

October 31, 2022

Commissioner Mayo, Commissioner Thurlow, Commissioner Carlson were present at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. The minutes were approved as printed. Payroll in the amount of \$201,131.04 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business, and County employees concerning safety. Christine Swaim, County Treasurer joined the meeting to present the bids for the abstract research on the parcels that will be on the upcoming delinquent tax sale. The bids were received as follows: Bids for the updated information on 37 properties

Republican Valley Title, LLC - \$100 per parcel for a total of \$3,700 – 60-day completion

Clay County Abstract & Title Co. - \$175 per parcel for a total of \$6,475 – 45-day completion

Bids on 29 additional properties to research

Republican Valley Title, LLC - \$170 per parcel for a total of \$4,930 – 60-day completion

Clay County Abstract & Title Co. - \$175 per parcel for a total of \$5,075 – 30-day completion

Ms. Swaim, County Treasurer, also presented a letter from Klenda Austerman LLC regarding Clay County Tax Foreclosures. The letter included several references for the County to contact if they would like to. Ms. Swaim stated that this firm handles all steps of the delinquent tax sales. The Board asked Ms. Swaim to find out more information from the Counties that use this firm and to report back to them but at this time they are not that interested in using them. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to accept the bids from Republican Valley Title for both the updated information in the amount of \$3,700 and the additional properties added in the amount of \$4,930. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Shomper reported that the Department bladed roads, finished the mowing on County roads and will now finish the Township roads for the winter, hauled rock, and continued to work on the crack sealing. Mr. Shomper stated that he had received a complaint on the cemetery that is located at 11th Rd. & Redwood Rd. The concern is that there are Veteran's buried there and feel that it should be mowed for Veteran's Day. Commissioner Mayo replied that this is the cemetery that the County Maintenance is to take care of. The Board agreed that it will be mowed for Veteran's Day. Mr. Shomper presented four applications that he has submitted for the State Bridge Program. If awarded the County will either be responsible for 10% or 20% of the project and the State will pay the remaining amount. Mr. Shomper also presented a proposal contract for a 2023 bridge replacement located at 16th Rd. & Valleyview Rd. in the amount of \$177,602 paid to Husker Steel and \$24,250 paid to Norfolk Contracting. This would lock the price of the project in for the year 2023. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to accept the proposal no. 22-197 on the replacement of the bridge at 16th Rd. & Valleyview Rd. in the amount of \$177,602 to Husker Steel and \$24,250 to Norfolk Contracting. This will be done and paid for in 2023 out the Bridge Improvement Sales Tax Fund. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer reported that the Department is at 958 emergency runs compared to 792 at the same time in 2021. There will be 3 AEMT students that are ready to take the tests. They have completed all of the practical skills. Mr. Cramer presented the job description for the EMS Billing Clerk position and will be placing an

employment ad in the newspaper and on Indeed. The Board approved the updated job description for the EMS Billing Clerk position.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Board signed an Event Approval to attend a training in Concordia, Kansas. Chairman Mayo signed the FY22 Emergency Management Performance Grant Application for Ms. Kemp to send into the State.

Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Rickley introduced Melody Mayo, the new Public Health Nurse to the Board. They are currently full staffed with the nurses at this time. Ms. Rickley reported that there are currently 8 positive reported cases of COVID in Clay County. Last Friday Ms. Rickley and Chief Robinson worked a Drug Take Back program for three hours and received four 33-gallon trash bags worth of medicines to be destroyed. This was a great response from the community on this program.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Kayla Wang, County Clerk, asked Sheriff Benninga if the Deputies that are on duty Election Day would make random stops at the Polling Places in Clay County throughout the day. Sheriff Benninga stated that either the Deputies or himself would be glad to do this on Election Day. The Board granted permission to replace the steering wheel on one of the Deputies patrol units.

Commissioner Mayo discussed a couple of concerns that he had received from individuals about the Clay County Park. The Board called Chuck Arnold, Park Manager, by phone and discussed the concerns. Mr. Arnold stated that he would call and visit with the individual about this issue. Commissioner Mayo asked Mr. Arnold if he had two campers at the park and if they were both plugged in to electricity. Mr. Arnold stated that he had purchased a new camper and thought that he had his other one sold and it did not work out. Only the new one is plugged into the electricity.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to discuss the tires on the dump truck that is used at the Landfill. Ms. Carroll presented a bid from Kansasland Tire on the purchase of 8 retread tires for the dump truck in the amount of \$3,008. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to purchase the 8 tires for the dump truck from Kansasland Tire in the amount of \$3,008. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Carroll made the request for 9 hours of sick leave from the County Sick Leave Pool and the use of accumulated vacation hours for an employee of the Landfill. Commissioner Thurlow made a motion to grant permission for an employee of the Landfill to use all of the accumulated hours of vacation time before their one-year anniversary and to donate 9 hours of sick leave for the County Sick Leave Pool. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Carroll reported that she has had an individual bring 16 5-gallon buckets of Household Hazardous Waste that she believes may have come from a business. If a business brings HHW to the Landfill they must pay a fee to dispose of the item. Ms. Carroll called Big Lakes Region out of Manhattan that takes all of the HHW and they are wanting to charge the Landfill \$801.27 for disposal fees on this waste. The Board asked Ms. Carroll to research this issue in more details and to report back to them at a later date.

The Board approved the annual renewal of life insurance with Advance Insurance Company of Kansas.

Shannon Stark, Assistant Director, Grow Clay County, met with the Board to discuss the Christmas mailer that they will be sending out this year. Ms. Stark stated that they will be placing all of the community events on the mailers and will be sending them out Countywide. Renee Langvardt will be designing the card and then printed and mailed for a cost of \$5,000. Ms. Stark asked if the County would be willing to pay for this mailer out of Economic Development funds like they have in the previous several years. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to pay the \$5,000 for the annual Christmas mailers out of the Economic Development Fund. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Jerry F. Mayo, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
November 7, 2022
Clay Center, Kansas