

February 6, 2023

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. Payroll in the amount of \$221,418.11 was reviewed and approved by the Board. Account payables in the amount of \$28,043.13 for the budget year 2022 were reviewed and approved by the Board. Account payables in the amount of \$777,517.85 for the budget year 2023 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Sam Tiemeyer, Cowboy's for Christ, met with the Board to report that the Cowboy's for Christ continue to have events that involve kids. At Easter they had 30 kids at the arena to ride horses. Their big event is at the Fair. They always have lots of kids and even a few adults that want to ride horses. They also rode in 8 different parades in 2022 promoting the organization. Mr. Tiemeyer asked the Board if they would be willing to make a donation to put towards the events that they host. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to donate \$500 out of the Alcohol Fund to the Cowboy's for Christ. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Austin Gillard, CCMC CEO, met with the Board to give a report on the Clay County Medical Center. Mr. Gillard reported that the article that was in the newspaper had some incorrect information printed. Mr. Gillard has written a correction and has asked The Clay Center Dispatch to print his corrections. Mr. Gillard stated that he has been meeting monthly with Dana Rickley, County Health Director, to build the relationship between the two Departments back up. This has been going very well and will be a great benefit to the people of Clay County. Dr. Steven Short DO joined CCMC in January and has been very busy with patients. People are driving from Topeka and Wichita to be seen by Dr. Short. The installation on the new MRI unit has been completed. The unit is up and running with appointments. Mr. Gillard announced that there will be a Neurology Nurse Practitioner joining Dr. Nanda Kumar, M.D. and providing services to patients at CCMC.

The Board approved a payment in the amount of \$364,632.16 to BHS Construction, Inc. for part of the construction of the new multi-purpose building at the Fairgrounds.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason reported that we had received a new contract for the Board to sign on the National Opioid Settlements with Teva, Allergan, CVS, and Walgreens. The funds received from this Settlement can only be used for certain things. It can be used for Law Enforcement Drug training, EMS Drug training and the purchase of Narcan. So far Clay County has received \$12,949.07 in funds from this settlement. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to sign and enter into agreement for the National Opioid Settlement. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board approved an Event Approval for an employee of the County Treasurer's Office to attend a meeting in Topeka, Kansas.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department worked in the shop, bladed roads, ordered base plates to make road signs, picked up used oil, and hauled rock to several locations. Mr. Shomper stated that the Bayer Rock Quarry has stopped crushing rock for a period of time. The quarry is running low on rock and the County may be required to drive further to another quarry to get rock. It is not known how long it will be before they start crushing again.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer reported that Medic 8 was serviced last week and they were informed that the unit is going to need new tires soon. The Board

instructed Mr. Cramer to go ahead and get bids for new tires. The Board signed an Event Approval for three EMS employees to attend a training in Olathe, Kansas.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Management, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Board signed an Event Approval for an employee of the Emergency Management to attend training in Concordia, Kansas. Ms. Kemp will be hosting the Recovery Plan Development webinar at ESA on Monday February 13th , 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Rickley reported that there are only 3 reported positive cases of COVID in Clay County and the State will consider us to be in the low incidence level. The State announced that the Public Health Emergency Declaration will be ending on May 11th , 2023.

Commissioner Carlson made the motion to approve the 2022 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 reported that they are having plumbing issues in a couple of the cells in the jail. Mel's Plumbing are attempting to make repairs before having to purchase new equipment.

Mike Argo, Fair Board President, met with the Board to give an update on the 2023 Clay County Fair. The Fair will be held July 25th -30th this year. It is later in July so that we could get the same carnival as last year. Mr. Argo stated that the Rodeo will be held two weeks before the actual fair. This year they are having The Girls Next Door again for the Gospel Show on Sunday July 23, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at a cost of \$1,500. Then for the Friday night of the Fair, Tate Stevens will be coming back again for the night of free entertainment at a cost of \$4,500. Mr. Argo asked the Commissioners if they would like to make a donation to help pay for the concert again this year. After discussion, Commissioner Mayo made the motion to donate \$1,500 out of the Parks & Rec Fund and \$1,500 out of the Alcohol Fund for a total of \$3,000. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Christine Swaim, County Treasurer, provided information for the Board comparing the percentage of taxes that are uncollected in 2021 and in 2022. In the Tax Year 2021 there were 38.13% that were uncollected at the same time as in the Tax Year 2022 there were 38.41% that have been uncollected. So, there is a very small increase in the percentage of uncollected for Tax Year 2022.

The Board adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

David M. Thurlow, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
February 13, 2023
Clay Center, Kansas