

July 12, 2021

Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, and Commissioner Thurlow were at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. The minutes were approved as printed. Payroll in the amount of \$183,340.25 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason presented the Board with the 2022 proposed County Attorney's budget. Mr. Mason provided the Board with a bid from Central Office Service & Supply for a Brother All in One MFC-L9570CDW printer, copier, scanner, and fax machine in the amount of \$1095. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to purchase the printer from Central Office Service & Supply in the amount of \$1095. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Board discussed time that was used by employees on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. Mr. Shomper informed the Board that they will need to run an employment ad for a vacant position at the Highway Department. Permission was granted to run an employment ad to fill a vacant position. Last week the Department graded roads, mowed roadsides, began patching spots with cold mix asphalt, ditch work, replaced a pipe on Thunder Rd., between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Rd., and fixed a large hole that had washed out on 24<sup>th</sup> Rd between Navajo Rd. and Osage Rd. Mr. Shomper presented the 2022 proposed budgets for the Road & Bridge Fund, Special Bridge Fund, and the Township Road Maintenance Fund and left them for review. Mr. Shomper reported that he has had to replace three of the shop fans that have stopped working. He purchased a 24" and has ordered two 42" from Tractor Supply Company. Commissioner Thurlow stated that they have to keep the air moving in the shop area in order for employees to work.

Denise Farmer, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 9-11 Ride Coordinator, met with the Board to give a report on the on the upcoming 9/11 Ride to Remember. This time they will be starting out at the Greenleaf Post 235 and traveling through Washington and Clay County. They will leave Greenleaf headed south and then west towards Morganville. There will be a small ceremony stop at Morganville, then they will head west of Morganville to Frontier Rd. turn north to Clifton for another stop, then back east to Highway #15 and finally north for a stop at Linn and back east to return to Greenleaf. This time the ride will not be as long as it was 10 years ago. Ms. Farmer stated that she will be contacting the Sheriff's Department and the Highway Department for help with the crossings at intersections. The Commissioners stated that they would like to donate bottled water to be handed out in Morganville. Ms. Farmer stated that closer to the event she will provide an estimated number for the amount of water that will be needed.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, and Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID pandemic. Clay County currently has 7 positive COVID-19 cases. Ms. Rickley stated that she will be providing vaccines to school aged children at the Back-to-School Fair that the Clay Center Elks Lodge will be hosting on August 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Ms. Rickley reported that she has met with the School District and they will be adding the optional COVID Vaccine to the list of other vaccines that are needed for school. Ms. Kemp stated that anyone that is having symptoms of COVID, need to get tested so they are not exposing other individuals with the sickness. Ms. Rickley reported

that for Clay County there are 51% of the age 55 – 100 that have been immunized or 28% of eligible population age 12 & above are immunized.

Commissioner Thurlow made the motion that the County will pay for employee's sick leave that has tested positive for COVID-19 and are actively ill. Human Resources must have a copy of the test results and the estimated date of release from isolation/quarantine. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Charlotte Rundell met with the Board on behalf of Morganville City Council to request funding for the Party in the Ville that will be held in conjunction of the Red Bandana Run on August 14, 2021. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to donate \$500 out of the Alcohol Fund to the City of Morganville for the Party in the Ville. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Kayla Wang, County Clerk, met with the Board to present the proposed 2022 budgets for the County Clerk's Fund and the Election Fund. Ms. Wang provided documentation and discussed the wage scale for her office. The Board stated that they will review the documents provided and make a decision for the 2022 budget.

Mike Argo, Fair Board President, met with the Board to present the 2022 proposed Fair Maintenance Budget. The budget was left for review with the Board. Mr. Argo presented the Board with quotes for a replacement lawn mower that is shared by the Highway Department and the Fairboard Association. The bids are as follows:

Bruna Implement Co. - \$17,535 - 2022 GH325 Diesel Grasshopper mower 61" deck  
- \$9,610 trade in 2017 Grasshopper 325D mower  
\$7,925 - difference

John Deere - \$13,250 – 2021 Z994R Diesel John Deere mower 60" deck  
- \$6,000 – trade in 2017 Grasshopper 325D mower  
\$7,250 – difference

After reviewing both bids, the Board asked Mr. Argo to contact John Deere to see if they could price a 2022 mower. And to find out a delivery date on both Companies. Mr. Argo will report back at a later date. Mr. Argo reported that the Rodeo will be held this week and then the Clay County Fair will be next week. This year they will be having a carnival at the Fair. The 4-H will hold the cleanup this Friday to prepare the Fairgrounds for the Fair. Chairman Carlson asked Mr. Argo what the status of the new building is at this time. Mr. Argo stated with donations and pledges they are around \$200,000. Commissioner Mayo stated that they would like to see a safe room placed in the building for the public to take shelter in bad weather. Also, they would like to see the building have a generator that could be used by the County if needed for a shelter. Commissioner Mayo asked if the Fairboard and the building committee would be willing to meet with the Commissioners and discuss the plans for the new building after the Fair is over. Mr. Argo stated that thinks that the meeting would be a great idea.

Natalie Muruato, Economic Development Director, met with the Board to introduce herself and to discuss what concerns the Board would like to see her address. Commissioner Carlson stated that the rebuilding of the Locker Plant within the County is a main concern of the County. Then need of Childcare and the housing conditions are next on the list. There are very few houses to purchase or to

rent available within the County. Ms. Muruato stated that housing is very important. The County can not grow if there is no housing available for the workforce to live. Childcare and housing both have a large impact on Economic Development. Mr. Muruato said that she had read last weeks minutes about the County possibly putting another NRP Plan in place. She highly supports this and thinks that it is a very good idea for Residential and for to continue the one in place for Commercial. She would be willing to help in anyway that she can to get the NRP Plan approved by the State and to make it available for taxpayers in Clay County.

The Board adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

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Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

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Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk  
July 19, 2021  
Clay Center, Kansas