

May 10, 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.

The Board visited with Chuck Arnold, Clay County Park Manager, by phone about an issue a week ago in the park that he had to handle. Otherwise, things are going well with campers and there is a good flow of revenue coming into the Park.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason stated that he would like to try a couple of items to see if it would improve the sound effects in the Courtroom. The Board agreed that they would like to improve the sound. This has been an issue that they have dealt with for many years.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department graded roads, replaced several signs, hauled rock, patched roads, cleaned out pipes and did ditch work on 26th Rd. between Sunflower Rd. and Thunder Rd., installed pipes, hauled rip rap, and hauled the excavator to 30th Rd. for cutting down a hill to make the road safer. The patcher is broken down at this time, the auger snapped and they are having a hard time finding a harden steel auger to replace the broken one with. The ABS module is out on one of the small dump trucks. The quotes for this repair are as follows:

Central Power - \$1,109.63
Truck Center - \$1,109.63
Summit Truck Group - \$1,310.00

After reviewing the quotes, permission was granted to go with Central Power in the amount of \$1,109.63. They will be able to get it in for the programming that will need to be done after the installation of the module. Currently the Department has two pickups that are in need of repair. They both are in need of replacing the catalytic converter assembly. The quotes for replacement assembly are as follows:

Avery Auto Parts - \$1,075 (WalkerBrand)
Napa-Clay Center Auto Parts - \$1,183.88 (Walker Brand)
Rock Auto - \$718.79 (Walker Brand)
Rock Auto - \$660.79 (Eastern Brand)

Commissioner Mayo made the motion to purchase two of the Eastern Brand assemblies in the amount of \$1,321.58 plus shipping from Rock Auto. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to replace the Surface Pro laptop that was stolen from the Highway Department. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, and Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Kemp presented the Board with the Regional Incident Management Team Renewal for signature of the Board. Signing this granted permission for Ms. Kemp to serve on the Incident Management Team. Ms. Rickley reported that there are zero cases of COVID-19 in Clay County and they are following only 4 individuals. This is great news for our County. The County Health Clinic will be open on Thursday May 13th after 5:00 p.m. for individuals that are not able to make it to the Clinic through the day for their COVID-19 vaccine. You will need to call and make an appointment to use this service. Ms. Rickley reported that the County Health Department received \$15,000 from the Patterson Family Foundation out of Kansas City, Missouri.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer reported that the Department had not held an Emergency Vehicles Course for a while and he thinks that this should be considered for an annual training for the Department. There are two different Companies that provide this training, they are as follows:

On Q Safety - \$1,500 – Annual fee 25 people
CEVO - \$295 – Instructor Kit – One-time fee
\$262.50 – Annual Fee for 30 people
\$557.50 – Total Cost

The Board granted permission to purchase the CEVO at a cost of \$557.50 and feel that this would be a good training for EMS Employees. Mr. Cramer discussed the possibility of teaching another EMT class if they are able to get enough students to take the class.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga reported that they had filled one of the vacant Correction Officer positions, but will be running the employment ad again for they still have one more to fill.

Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to pay the Annual Membership Dues for Kansas County Commissioner Association in the amount of \$325. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Robbin Cole, Executive Director of Pawnee Mental Health, met with the Board to present the 2022 Appropriation request. Ms. Cole reported that 2020-2021 has been a challenging year with the pandemic. The Community Mental Health Centers were shut down but a lot of the appointments were done by Tele-Health with the clients. Pawnee is a private, not-for-profit licensed community mental health center. In 1965 Clay County became a part of the North Central Kansas Guidance Center with Riley, Geary, Pottawatomie, and Marshall Counties. In 1977, these five counties merged with Sunflower Mental Health Center which included Cloud, Mitchell, Jewell, Republic, and Washington counties to form Pawnee Mental Health Services. Pawnee Mental Health has been in service for 65 years this November. The Crisis Stabilization Unit that opened in November 2019 played a very important part of the service that was provided in the last year. Pawnee provided over \$270,000 in services to Clay County residents. Over \$110,000 was uncompensated for these services. Ms. Cole stated that they are asking for the same in funding as they did for the 2021 budget in the amount of \$66,260. This is approximately \$258 annually per resident served. The Board stated that they would consider her request when preparing the 2022 budget. Ms. Cole provided the Board with a Proclamation declaring May as Mental Health Month. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to adopt the Proclamation declaring the Month of May as Mental Health Month in Clay County. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
May 17, 2021
Clay Center, Kansas