

January 3, 2023

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

BHS Construction informed the Board of Commissioners that sub-contractor Durwin Mall, Ram Exterminator, has requested to donate the treatment of the under-slab materials. The Board would like to thank Mr. Mall for his generous donation.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County Business. Mr. Mason and the Board reviewed the valuations within the County and the hours required to work for different positions within the County.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department removed the snow blades and chains off of the equipment so that it can be used for daily projects, cleaned and removed trees from under bridges, patched asphalt roads, and placed a pipe extension on Meadowlark Rd. between 18<sup>th</sup> Rd. and 19<sup>th</sup> Rd. Mr. Shomper presented the cost of leasing 4 dump trucks and 2 semi's from Bruckner Truck Sales. After reviewing the formal proposal on the 6 trucks the Board asked Mr. Shomper to find out the cost of buying outright and doing a lease to own with a local bank. Mark Taddiken joined the meeting to discuss the Riverside Drainage District. Mr. Taddiken provided a map showing all of the dams within the district and where they are located. He also reported that there is some work that needs to be done like the removal of trees on the dams and the filling in of small ditches. It has been several years since any maintenance work has been done within the district. The Board asked Mr. Shomper to put this work on his schedule to be done. Mr. Shomper stated that he thought he should be able to start the tree trimming and removal sometime in February. Mr. Shomper provided the 2023 Road Safety Plan Agreement between the State of Kansas and Clay County for the stripping of the white lines on the asphalt roads within Clay County. The State of Kansas will pay 90% and the County will pay 10% of the total cost. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to sign the Agreement for white stripping on asphalt roads within Clay County. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Shomper reported that he had finally received funds from FEMA in the amount of \$138,405.41 for the 2019 Flood. Mr. Shomper reported that they had contacted Bruna Implement about the Commissioners wanting the mowing employees to try out the tractor that is being quoted. Bruna's connected them with a couple of owners in the community that let them go out and drive and look at. The employees liked the comfort of the cab and the accessibility of the handles. The only thing that they thought was the visibility to the mower was better on the John Deere tractor. The quotes were reviewed as follows:

Bruna Implement Co.- Case IH Maxxum 145 - \$123,450.00

Tiger Mower - \$52,709.54

TOTAL - \$176,159.54

PrairieLand Partners, LLC – John Deere 6145M - \$148,815.44

Mower - \$68,093.74

TOTAL - \$216,908.18

After reviewing the quotes, Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to purchase the Case IH Maxxum 145 and Tiger Mower from Bruna Implement Co. in the total amount of \$176,159.54. The total amount

will be split and \$88,079.77 will be paid for out of the Road & Bridge Budget and \$88,079.77 will be paid for out of the Noxious Weed Capital Outlay Fund. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer reported that the EMS Department ended 2022 with 1,180 emergency runs. They are working on putting all of the emergency run information into a statistical report and will provide it to the Board at a later date.

The Board of Commissioners would like to thank Irene Jensen and Greg Jensen for their generous donation of the collage picture of several Courthouse postcards and an original 1902 newspaper with the Courthouse on the front page. The Board made the decision to frame the picture and hang it in the County Commissioners Room within the Courthouse.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga stated that the Department has had a quiet holiday season. They had to work a few accidents from the slick roads when the weather changed but nothing too serious.

Danny Mesalles, County Appraiser, met with the Board to give a report on the 2022 Building Permits. In 2022 the Appraiser's Office issued/received 107 total building permits. Of those 107 permits, 10 were new dwellings and 4 were mobile homes. Also of those 107 permits, 54 were within Cities and 53 were out in the County. Mr. Mesalles reported that Agriculture values were set last week. These formulas to set values are issued by the State of Kansas. Mr. Mesalles reviewed the Ag values for 2023 with the Board as follows

|                 | Dry Crop | Average -5% to -6% |
|-----------------|----------|--------------------|
| Irrigation Land | -18%     |                    |
| Tame Grass      | +8%      |                    |
| Native Grass    | +2%      |                    |

Mr. Mesalles still has some concerns for the Residential Values. They will continue to increase with the high prices that individuals are paying for homes and with the increased prices to build new homes.

Alec Trembath, EMS Paramedic Captain, met with the Board to present the KRAF grant application for signature. Mr. Trembath stated that if they were awarded this grant, they would purchase an additional Lucas device with the funds. Chairman Mayo signed the application.

The Board adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

---

Jerry F. Mayo, Chairman

---

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk  
January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Clay Center, Kansas