

May 30, 2022

Commissioner Mayo, Commissioner Thurlow, and 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 \$193,318.65 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Board adjourned at 8:05 a.m. to tour roads in the northwest part of the County.

The Board reconvened at 9:20 a.m. in the Commissioners Room.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Department, reported that the Commissioners traveled on Utah Rd. from 18<sup>th</sup> Rd. north to Countyline Rd. to view the issue with the chip sealing project. Mr. Shomper stated that the chips are not sticking to the oil that was laid. Permission was granted for Mr. Shomper to research and get prices to hire a firm that can provide an independent testing to determine what the cause is of this issue with the chips not adhering to the oil and how to fix the problem. The Board also traveled to view the concrete box that has been installed on 24<sup>th</sup> Rd., between Navajo Rd. and Osage Rd. before returning to the Courthouse. Last week the Department chip sealed, worked on drainage on rock roads, worked in the shop, and cleaned equipment.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to review County business. Mr. Mason stated that he has visited with both abstract companies about adding an additional year of delinquent real estate parcels to the tax sale. If the year 2017 and older years are combined, there will be 83 parcels that will be put into the process of the delinquent tax sale. Mr. Mason will meet with Christine Swaim, County Treasurer, to discuss the process of adding the additional year to the sale.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to discuss personnel at the Landfill. Ms. Carroll discussed a personnel issue at the Landfill and stated that one employee's status has been changed from full-time to part-time. This will be reviewed again at a later date.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Department continues to stay busy with emergency calls. They are currently up to 466 runs so far this year. Medic 3 will be going to Friesen's for repairs on a noise that started last week.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Kemp asked the Board if they had received the email from Dr. Tim Penner stating that during and through the Pandemic there are three major local strengths during the incident. The first two strengths at the top of the list are Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, and Dana Rickley, County Health Director. Dr. Penner stated that he doubts that this community will ever fully appreciate the tremendous work that both of them did during this unprecedented time. We, Clay County, would have been in a world of hurt without their expertise and commitment to the cause. Then the third strength is the County Commissioners. Dr. Penner stated that he was grateful for our ability to work together during some very emotionally charged times. I didn't fully appreciate what we have in Clay County until I started to hear all of the trials and tribulations of my Health Officer colleagues around the State. Again, my heartfelt thanks goes out to these gentleman. Ms. Kemp reported that she will be attending a Homeland Security meeting where they will be discussing the FY22 projects. One of the projects will be an Inventory Management and Assets Control program that will make it easier to find equipment or personnel to handle different types of disasters. The Board signed two Event Approvals to attend training and a workshop in Topeka and Minneapolis, Kansas.

The Board signed the contract with Frank McGee, DBA McGee Fireworks for the Clay County Fireworks Display that will be held on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 at dusk.

Natalie Muruato, Director of Grow Clay County, met with the Board to give a quarterly report. Ms. Muruato provided the status on events with Grow Clay County, Economic Development, and Downtown Revitalization. Ms. Murauto discussed the downtown music that they are taking donations to purchase the speakers for and the outdoor dining that 15/24 Brew House will be implementing soon. Ms. Muruato reported on businesses that she had visited, training that she had attended and upcoming meetings and events.

Adam Crawl, BHS Construction, met with the Board to report on the multi-use building that is being built at the Fairgrounds. Brandon Gibson, SPT Architects, and Brian Girrens, Clay County Fair board. Mr. Crawl present the base bid plus additional cost for the metal building in the amount of \$433,214. If they get the building ordered in June it is expected to arrive in January. Mr. Crawl reviewed the budget expenses for the building and the site. The Board stated that the County would take care of the demolition and the ground work to get the site ready to build which would save funds that can be used in a different area. After reviewing all of the options that were planned, it was decided that they will not be able to do the additional wing at this time but will have the structure built so that it can be built at a later date. The Board approved the metal building, the bathrooms with showers, the kitchen and will decide at that time if the Extension Offices can be completed. The County needs to make sure that the building can be used as an emergency shelter and a place to hold a mass vaccine clinic if needed in order to use the ARPA funds towards the building. The County has \$1,380,000 ARPA funds to put towards the building project. Mr. Girrens thought that they had around \$200,000 in donations to put towards the building. If the County were to put everything into the building that was requested the cost would be over \$2,500,000. After the Board of Commissioners discussed and made changes to the plans the current cost is estimated to be \$2,036,796. The Board states that they are not sure at this point if they will make additional changes to lower the cost or continue with the lower plan and hope that the Fair Board will receive more in donations to put towards this project.

Michelle Lipker met with the Board to present four local 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls that will be going to play in the USA Youth National Volleyball Championship Tournament June 23-26, 2022 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Addy Pladson, Raimee Lipker, Alana Liby and Daelynn Rothfuss each gave a small presentation on their experience and what going to Nationals means to them. Also in attendance were Danielle Rothfuss and Nicole Liby. The girls have held one fundraiser selling breakfast burritos and were very humbled by the community support. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to donate \$500 to each player for a total of \$2,000 out of the Alcohol Fund. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

---

Jerry F. Mayo, Chairman

---

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk  
June 6, 2022  
Clay Center, Kansas