

November 22, 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.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department graded roads, finished mowing, hauled salt and got it all mixed with the sand for winter, hauled rock, installed pipes in several locations, finished winterizing equipment, and tested all of the salt spreaders to make sure they are ready for winter. Starting next week, they will start trimming trees along roadsides and bridges.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer stated that the EMS is 90 runs ahead of the same time in 2020. The Department has been busy making emergency runs and out of town transfers. David Vance with Osage Ambulances has contacted Mr. Cramer and stated that there will be a delay in receiving the new ambulance. It may be June before we receive it. The KRAF Grant will be opening and receiving applications soon. Mr. Cramer would like to apply for an additional Lucas mechanic compression device to be placed in the 4th ambulance.

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 currently Clay County has 26 active cases and following 52 individuals for contact tracing. Ms. Rickley stated that they were very pleased with the attendance for the walk-in clinics that were held last week. County Health administered over 700 COVID and Flu immunization shots to individuals. Ms. Kemp stated that she is concerned with the Holiday gatherings that are coming up and the spread of COVID. She would like to remind people that the disease is real and that it is still being actively spread around. The Board reviewed the additional pay for the three employees at County Health Department that provide the contact tracing on positive COVID cases. Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to extend the extra \$5.00 per hour for unlimited hours until December 31, 2021 and will be reviewed again at this time.

Christine Swaim, County Treasurer, met with the Board to have them witness her signature and to sign the County Treasurer's Bond. Ms. Swaim discussed the status of the delinquent property tax sale and asked if she could get prices from other Companies that handle the process so that we can move forward. The Board agreed to find out what the cost is for another company that provides this service. Ms. Swaim asked permission to close the afternoon of December 30th, 2021 to start the year end process in her office. There will be no Motor Vehicle processed at all on the December 30th. The County Clerk's Office, County Appraiser's Office and the Register of Deeds Offices will also be closing at 12:00 p.m. (noon) on December 30th so that the Treasurer's Office and the County Clerk's Office can begin the Year End process.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Shelly Williams and Megan Lewis, Riley County Community Corrections were also present. Sheriff Benninga presented the contract between Clay County and Riley County Community Corrections for the service of Clay County providing the specimen collection and testing of Riley County Community Corrections clients. The Board granted approval for Sheriff Benninga to sign the contract. Commissioner Carlson asked Ms. Williams if they had

measured the Office space upstairs to see if it would work for Ms. Lewis to meet with her clients. Ms. Williams and Ms. Lewis stated that they had measured and are still trying to figure out how to place the furniture that they currently have. Ms. Lewis handed out a drawing of the room to scale and explained that they may not be able to have the second desk or they may have to get a smaller desk to place in that office space. Commissioner Mayo stated that he feels that Ms. Lewis would be safer upstairs than down in the basement to meet with her clients. The Board asked Sheriff Benninga where he would like to have Ms. Lewis's office to be. Sheriff Benninga stated that he would like to move the Undersheriff and the Deputies downstairs and to have Ms. Lewis upstairs in that office. The Board supported Sheriff Benninga and stated that the Riley Community Corrections Office would be moving upstairs and trading spaces with the Deputies. The County will pay for the office to be painted and some upgrades that need to be done with the move. The plan is to have this completed by the end of February 2022.

Danny Mesalles, County Appraiser, met with the Board to present an NRP Application for approval and a signature. The Board approved and signed the application presented. Building permits and zoning issues in different areas of the County were reviewed.

An email was received from Brett Hubka on behalf of the Mural Movement asking permission to use the same sign posts as the Veteran's Memorial signs to place a Mural Walk sign below. The Board granted permission to use the same sign post for the Mural Walk signs.

An email request was received from Amanda Nichols working in association with A Mural Movement of Clay Center seeking to give Wakefield, Kansas a shiny new coat of paint. They would like to commemorate the Milford Lake and locate the Mural in the Clay County Park, accessible to any and all visitors. They are asking permission to place this Mural on the shower house located in the park. The goal is to paint this Mural in Wakefield by spring of 2022. After discussion, Commissioner Mayo made the motion to grant permission for the Mural to be painted on the shower house located within the Clay County Park. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
November 29, 2021
Clay Center, Kansas