated that they have used the current copier so much with all of the COVID-19 pandemic documents that it is worn out. The purchase of the copier would be paid for out of Grant funds. The Board of Commissioners reviewed the bids and Commissioner Mayo made the motion to purchase a new Sharp MX-414N in the amount of \$9,000 to be paid for out of Grant funds from Central Office Service & Supply. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Dustin Avey, Piper Sandler & Co. called into the Board by phone conference to discuss the refinancing of the County Bonds. Mr. Avey reported that the 2011 Series Bond for Clay County has a balance of 1.3 million and currently we are paying 3.42% interest and he is estimating that we could possibly refinance for 1.29% making a savings of \$120,000. On the Hospital 2016 Series Bond there would be a portion of the bond in the amount of \$8,000,000 that could be refinanced at this time. Currently on the \$8,000,000 we are paying 4.00% interest and Mr. Avey estimates that we could possibly get it down to 1.91% with

the refinancing of this portion of the bond with a savings of \$470,000. We would not be able to set the interest rates until the end of May or first of June and if interest rates have increased too much and it would not be cost effective, we will just not do anything at that time. By signing the Resolution today, it authorizes to proceed forward with the process to refinance the two Bonds. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to adopt Resolution 2021-05 authorizing the offering for sale of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021-A and taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021-B, of Clay County. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

At 11:30 a.m. Non-Profit Organizations were able to come and sign the agreement and pickup their additional Sparks Funds that were distributed.

Danny Mesalles, County Appraiser, met with the Board to give an update on the Appraiser's Office. Mr. Mesalles has set a Zoning Meeting on March 29th at 7:00 a.m. to discuss the Zoning change for Bayer Construction. Mr. Mesalles asked to purchase insulated cups for the Zoning Board Members since they are not paid to serve on the Zoning Committee. The Board granted permission to purchase the cups for the Zoning Committee as a thank you. The Board signed an Event Approval for an Employee of the Appraiser's Office to attend training in Topeka, Kansas. Mr. Mesalles reported that there are 659 Personal Property renditions that have not been returned as of today. These renditions are due by March 15th or they will get a penalty added to them.

The Board adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
March 15, 2021
Clay Center, Kansas