

March 25, 2022

Commissioner Mayo, Commissioner Thurlow, and Commissioner Carlson were present at a regular meeting beginning at 7:45 a.m. Minutes were approved as printed.

The Board adjourned at 8:05 a.m. to take a tour of the roads throughout the County.

The Board reconvened at 9:35 a.m. in the Commissioners Room.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County Business, Mr. Mason discussed the process of picking a Construction Manager for the new Exhibit Hall at the Fairgrounds. The Board agreed on the percentage rating of the Interview Scoring Rubric and will hold the interviews on the two firms that provided qualification packets for this project. Mr. Mason reported that Charles Lindberg, Clay County Indigent Attorney, has verbally resigned from the contract as of April 30th, 2022. Mr. Lindberg will need to provide the Board of Commissioners with a letter of resignation. Mr. Mason stated that he had been in contact with Starla Borg Nelson and she is interested in filling the position. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to hire Starla Borg Nelson as the 4th member of the Indigent Attorney Contract contingent to the receiving the letter of resignation from Mr. Lindberg. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with Board to give the weekly report and to discuss the tour of the County. Mr. Shomper reported that the Commissioners went to 26th & Prairie Rd. to look at a shoe fly and the bridge that is under construction, drove through the County Landfill to look at the many different appliances that they have to reclaim freon from and the issues of getting to the appliances, and then to the Highway Department shop to look at the building and some of the repairs that need to be made. Last week the Department bladed roads, hauled rock throughout the County, worked in the shop, and did maintenance to equipment.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer reported that the Department has made 314 emergency runs and out of town transfers so far in the year 2022. They are 92 runs ahead of the same time in 2021. Medic 8 will be going into the shop for the repairs of an exhaust leak. Mr. Cramer stated that they are having issues with the north furnace. It is the oldest unit there and we may need to think about replacing it. Mr. Cramer reported that they had one monitor stop working so they went to Central Office Service and Supply and purchased a replacement one for \$229. A quote from Central Office Service and Supply for two new computers were reviewed as follows:

Dell-Inter Core i7, 10th Gen i7-10700 Octa-Core (8 core) 2GHz-16 GB Ram DDR4 SDRAM – \$1,295 each
3-year onsite warranty and wireless keyboard and mouse.

Lenovo Think Centre - Intel Core i5 10th Gen i5-10500 Hexi Core (6 core) 16 GB Ram - \$1,134 each
Wireless Keyboard and mouse an additional \$39 each.

After reviewing the quote, Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to purchase the two Dell Computers at a total cost of \$2,590. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give an update. Ms. Kemp attended the Homeland Security Council last week and worked on several maintenance projects within Homeland Security. Ms. Kemp reported that she had a good turn out at the Fire Chief's Meeting that was held last week. Eric Ward with Kansas

Fire Service provided a presentation on Wildfire Training. There was a lot of discussion on the different kind of fires. A big concern is individuals burning trash in the country when it is so dry and there is a Red Flag Warning. Ms. Kemp stated that she has heard back from all of her ESF8 Partner Agencies and everyone is in agreement to end the July 2020 Emergency Declaration. After discussion, Commissioner Carlson made the motion to rescind Resolution 6-A Emergency Local Disaster Declaration that was adopted on July 13, 2020. This will be effective as of March 28, 2022. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Dickinson County exercise that Ms. Kemp was participating in has been moved to sometime in June.

Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give an update on the County Health Department. We still have zero positive cases of COVID in Clay County. The staff has been doing the training on a new program called Communicator App. This will send out appointment reminders to individuals that have upcoming appointments and they will not have to make phone calls to remind people. This program was paid for with COVID funds. The Board granted permission for the staff to use the parking lot of the County Health Department for the Citywide Garage Sales in May. Ms. Rickley and members of her staff will be attending the Governor's Conference this week for training.

