

November 15, 2021

Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, and Commissioner Thurlow were present at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. The minutes were approved as printed. Payroll in the amount of \$187,837.41 was reviewed and approved by the Board. Account Payables in the amount of \$65,577.35 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Mason reported on what he found out concerning the Interlocal Agreement for the NRP Plan. Mr. Mason stated that the agreement does not require the Attorney General's approval, so they can move forward with getting the agreements signed by the participating taxing entities. Mr. Mason reported that he will be handling the past due accounts for the Clay County Park and that Mr. Arnold, Park Manager will be providing him with the information that has been requested.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Department graded roads, installed several pipes, finished the roadside mowing, placed rip rap under a bridge, did ditch work, hauled rock, hauled sand for winter mix, will haul salt this week, and winterized equipment and placed it at the Fairgrounds. Mr. Shomper reported to the Board that the Highway Department had ran out of 24" in diameter pipes so he placed an order with Welborn Sales for 3 pipes at an estimated amount of \$4,600. Commissioner Carlson asked Mr. Shomper if he had completed the work south of Vining for Mr. Francis Cox. Mr. Cox has requested that the Highway Department return and remove additional dirt mixed with rock. Mr. Shomper stated that he would be glad to haul more of it away and use at a different location. Mr. Shomper reported that he had researched the Total Patcher Machine and found out that the City of Clifton has purchased one and that Geary County has one. Both owners stated that they would not buy the crack seal attachment. The procedure that has to be followed with using the crack sealer is very detailed and they don't recommend buying it. The Board stated that they would look at buying a patcher after the first of the year. The income and expenses for the 2021 budget were reviewed.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer reported that run volume has staying steady with emergency runs and out of town transfers. They have ran the employment ad in the Dispatch for the vacant AEMT position. They have also placed it on EMS Facebook, County website, and on KEMPASA website. The Department is trying to figure out a better way of tracking medical supplies and keep stock on hand. They will research the different computer programs that are able to keep track of all of this and make a decision at a later date.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, and Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Rickley reported that there are currently 11 active cases and that they are following 14 individuals. Ms. Rickley stated that she had applied for a Vaccine Equity Grant and had received \$110,000. The Board granted permission to hire one additional temporary part time with no benefits mitigation person. Ms. Rickley is hopeful that with having this additional help that the full-time help can stop working overtime hours. The Board of Commissioner gave Ms. Rickley permission to get prices on 3 new desktop computers and monitors Ms. Rickley will return next week with the quotes. Ms. Rickley explained to the Board that an employee and herself will not be able to take all of

the 2021 vacation and would like to ask if they would be able to carry it over for a period of time into 2022. After discussion, Commissioner Mayo made the motion to extend the time for Ms. Rickley and one employee until June 30, 2022 to use up all of the accrued 2021 vacation hours. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Kemp would like to remind the public that County Health will be open for a Walk in Clinic on Thursday November 18th for vaccines and the booster vaccine. Also, COVID testing is still available at the County Health Department during office hours.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Shelly Williams and Megan Lewis, Riley County Corrections joined the meeting. Commissioner Carlson asked Ms. Lewis what their procedure was if they had a handicap person that needs to meet with them. Ms. Lewis stated that she meets with them upstairs in the interview room. The Board adjourned at 10:35 a.m. to tour the Law Enforcement Center again. All parties toured the Undersheriff & Deputies office and then toured the entire basement. Several suggestions about the pros and cons for the office space were made by both sides. The Commissioner stated that they would like to make a decision next week.

The Board reconvened in the Commissioner Room at 11:20 a.m.

Natalie Muruato, Economic Development Director, and Jeremy Smith met with the Board to present a Small Business Development Grant Application for approval. Ms. Muruato introduced Mr. Smith to the Board and had Mr. Smith talk about his new business called Legacy Outdoors of Wakefield. The new business will be located at 674 Sunflower Rd. Wakefield, Ks. and will be providing hunting, fishing, boating supplies, live bait, beer, and snack foods. This will be an owner operator type of business. Mr. Smith thanked the Board for considering his business for the Small Business Development Grant. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to approve the grant in the amount of \$2,500 for Legacy Outdoors of Wakefield. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Muruato reported to the Board that Daycare is becoming a serious issue in Clay County. There are businesses that are losing employees because they are not able to find Daycare for their children. Ms. Muruato will be researching this issue in detail and is asking the Board to consider possibly providing assistance on this serious issue. Ms. Muruato provided the Board with the new Bylaws and the Committee Structure and Responsibilities of the merge between the Economic Development Group and the Chamber of Commerce for review. The new name of the merge will be Clay County Growth Alliance. Ms. Muruato presented a Travel & Tourism Event Grant Application for Community Chamber Orchestra presents Heavenly Trumpet that will be held on March 18, 2022 in the amount of \$300 - \$400. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to approve the event grant in the amount of \$350 for the Heavenly Trumpet concert. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the half page ad for Clay County for the 2022 Kansas Travel Guide at the cost of \$4,070. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to approve the ad for the 2022 Kansas Travel Guide in the amount of \$4,070 to be paid for out of the Travel & Tourism Fund. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ron and Jeanna Fancella met with the Board to invite them to the Pearl Harbor Day Event that will be held on the westside of the Courthouse Square on December 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The Board instructed Mr. Fancella to contact the Christmas Tree Festival committee to make arrangements for this event.

The Board signed a letter of support for Big Lakes Developmental Center for a KDOT application on a \$10,000 operating grant for Transportation Assistance and a replacement accessible bus for July 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2023.

The Board signed a letter of support to send with the application submitted for a building site for a new Northeast Kansas Veteran's Home. The Board fully supports this application and cooperate to the fullest extent should Clay County be selected as the new site.

The Board adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
November 22, 2021
Clay Center, Kansas