

May 1, 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 \$211,624.06 was reviewed and approved by the Board. Account payables in the amount of \$661,129.48 were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Austin Gillard, CEO CCMC, met with the Board to give an update on the Medical Center. Mr. Gillard reported that there isn't much happening on the building at this time. CCMC will be starting a Med Spa Service line in the next 60-90 days. This service will be for tattoo removal, hair removal, Botox, chemical peels and vein removal. This will be offered on a cash basis at the Clay Center and Glasco's Clinics. They are expanding the MD Save program for Men's Health and will now be offering cash prices for hernia repair, gall bladder removal, and colonoscopy. Mr. Gillard stated that the Clay County Medical Center and Meadowlark Hospice celebrated Volunteer Appreciation last week. Next week is Hospital Week. CCMC will be hosting an event each day to show appreciation to all team members.

Marlin Mugler, United Bank & Trust, delivered the check for the Lease Agreement on the purchase of the two new John Deere Graders. Mr. Mugler also extended an invitation to the Board of Commissioners to attend the Rotary Club meeting on May 11th at noon at the Methodist Family Life Center.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Mason asked the Board if they had decided on what newspaper they would be using as the County paper for the use of publication and other legal notices. The Board discussed several surrounding newspapers that they had to choose from. They will need to make this decision soon since the Clay Center Dispatch has announced that they may be closing.

Jeff Germann, Assistant Highway Administrator, and Melissa Goff, Office Manager, met with the Board. Mr. Germann provided a report on several bridges that they will be working on soon. The check and a copy of the Lease Agreement for the new graders were given to Ms. Goff. Mr. Shomper provided a written report on projects that were worked on. Last week the Department bladed roads, hauled cold mix, hauled rock, removed the 2 old wooden bridges on 24th Rd. between Valleyview Rd. and Countyline Rd., installed the new 10' X 45' squash pipe in this location, replaced a damaged mailbox, and had Friday as safety stand down day for training.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The EMS Department has been busy with emergency runs and out of town transfers. They are currently at 309 runs so far this year. Mr. Cramer stated that he has advertised for a replacement Paramedic and has received no applications at this time. Mr. Cramer presented a spreadsheet with the wages of surrounding Counties and Counties that are approximately the same as Clay County. After looking the spreadsheet over and the current PayScale, Clay County EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic wages are on the low side. The Board asked Mr. Cramer to come up with a recommendation that they will consider at budget preparation time.

Marlene Stamm, NCK Environmental, contacted the Board by Zoom to discuss the 2024 proposed budget. Republic, Cloud, Clay and Marshall Counties joined in on the Zoom meeting. Ms. Stamm presented her 2024 Proposed Budget to all in attendance. The budget proposal was reviewed and will be considered when Clay County prepares the 2024 budget.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Table Top Exercise was held at the Presbyterian Manor. It was good training that made individuals aware of different actions. It was good to put names with faces and working well together.

Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Rickley reported that she received a bill from NCRPC in the amount of \$5,600 for the help in writing a grant. She has \$2,000 from Match Day to put towards the \$5,600 and would like to take the remaining \$3,600 out of the County Health Fund. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to take the remaining \$3,600 for the grant writing out of the County Health Fund. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously. McGee Roofing has been to the Health Department replace the guttering as proposed and to run the sewer machine to clean out existing pipe. The bill in the amount of \$2,867.53 was less than the original proposal. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to pay the \$2,867.53 out of the County General Fund. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. KDADS contacted Clay Counts Coalition and asked if we would like to partner in applying for a HRSA Grant that will be for targeting young families that have been involved with the Opioid Crisis. This will provide treatment in local areas.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga invited the Board to a commendation presentation at Java Junkies on Wednesday May 3, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. Sheriff Benninga reported that they are housing a prisoner from Fort Riley per the housing prisoner contract that was signed with Fort Riley.

Natalie Muruato, Director Grow Clay County, met with the Board to provide more information on the Child Care Facility that she is working on grants for. Ms. Muruato stated that with the \$199,000 Tax Credit Grant she has \$173,000 in Tax Commitment and of that \$173,000, two business in Salina have put \$37,000 toward this Commitment. Ms. Muruato stated that Childcare and Housing are her two goals that she works extremely hard on. There is a huge Economic Impact in your County if you do not have enough childcare offered to take care of the working families. Commissioner Carlson asked why a Representative from USD 379 isn't here to sell this Child Care Facility along with you. What happens after the first year when the Federal funds are depleted, who is going to pay the cost for this facility to run. Ms. Muruato stated that she was not aware that the Board was wanting USD 379 to attend with her. Commissioner Carlson stated that he had been in contact with one of the School Board members and wondered if USD 379 has figures on what this Center will cost after the first year. We really do not want to see an increase in the mill levy to run the Center after the first year. Commissioner Mayo stated that people are paying enough in taxes in today's economic times. Commissioner Mayo also asked if the Child Care Center will be open for 9 months like school or will it be open for the 12 months. Ms. Muruato stated that the grant requires that the Center be open for the 12 months. The Board still did not make a decision on donated funds to this project. They will continue to discuss it and make a decision.

The Board adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

David M. Thurlow, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
May 8th, 2023
Clay Center, Kansas