

June 1, 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 \$184,282.44 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason discussed the SB13 with the Board and the difference with adopting the RNR Resolution verses not adopting the RNR Resolutions. Commissioner Mayo discussed the need to make changes in the policy for the requirements when requesting the use of sick leave hours out of the Sick Leave Pool. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to change the County Policy that when an employee requests sick leave hours out of the Pool, they will now be required to pay the number of hours used back to the Pool out of their accumulated hours earned. The Board of Commissioners will have the opportunity to dismiss the hours used to be paid back if they so choose. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and that motion passed unanimously. Mr. Mason stated that the Board will need to give written guidelines on the policy and to possibly have each employee sign an agreement if using hours out of the Pool. Commissioner Thurlow asked how Pools were handled in other Counties. Commissioner Thurlow asked Commissioner Mayo if he would rescind his motion so that further research can be done on this matter. Commissioner Mayo stated that he would like to rescind his motion until more information is received.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department bladed roads, hauled rock, hauled D001 Dump Truck to Summit in Salina, mowed the field at the Clay County Park, and mowed roadsides around the County. The cost for Van Keppel to repair the Distributor was \$8,705.11. Van Keppel then came to the shop and provided training on the cleaning and care of the Distributor that was included in the costs. Mr. Shomper informed the Board that he had contacted both the Vo-Tech Schools in Beloit, Kansas and in Milford, Nebraska to inquire about student Mechanic training programs. Both schools have the programs and will be sending Mr. Shomper information. The Commissioners are very interested in having a student work for the summer with the County as a Mechanic. The bids requests for the 2022 Bridge Inspections will be sent out this week and will have 30 days to return them.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Department has been busy making emergency runs and out of town transfers. So far in 2021 they have made 383 runs compared to 315 at the same time in 2020. Comfort Air made repairs to the air conditioning unit that was not working and replaced a fan motor that had burnt out. Mr. Cramer reported that he had been in contact with Osage Ambulances in upgrading the ambulance that is currently ordered to equip it with the COVID-19 Precautionary Equipment so that it can be paid for with the Recovery Funds that are available. The equipment to be installed will be Lumalier UV Air & Surface Disinfection Lamp System, all grab rails and handles are treated with Agion Anti-Bacterial Coating, and patient compartment ventilation fans exceed KKK airflow output standards. After much discussion, Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to approve the additional cost of \$3,250 for a total of \$197,528 that will be paid for out of the Recovery Funds. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Danny Mesalles, County Appraiser and Jimmy Thatcher, Mayor of Clay Center, met with the Board to discuss the NRP Program. Mr. Mesalles stated that the information that he has received stated that you are not allowed to amend the plan that is currently in place until renewal time. Mayor Thatcher stated that he feels there is a need for a tax incentive of some kind whether it be the NRP Plan or a different plan. Commissioner Mayo stated that there is a definite housing issue within the County. There are very few homes available for purchase or to rent in Clay County. The Board discussed the possibility of paying a tax incentive out of the Economic Development funds to help with the housing issue.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Management, and Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Rickley reported that currently there is one positive case of COVID in Clay County. Last week the Health Department gave 34 doses of the vaccine and expect the same this week. Ms. Kemp reported that the State EOC will be holding the COVID webinars on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday beginning this week. Ms. Kemp assisted Ottawa County with a Table Top Exercise that involved the adjoining District of Longford Rural Fire and Miltonvale Rural Fire. The State is doing a storm assessment from the storm damage and flooding that is not covered by insurance. If there is any damage within the County you will need to report the damage to Ms. Kemp.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report.

Whitney Baer, Noxious Weed Director, met with the Board to present the 2022 proposed Noxious Weed Budget. The Budget was left for review with the Board. The Chairman signed the annual Commercial Haulers Permit for the City of Clay Center, City of Morganville, and C & M Refuse. Permission was granted to haul the Polaris Ranger to Bruna's for needed repairs. The Board approved overtime hours for an employee of the Noxious Weed Department for the month of June and July.

Abatement 2020A80 in the amount of \$31.10 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Board signed and approved the second half of the NRP Refunds in the amount of \$147,638.38.

Christine Swaim, County Treasurer, met with the Board to present an Event Approval. The Board signed an Event Approval for an employee of the Treasurer's Office to attend a meeting in Salina, Kansas.

The Board adjourned at: 12:30 p.m.

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
June 7, 2021
Clay Center, Kansas