

May 24, 2021

Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, and Commissioner Thurlow were present at a regular meeting beginning at 7:45 a.m. The Minutes were approved as printed. Account payables in the amount of \$591.12 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Board approved the Mural Movement Artists to draw with sidewalk chalk on the sidewalks around the Courthouse at the Farmers Market on June 12th for the fundraiser that is being held to benefit the Mural Movement.

No phone call was received concerning the pasture at the Landfill, but the Board went ahead and reviewed the Lease Agreement that was signed on December 29th, 1989 concerning the renting of the pasture attached to the Clay County Landfill. In the Agreement it states that Eric Carlson had rented the pasture three years before the property was purchased by Clay County and that the Board of Commissioners at that time agreed to continue to rent the pasture to Mr. Carlson. This document states that the lease shall continue to be in effect year after year unless written notice of termination is given by either party to the other at least thirty days prior. The rent that is being paid has increased to reflect the economic conditions. Commissioner Mayo and Commissioner Thurlow were in agreeance to leave the continuous Lease Agreement in place as it currently is for Clay County.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason discussed the renovation that he would like to do to the County Attorney's front office to make it more worker friendly and to make use of the area that is available. The Board instructed Mr. Mason to get prices from Central Office for a desk and a new printer and to return to them with the quotes.

Danny Mesalles, County Appraiser, met with the Board to present his renewed 4-year contract. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to adopt Resolution 2021-08 appointing Mr. Mesalles as County Appraiser for an additional term of 4-years. 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 worked in the shop because of the weather, bladed roads, and hauled rock. They have provided maintenance to all of the roads that lead to cemeteries preparing them for Memorial Day. The City of Longford has been in contact with Mr. Shomper to discuss the possibility of the Highway Department chip sealing the Main Street of Longford. Mr. Shomper will work up an estimate of the cost for this project and present it to Kim Kramer, Mayor of Longford.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer presented an estimate for the replacement of the shower in the men's restroom from Mel's Plumbing in the amount of \$1,175. The Board granted permission for Mel's Plumbing to install a new shower in the amount of \$1,175. The Board approved a uniform order for EMS employees in the amount of \$1,962. Mr. Cramer informed the Board that the Instructor Teaching packets have been changed and he will need to order new ones in the amount of \$537. Permission was granted. The air conditioning unit located on the north

end of the main building keeps freezing up. Mr. Cramer has called for repair to come and look at the unit.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, and Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Clay County currently has zero cases and are following zero persons. This is great news for our County. Ms. Rickley showed the Board issues with the drain spouts and issues of water puddling around the building. The water is not able to drain away from the building because of the pipes being broken from the mower and the weed eating that has been done. The Board will discuss this matter with Maintenance to be repaired. Ms. Rickley reported that on Saturday evening at the Business and Professional Women State Conference, the County Health Department was awarded the State Business of the Year Award. Two of the County Health Employees joined Ms. Rickley and attended the presentation. Ms. Rickley stated that the past year had been a difficult year for the County Health Department and it was nice to have been chosen to receive the award. Ms. Rickley reported that 48% of Clay County population has received at least one dose of the vaccine and 45% of the population has completed both doses. Ms. Kemp reported that she had received the 2019 Emergency Management Grant in the amount of \$16,584. The Board signed four Event Approvals for Ms. Kemp to attend meetings in various locations.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga asked permission to purchase rifle ammunition at a cost of \$800 from Rusty Trigger. The Board granted permission to purchase the ammunition. The Board approved reimbursement with a receipt for the purchase of a piece of bullet proof glass in the amount of \$250 to Sheriff Benninga.

Kayla Wang, County Clerk and Rhonda Carney, Payroll Clerk, met with the Board to discuss an issue of an employee not working enough hours to receive the benefit of Health Insurance through the County for the month of June. The County policy is that an employee must work a minimum of 20 hours a week to receive the Health Insurance benefit at a part time rate. Ms. Carney presented the different levels of premiums for the employee share depending on the hours worked by the employee. The Board stated that if an employee does not work the minimum number of hours required, then they should be charged the State of Kansas monthly rate for employees.

Lori Feldkamp, President & CEO Big Lakes Developmental Center, met with the Board to give an update and to present the 2022 Appropriation request. The mission of Big Lakes Developmental Center is to deliver quality services that promote choice, independence and inclusion for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Services are provided 24 hour a day, 365 days a year. Big Lakes currently employs 238 full and part-time staff positions. They provide services for 214 adults and children with disabilities in Riley, Geary, Clay and Pottawatomie Counties. Big Lakes operations were dramatically altered by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Day Services in Manhattan and Clay Center were closed from March 20, 2020 until February 22, 2021. Services and support were provided in residences and in the 17 group homes for 101 individuals. Big Lakes were successful in keeping COVID-19 out of the group homes until the very end of December, 2020. In January, they had 33 staff and clients test positive. All clients and staff fully recovered except one client that passed away 12 days after testing positive. There have been no new cases of COVID among staff or clients since the last week in January. The funds that the County provides Big Lakes are expended to support transportation services. Big Lakes maintains a fleet

of 35 vehicles for 144 clients that provides daily transportation, seven days a week. Transportation services enable Big Lakes to carry out its mission of choice, independence, and inclusion for the clients. Big Lakes is requesting a 2% increase in the County appropriation for 2022 in the amount of \$65,545. The Board stated that they will consider this request when working on the 2022 Clay County Budget.

Todd Slagle met with the Board to request funding for the American Legion Baseball team again this year. Mr. Slagle stated that he has a good number of young men playing again this year and should have a good team. Last year the County gave the team \$2,400 and Mr. Slagle would like to request those funds again this year. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to donate \$2,400 out of the Alcohol Fund to the American Legion Baseball. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board approved Varney & Associated to provide training on QuickBooks for the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$500.

Kayla Wang, County Clerk, presented a quote for the purchase of a replacement printer. The quote is from Central Office Service & Supply on a HP LaserJet Enterprise M608n in the amount of \$1,235 and an additional 550-sheet drawer in the amount of \$349 for a total of \$1,584. This will be paid for out of the County Clerk's fund. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to purchase the HP LaserJet M608n printer with additional drawer in the amount of \$1,584. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to ask permission to purchase a flow meter for the Leachate Pond. The State is giving her until June 24 to have this replaced. The Board granted permission but asked her to call a couple of different places to get prices before purchasing the meter.

The Board called Arnie Knoettgen, County Maintenance to meet with them to discuss several projects that need to be looked at and repairs done in different County building locations.

The Board toured the County Attorney's Office and the Courtroom.

The Board adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
June 1, 2021
Clay Center, Kansas