March 2, 2020

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. Account payables in the amount of $70,237.60 out of the 2019 budgets and $346,229.05 out of the 2020 budgets. Ryan Wilson, Clay Center Dispatch, started the live stream on Facebook at 8:28 a.m.

Jeff Germann, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Commissioner Carlson asked Mr. Germann about the placement of a tube instead of a low water bridge at the location of 25th Rd & Prairie Rd. Mr. Germann stated that he did not know if one tube would handle the amount of water that flows through that area. Commissioner Carlson stated that maybe we would have to place two tubes there to handle the water. He feels that the tubes would be better than a low water bridge. Mr. Germann will look into this issue if they were to use tubes instead of the low water bridge. Last week the Department hauled chips, bladed roads, picked up the square blade in Salina, and unloaded the 75-foot culvert that arrived at the Clay County Park. The plan is to install the culvert this week. The sheet piling was delivered on Wednesday. The Highway Department will be placing three used vehicles on Purplewave to sell.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer reported that the Department continues to stay busy with emergency runs and out of town transfers. As of today, they have made 168 runs which is an increase from 2019. Medic Units 2 & 3 are scheduled to be serviced this week. Mr. Cramer presented bids for two new replacement monitors as follows:

- Central Office Service & Supply - $139.00 each plus $15 each for port cable – Total $308.00
- Best Buy - $129.99 each plus $19.99 each for port cable - $299.96

After discussion, Commissioner Mayo made the motion to purchase two monitors and cables in the amount of $308.00 from Central Office Service & Supply. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board signed two Event Approvals for an employee of the County Clerk’s Office to attend meetings in Wichita and Dodge City, Kansas. Permission was granted for a Dickinson County employee to ride in a Clay County vehicle.

The Board signed two Event Approvals for two employees of the District Court Services to attend training in Wichita, Kansas and St. Louis, Missouri.

Every year Dalanna Nichols, District Court Administrator, reviews the pervious year caseload filings for both Riley and Clay Counties to determine district expenses for the district employees that serve both Clay and Riley Counties. This includes any expense such as registration fees, mileage, lodging and any per diem expense incurred that is typically submitted to the County for payment by Official Court Reporters, Chief Court Services Officer, District Court Administrator, and any district expenses that may be incurred by District Court Judges that is not paid by the Judicial Branch. For 2020, the district expenses will be submitted using the following percentages for all Pro-Rated District Expenses.

CLAY COUNTY – 14%
RILEY COUNTY – 86%.
Joseph Davies and Robbie Timmerman met with the Board to discuss issues at the Landfill. Commissioner Mayo asked to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to go into Executive Session of non-elected personnel for 20 minutes beginning at 9:42 a.m. with Commissioner Thurlow, Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, Kayla Wang, County Clerk, Joseph Davis and Robbie Timmerman present. The subject to be discussed is personnel. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting reconvened at 10:02 a.m. with no action being taken during the session.

Nick Brummet, CCCMS Counselor, Sara Smith, Justin Wright, and Jimmy Gordon, Leadership Group Members, met with the Board to give a presentation on Positive Addictions Month. Last year there were approximately 380 runners that participated in the 5K and 88 2nd graders that ran the Hero Mile. This includes the students from Wakefield Grade School and CCCMS. Each year the 2nd & 4th graders (about 193 students) hand out water along the route. The Street Department, Clay Center Police Department, Clay County Sheriff’s Department and members of the Wellness Center volunteer along the route. Approximately 30 parents volunteer to guard the route, provide snacks, or help at the finish line each year. A request was made to the Board of Commissioner to donate up to and not over one-half of the cost of the T-shirts in the amount of $1,820. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to donate up to $1,820 for the 2020 Positive Addiction T-shirts to be paid for out of the Alcohol Fund. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ron Schmale met with the Board representing Dan Ayers as to when the bridge located at 25th Rd. & Prairie Rd. is going to be put in place. Mr. Ayers was wanting to know if this was going to be done before May so that they would be able to put cattle in the pasture. The old bridge has been removed and nothing has been done at this time. Commissioner Carlson stated that they had discussed earlier in the day about the placement of a tube instead of a low water crossing. This is being researched and hopefully something will be done soon.

