

January 5, 2026

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. Payroll in the amount of \$155,342.75 was reviewed and approved by the Board. Account Payables for 2025 in the amount of \$59,589.71 and 2026 in the amount of \$560,075.00 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Austin Gillard, CEO CCMC, met with the Board to provide an update on the Medical Center. Mr. Gillard reported that the renovation at the Riley Family Physicians is completed. This is a nice 1,700 square foot addition that was needed to handle the patient growth at this facility. In the month of January, CCMC will be doing 5 total knee replacements here in Clay Center. This is exciting that we are able to provide this service. Clay Center Family Physicians saw 2,200 more patients in 2025 than in 2024. Mr. Gillard stated that for the year 2026 the Hospital Board has decided to take care of items that need to be fixed and to not do any large projects this year.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Shomper reported that last week the Department graded roads, hauled dirt, hauled rock, replaced bridge planks on two bridges, and did repairs on different pieces of equipment. Foley Equipment has been in contact and the two new blades should arrive here sometime soon. Mr. Shomper stated that he will be placing three older pickups on Purplewave in the near future. He also presented bids for the purchase of two new pickups as follows:

Long McArthur Ford – Ford Crew Cab - \$56,957.14 (plus shipping)

Ford Single Cab - \$51,309.62

Glavan Ford of Clay Center – Ford Crew Cab - \$56,550 (plus \$600 document fee)

Ford Single Cab - \$52,600 (plus \$600 document fee)

Holm Abilene – Salina – Chevy Single Cab - \$51,420

Friesen Auto – Dodge Crew Cab - \$57,133

Dodge Single Cab - \$53,615

After reviewing the bids and deciding that they only need a single cab pickup, Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to purchase 2 new Ford Single Cab pickups from Glavan Ford of Clay Center at the cost of \$53,200 each for a total of \$106,400. The Board decided to purchase the pickups locally so that they can be serviced here also. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. This week the Department will be starting to mow, weed eat and cut trees around bridges, guardrails, and signs.

Abatements 2025A07 through 2025A10 in the amount of \$1,196.72 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Alec Trembath, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Department finished the 2025 year with 1033 emergency runs. On Wednesday they will be holding their quarterly meeting to discuss future projects and plans for the Department. The Department has been in discussion about starting the coverage for Miltonvale's area at the end of January. There are a few EMT's that have expressed that they would like to join the Clay County PRN roster so that they can stay certified and provide the service to the public.

Jim Bogart, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Bogart asked the Board if the PRN's will also be required to take the mandatory Mental Health Training that is being provided for County employees to attend in February. The Board stated that they feel that the PRN should attend the training too. The Emergency Management 2026 Budget was reviewed and Mr. Bogart stated that he would like to make the blue trailer into a response trailer and have it ready in case of an emergency.

Commissioner Carlson made the motion to approve the 2025 Departmental Inventory for Clay County. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga stated that the Cloud County Sheriff had contacted him to see if we would be willing to house prisoners since they are closing the jail down for a period of time. Sheriff Benninga stated that he will be housing three female prisoners at a contracted price of \$40 per day.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to give an update on the Landfill. Ms. Carroll gave the estimated income on the rate changes for the C&D pit and for the Solid Waste hole. Commissioner Carlson asked Ms. Carroll about the repairs that need to be made to the dump truck and what the plan is to get it fixed. Ms. Carroll said that she was waiting on the funding with the 2026 budget. The Commissioner instructed Ms. Carroll to get the dump truck fixed.

The Board adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

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Jerry F. Mayo, Chairman

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Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk  
January 12, 2026  
Clay Center, Kansas

