

July 24, 2023

Commissioner Thurlow, Commissioner Carlson, and Commissioner Mayo were present at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. The minutes were approved as printed. Payroll in the amount of \$213,039.56 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Christine Swaim, County Treasurer, met with the Board to ask permission to place an employment ad in the newspaper and on the radio to fill the position of a MV Clerk. The Board granted permission to place the employment ad and to fill the position.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Christine Swaim, County Treasurer joined the meeting. Mr. Mason reported that it was a quiet weekend. Ms. Swaim asked Mr. Mason if he has a date set for the delinquent tax sale yet. Mr. Mason stated that he still has a few that he needs to research and serve papers on. Mr. Mason stated that he will have an answer for the Board at next Monday's meeting. The Board stated that we need to keep moving on this tax sale.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department bladed roads, mowed roadsides, worked on a patching job on 14th Rd. between Cherokee Rd. & Frontier Rd., hauled rock, hauled millings to the Clay County Park, hauled chips to the Clay County Fair Grounds, installed a pipe on Sunflower Rd. between 20th Rd. & 21st Rd., hauled rip rap, and worked in the shop. Mr. Shomper stated that he has ordered a sign to hang on the gate of the yard that states "employees only" beyond this point. Mr. Shomper reported that he had a meeting with Dickinson County and they will be starting on the bridge replacement on 1st Rd. on July 31st. They hope to possibly have it completed in February 2024.

The Board reviewed and approved a bill from Clay Center Public Utilities in the amount of \$9,014.07 for underground material and 1" water meter to the new building at the Fairground. This is to be paid for out of County General.

Alec Trembath, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Department continues to stay busy with emergency runs and out of town transfers. Mr. Trembath stated that he will be adding more CPR Instructors within the Department since they seem to keep busy with new CPR certifications classes and the renewals certifications. The rigid C-Collars do not work for all individuals, so they will be adding soft C-Collars to all units. Mr. Trembath has been working on the AED Registry of where AED units are located to use. There is an app for the phone called Pulse Point that shows you where the closest unit is located. The Board signed an Event Approval for several employees to attend the KEMSA Conference in Mulvane, Kansas. The Department will be on standby at the County Fair this week.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Kemp reported that she has received an advisory from Homeland Security concerning cybersecurity. They are asking everyone to enhance the monitoring of all activity targeting Outlook online. In June 2023 the Federal Civilian Executive Branch agency identified suspicious activity in their Microsoft 365 cloud environment. CISA and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are releasing this joint Cybersecurity Advisory to provide guidance to critical infrastructure organizations on enhancing monitoring of Microsoft Exchange Online

environments. Local Government entities need to have policies in place in case this would affect them. Ms. Kemp reported that last week the Kansas Highway Patrol Administrative Agent was here to do the Homeland Security inventory of items that have been assigned to Clay County.

Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Rickley reported that the Leadership Conference in Texas that they attended with Clay Counts was very beneficial for the students and the adults and an experience that they will remember for along time. The Board signed two Event Approvals for employees of the County Health Department to attend training in Salina and Newton, Kansas.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga reported that they had no issues at the musical festival that was held in Wakefield on Friday. There were not as many people as they had expected in attendance.

Arnie Knoettgen, County Maintenance, met with the Board to present bids for the removal of a Hackberry tree that is dying on the Courthouse Square. The bids were as follows:

B & B Tree Service - \$2,000 – tree removal & grinding of the stump

McGee Tree Service - \$2, 500 – tree removal & grinding of the stump

After reviewing of the bids, Commissioner Mayo made the motion to go with B & B Tree Service for the removal of a tree and the grinding of the stump in the amount of \$2,000. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Knoettgen reported that the Courthouse Elevator upgrade will begin the week of August 14th, 2023 and the Elevator will need to be shut down for approximately 8 days.

The Board received a complaint from a camper at the Clay County Park by phone. The individual was upset with the Park Manager and how he had handled an electrical breaker getting shut off and not turned back on. When this happened, they lost over \$100 worth of meat that they had in the freezer. When the individual went to talk to the Park Manager about this, he acted arrogant and like he really didn't care. Commissioner Thurlow stated that he would talk to the manager about this.

Theresa Leitzel, Alexa Leitzel, and Addy Gurney, met with the Board to request funds for the World Baton Competition that Addy and Alexa will be performing at in Liverpool, England. They reported that the have been having fundraising events to help with the costs of the competition. They have been doing baton twirling since they were both 4 or 5 years old. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to donate \$200 to each of them to represent Clay County and to use for expenses performing in Liverpool, England out of the Alcohol Fund. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

David M. Thurlow, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
August 1, 2023
Clay Center, Ks. 67432

