January 2, 2024

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.

Abatement 2023A16-2023A17 in the amount of $717.14 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Commissioner Mayo made the motion to re-appoint Marcy Schooley to serve on the Pawnee Mental Health’s Governing Board of Directors for an additional term. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board approved the $58 additional cost on the computer that was approved last week for the County Attorney Office.

Austin Gillard, CEO CCMC, met with the Board to give an update on the Medical Center. Mr. Gillard reported that they were able to hire a Mental Health Nurse Practitioner that will work out of the Riley Family Physicians location. She will start in late February of 2024. The Medical Center will be replacing the GAMA Camera in the spring at no cost. The current machine that is located in the Radiology Department is 22 years old.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Shomper reported that on Christmas Day he had 6 guys that worked to remove snow off of the roads. They are currently blading and making repairs to the gravel roads and getting them back into good shape. Mr. Shomper informed the Board that both Martin Rock Quarry and Kansas Falls Quarry have increased the cost of 1¼ inch rock by $1.00 per ton. The Department is beginning the process of placing the new 911 signs on all State Highways within Clay County. The Highway Department has 3 vacant Truck Driver positions. A CDL is required, if hired and do not have a CDL, Clay County will assist the employee in getting the CDL License.

Alec Trembath, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The EMS Department ended the 2023 year with 928 runs. They continue to stay busy with emergency runs and out of town transfers. The AEMT students will be doing their Field Internships with the Riley County EMS Department. The Department will have 6 instructors that will be teaching CPR. They are possibly going to be offering CPR classes one Saturday a month to individuals.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Kemp reported that the ESF Command Staff will be meeting on Thursday January 4th to work on the All-Hazard Evacuation Plan for the Tabletop Exercise on January 25th.

Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Rickley stated that they are still taking applications for a vacant RN or LPN position at the County Health Department.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga introduced the Board to Codey Barber the new Deputy for the Sheriff’s Department. The Board welcomed Mr. Barber to
Clay County. Ryan Wilson, Clay Center Dispatch, was also present. Mr. Wilson expressed his concerns on the Open Records Request and feels that he is not getting all of the information on recent suicides that have happen in Clay County. Sheriff Benninga stated that Mr. Wilson will be required to fill out an Open Records Request each time on the information that he is requesting and the Sheriff’s Department will provide the information that is available if they can legally give it to him. Sheriff Benninga stated that he has been in contact with Joel Mason, County Attorney, to research the law on what they can legally provide or not provide when they are filling a request.

Danny Mesalles, County Appraiser, met with the Board to present the completed Clay County Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The County has been working with Marvin Planning Consultants for over a year to update the plan. The Zoning Board met on December 21, 2023 to finalize the plan and they voted to have Mr. Mesalles make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to adopt the Clay County Comprehensive Land Use Plan as presented. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to approve and adopt the Clay County Comprehensive Land Use Plan as presented. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Mesalles provided a Resolution to be passed for the approval of the adoption. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to pass Resolution 2024-01 approving the adoption of the 2023 Comprehensive Land Use Plan of Clay County, Kansas. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Susan Mall, Register of Deeds, met with the Board to ask permission to purchase two office chairs from Central Office Service & Supply at the price of $419 each with a 5-year warranty. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to approve the purchase of two office chairs at the cost of $419 each to be paid for out of the 2023 Budget. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to ask permission to move her last parttime person hired into a fulltime position with benefits effective January 2, 2024. The Board granted permission for this Payroll Change. As of today, Ms. Carroll stated that she has not found out what is wrong with the recycling box truck. TSI was going to look at it and let her know.

The Board adjourned at 12:25 p.m.