Janel Michaud and Sandy Fox, CCARE, met with the Board to give the annual report on the Clay County Animal Rescue & Education Center. Ms. Michaud stated that they are still basically focusing on dogs and are still not able to take in cats. K-State Veterinary has been extremely busy and it has been difficult to schedule a spay/neuter clinic here in Clay Center. They have been able to hire two part time employees to cover the weekends and provide the care for the dogs. CCARE still needs lots of volunteers, so if interested please contact them to get signed up for the training. With having the two part-time employees it has lightened the work load for some of the Board members which has been nice. They would like to see the length of stay become shorter for all of the dogs. With this they would be able to have more dogs in and out of the shelter and help other shelters with placements. Ms. Fox presented the Board with a report with the income and expenses for the 2021 year. This has been a good year for the shelter and they were able to pay off the mortgage this year. Ms. Fox asked if the Commissioners would be willing to make a donation like previous years towards the shelter it would be very much appreciated. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to donate \$7,000 out of County General to CCARE. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga stated that he was not able to attend the Fire Chiefs meeting last week because of a structure fire that he had to be at. He has visited with the County Attorney on the fire regulations that are currently in force for the County. There will need to be further discussion about this and possibly some change to the Resolution.

Shannon Stark, Assistant Director of Grow Clay County, met with the Board to discuss the Travel & Tourism contract. Ms. Stark presented the Board with the new contract between Clay County and Grow Clay County. The efforts will continue to properly use Clay County bed tax and promote all areas of Clay County. The Clay County Travel & Tourism will be led by Ms. Stark and agrees to develop and maintain webpage and social media pages as needed. Update current listings and add new listings on the Kansas Travel website as well as seek other magazines to utilize. Organize and design ads for promoting the County. Organize welcome bags as needed and attend North Central Tourism Council Meeting, at least one Flint Hills Tourism Coalition Meeting, and the Travel Industry of Kansas Annual Conference. Collect, review, submit and provide recommendations on event advertising grants. Ms. Stark will return next week with an updated contract for signature of the Board of

Commissioners. Ms. Stark discussed the possibility of purchasing wraps to place on bill boards promoting Clay County. If they purchased four different wraps that promoted Clay County in general, they could change them out quarterly and reuse them at different times of the year. The Board instructed Ms. Stark to get more information on the cost of the wraps. Ms. Stark asked permission to use the Courthouse Square for the following events: Easter Extravaganza, Independence Day Celebration, Piotique Festival, Halloween Howl, and Santa's Workshop. The Board granted permission to use the Courthouse Square for the events listed. Ms. Stark asked if the County would be willing to donate towards the Fireworks Display that will be held on July 3rd, 2022. After discussion, Commissioner Carlson made the motion to donate \$1,000 for promoting the event and \$1,000 towards the fireworks to be paid for out of Travel & Tourism fund. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed quotes for the purchase of up to three pallets of mulch to be used at the Courthouse, County Health Department, and ESA. The quotes were as follows:

Clay County Lumber - \$3.99 each bag (60 bags per pallet)

Wall's True Value - \$4.06 each bag (65 bags per pallet)

Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to purchase up to three pallets of mulch from Clay County Lumber at the cost of \$3.99 per bag. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board signed an Event Approval for an employee of the Register of Deeds Office to attend training in Marion, Kansas.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board by phone to ask permission to place an employment ad to fill a vacant position. This position will require a CDL Driver's License. The Board granted permission to place the employment ad to fill a vacant position. Ms. Carroll stated that she will be having a Solid Waste Committee meeting on April 27th and would like for the Commissioners to attend. The Board instructed Ms. Carroll to find out the status on the repairs that are being made to the recycling box truck. This has been in the shop for a period of time and would like to know the status. Ms. Carroll stated that the small box truck is not running and may have a blown engine. The Board gave instructions to list the small box truck on Purplewave and sell as is. Ms. Carroll asked permission for an employee that has not been here one year to use 3 hours of accumulated vacation hours. The Board granted permission for an employee of the Landfill to use 3 hours of vacation before their 1st Anniversary of employment.

Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to approve the Veeam Backup Renewal from Networks Plus in the amount of \$552.32. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Jerry F. Mayo, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
April 4, 2022
Clay Center, Kansas