A Travel & Tourism Event Grant Application for the Longford Rodeo in the amount of $1,000 was received. These funds, if received, are used for advertising of the event. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to approve the Grant application in the amount of $1,000 out of the Travel & Tourism Fund. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chuck Dunn, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Dunn reported that he is still doing research on the requirements of markings on horse and buggies when traveling on roadways. The Board stated that they just want to keep all parties safe.

Mike Carney, Clay County Park Manager, met with the Board to give an update on the park. Mr. Carney presented the Board with the Profit and Loss report for 2019. The year was not a good year with all of the flooding and damage that was done within the Park. Bloom Construction is working on the shop and is ready to pour the concrete for the bathroom addition. Kansas Gas will need to move the line and will re-locate the meter when the shop is close to being finished. There are two corners on the west end that the concrete is damaged and will need to be redone. The electrical bid will be different than first presented because of the original specs being changed. Mr. Carney stated that he has been down working at the grounds picking up items and they have worked the grounds the best that they could. He
will be getting an electrical estimate on the repairs to the H frames and breakers from Boarder States Electrical to be presented to the Board so that he can do the repairs himself. The vaulted toilets are thawed out and need to be pumped out before the Highway Department can remove them. Bloom Construction is going to give an estimate on repairing the five shelter houses. Two of them were destroyed and three are damaged. Mr. Bloom made a recommendation to consider purchasing the portable carports to use as the shelter houses. Then if the water was to rise again you could remove the bolts and move the carports to a different location. Mr. Bloom will get prices on this. Mr. Carney is planning on having part of the park usable by the end of March. Permission was granted to purchase grass seed and to get it planted soon. Commissioner Carlson informed Mr. Carney that you can purchase grass seed at the Conservation District Office. Commissioner Thurlow stated that the County can not depend on receiving the FEMA payment anytime soon and the they need to keep moving forward with cleanup and repairs. Once the shop is completed so that he has a place to work he will start working on cleaning and repairing the picnic tables.

Bill Vardnadore met with the Board to discuss the Clay County Park. Commissioner Mayo stated that he would like to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to go into Executive Session under the Resident Exception (resident of Clay County Park) for 15 minutes beginning at 11:10 a.m. with Commissioner Thurlow, Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, Kayla Wang, County Clerk, and Bill Vardnadore present. The subject to be discuss is the Clay County Park. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting reconvened at 11:25 a.m. with no action being taken during this session.

Mike Carney, Clay County Park Manager, presented the Board with a map to show where Mr. Vardnadore’s camping spot is located and pictures of the camping spot last year. The pictures showed how things are not kept up and items and trash are left laying everywhere. Mr. Carney stated that he has to pick up trash before he can mow in the area. The Corp of Engineer has a policy that a camping spot is not to appear as if you are homesteading and this appears as he is homesteading with all of the stuff that he has moved in. Mr. Carney stated that he recommends that the Board evict Mr. Vardnadore from camping in the Clay County Park. Mr. Vardnadore stated that he was paying for and placing 16 ton of rock in his camping spot and surrounding area since he has purchased a larger camper. Mr. Carney told him that he was not allowed to place that much rock and stated to the Board that if they allow him to do this then they are opening it up for others to purchase rock and place it where they camp. Mr. Carney stated that Mr. Vardnadore is always hard to get along with and will not do anything to improve the campsite when asked. Commissioner Thurlow stated that Mr. Vardnadore was very polite to him when they had the discussion of attending the meeting today. Rick James, County Attorney, joined the meeting. Mr. James stated that they would have to follow the rules of the Kansas Mobile Home Act if they had any intentions of evicting this individual. Mr. Carney provided the Board and Mr. James with copies of the Clay County Park Rules & the Corp of Engineers Seasonal Camping Criteria and stated that Mr. Vardnadore is in violation of multiple regulations. Mr. James suggested that he draft a lease agreement stating that all campers must follow the Park and Corp of Engineers Rules and if they choose not to then they would be evicted from the park. All campers must sign the lease agreement before moving their camper into the Park. Commissioner Thurlow will contact Mr. Vardnadore to inform him that he will not be able to place rock in his campsite and to tell him about the lease agreement that all campers will be required to sign before staying in the Park.
Commissioner Carlson made the motion to sign the Human Resources Retainer Agreement between HR Partners, LLC and Clay County for the updating of the Employee Handbook and HR Professional Consultation up to 5 hours per month at a cost of $350 for a 12-month period. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

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David M. Thurlow, Chairman                                           Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
                                                                 March 9, 2020
                                                                 Clay Center, Kansas