

October 25, 2021

Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, and Commissioner Thurlow were present at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. Minutes were approved as printed.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason discussed the cost of Appeals for the County. The bid rate for handling an Appeal is \$100 per hour. A separate contract will be drafted for Mr. Mason to sign for handling this for the County.

Gary Gilbert met with the Board to express his concerns for the revised Clay County Kansas Comprehensive Land Use Plan that North Central Kansas Regional Planning Commission is handling for the County. The Board informed Mr. Gilbert that Clay County received a grant to have this plan updated and it is not costing Clay County to have this done. Mr. Gilbert asked Mr. Mason questions about the Kansas Open Records Act concerning the Commissioners attending meetings. Mr. Mason stated that they can all attend a meeting as long as they don't talk County Business or make County decisions. Mr. Gilbert thanked Mr. Carlson for all of the work that he had done on the first plan while serving as Chairman on the Zoning Board and for Commissioner Mayo for listening to him and answering questions. Mr. Gilbert stated that he was not there to complain but would like to make awareness on items in the Land Use Plan and the connections that it may have with other activity that is currently going on.

The Hearing for the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan has been re-scheduled for November 8th, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the County Commissioners Room.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Shomper asked to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to go into Executive Session under Personnel Exception of non-elected for 10 minutes beginning at 9:12 a.m. with Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, Commissioner Thurlow, Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, and Kayla Wang, County Clerk present. The subject to be discussed is employee performance. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting reconvened at 9:22 a.m. with no action being taken during the session. Mr. Shomper reported that last week the Department bladed roads, mowed township roads, and replaced pipes. Two of the employees continued to help the City with Fall Cleanup, hauled rock, removed trees, and placed rip rap at several locations. The tank cars have been delivered. One was delivered to the yard and the other out to the site.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer stated that they have been really busy with emergency runs and out of town transfers. Medic 5 has been taken to Glavan Ford to see about an oil leak.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Management, met with the Board. Ms. Kemp discussed with the Board an issue with the Timeclock Program and with being in a Salaried position. Ms. Kemp provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently we have 32 active cases in Clay County. The Board signed an Event Approval to attend a Tabletop Exercise in Abilene, Kansas.

The Board returned a phone call to Eugene with the Garage Door in Manhattan about a complaint on the treatment that our Landfill Director made by phone towards the Garage Door employees. Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, joined the meeting. The phone calls were concerning a repair on a large door that parts are unavailable and half of the cost was paid for in March. Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, had called on Friday and talked to Cindy to see what the status was on this project. Ms. Carroll called again on Monday. Eugene stated that he is having issues with getting parts. He has one of the springs but it takes two. He would love to come out and fix the door today but that is not possible without the parts. Ms. Carroll stated that the Garage Door employees did not seem to want to give her an update and provide information on this project. Commissioner Carlson stated that they understand about the parts taking longer to get with the shipping issues going on and would appreciate it if Eugene would keep them updated and we will call it good with both parties.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give a weekly report. Sheriff Benninga reported that he has received applications for the Dispatcher position and would like permission to hire 2 weeks prior to the date needed. The Board granted permission.

April Swartz, Varney & Associates, met with the Board to present the 2020 Final County Audit and the 2020 Single Audit on the SPARKS funds. Ms. Swartz reported the audit went well and all requirements were met with no findings or violations found in the Audit.

Brian Yarrow met with the Board to discuss the Clay County Zoning Plan and what is required for the size of parcels and the splitting off of property.

Renee Langvardt, Sub Committee of CCBA, met with the Board to report that they will be doing the Christmas Mailer again this year. This is to bring people to our County and to promote all of the different events happening during the Holidays in Clay County. The Businesses may place an event on the card but not advertise a sale. Ms. Langvardt stated that they are requesting the same amount of funding as the last two years, which is \$5,000 to help with the cost of printing and postage. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to donate \$2,500 out of the Travel & Tourism Fund and \$2,500 out of Economic Development Fund for a total of \$5,000. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
November 1, 2021
Clay Center, Kansas