

September 11, 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.

The Board reviewed the request from Wreaths Across America for the purchase of wreaths. The wreaths have increased in price. After discussion, Commissioner Mayo made the motion to donate \$1,050 the same amount as last year for Wreaths Across America out of the Parks & Recreation Fund. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason asked permission to advertise for a part time position for the County Attorney's Office. The Board granted permission.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department mowed roadsides, bladed roads, patched blacktop on Frontier Rd., and worked on filling in edges and driveways along the black top roads. Mike Argo, Fair Board President, joined the meeting to ask the Board and Mr. Shopper if he could possibly borrow a semi to deliver the stage to Minneapolis, Ks. for them to use on September 22nd. The Board of Commissioners and Mr. Shomper both granted permission for Mr. Argo to use a semi from the Highway Department to deliver the stage that has been rented. Mr. Shomper stated that he will be meeting with Jason and Andrew from APAC about an issue with the asphalt that was just laid and is separating. He will let the Board know next week how the meeting went. They will begin stock piling chips for next year when they will chip seal the Broughton Road. Bids for two wide tires for a dump truck were reviewed as follows:

Five Creek Automotive - \$2,728 plus mount & balance

Kansasland - \$2,648 includes mount and balance.

Commissioner Carlson made the motion to purchase the two tires from Kansasland in the amount of \$2,648. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Alec Trembath, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Department is currently at 627 emergency runs or out of town transfers so far this year. Mr. Trembath reported that the new employee started last week to fill the vacant position. The Department has begun to form committees to handle different issues such as Education & Training and Protocols & Procedures. This gets the employees involved with the decisions of the Department.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Kemp provided information to the Board on a Public Sector Cybersecurity Summit in Wichita that is being held on September 20th, and she feels that this would be a good conference for the Board of Commissioners and for the Department Heads to attend.

Dana Rickley, Health Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Rickley presented three Event Approvals to the Board. The Board approved the Event Approvals for employees of County Health Department to attend a meeting in Beloit, Kansas, a Conference in Wichita, Kansas, and training in Wichita. The new vaccine refrigerator has been ordered and should arrive in approximately 6 weeks.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga will be holding interviews to try and fill the vacant positions at the Law Enforcement Center.

Marlene Stamm, NCK Environmental, met with the Board to give the quarterly sanitarian report for Clay County. Ms. Stamm stated that she continues to stay really busy in Clay County. The quarterly report stated that there were 21 Tank/Lateral, 10 Wells, 4 H2O Tests, 10 Lateral systems, 8 Tank/Lagoon, 1 re-route of greywater and 1 Privy in the last

three months. Ms. Stamm stated that she had applied and had received a grant in the amount of \$1,200 from the National Environmental Health Association to help with expenses.

Natalie Muruato, Director Grow Clay County, met with the Board to discuss the downtown speakers to play music and to be able to use during events. Ms. Muruato stated that there is no way that they can use the wireless speakers for there is too much interference in the area. So, the Audio Engineer has stated that they would have to use a wired system. The City has stated that the light poles around the Square are not stable enough to have wire draped on them so the wiring will need to be placed underground. Ms. Muruato asked the Board of Commissioners if they know of a conduit that was possibly buried around the Square when the sidewalk project was done. Commissioner Mayo stated that he was positive that the County had placed a conduit under the sidewalk for the future. Kayla Wang, County Clerk, provided drawings and documentation of the sidewalk project. In the drawing it shows an 1 ½ inch conduit around the square. Ms. Muruato stated that she will get a quote on the wiring and will report back to them to see if it will even be affordable to place the wiring in the conduit. Ms. Muruato also stated that the billboard will be coming due for payment and she wanted to know if the Commissioners want to continue to the advertising Clay County at a cost of \$3,406 annually. The Board made the decision to not continue with the two billboards but to continue the one with Thomas Signs.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to give a report on repairs on the recycling truck. The repairs have been made but they can not get the locked mode reset so it will only go 20 mph until this is reset. The Board informed Ms. Carroll of several places that she needs to contact to see if they can get the locked mode reset on the truck. Ms. Carroll also stated that the clutch has been adjusted on the Rolloff Truck but that there is a leak at the rear main seal and it needs to be replaced. The Board granted permission to have the repairs done on the Rolloff truck. Quotes were received for the Groundwater Monitoring services on the Clay County Landfill and the previous closed Landfill as follows:

GSI Engineering - \$15,150 – annually

Blackstone Environmental - \$13,990 annually

After reviewing the quotes, Commissioner Carlson made the motion to go with Blackstone Environmental in the amount of \$13,990 annually. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Danny Mesalles, County Appraiser, met with the Board to give a department update. The Board signed two Event Approvals for employees of the Appraisers Office to attend training in Salina, Kansas. Mr. Mesalles discussed the possibility of adding a camera in the hallway by the handicap door. The Board agreed and will move forward on the placement of a camera by the handicap door. Mr. Mesalles asked the Board is they had made any decisions on what to do with the partner desk that is setting in the basement of the Courthouse. The Board stated that they have not found a place for it with it being so large.

The Board adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

David M. Thurlow, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
September 18, 2023
Clay Center, Kansas