May 11, 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.

C. L. Snodgrass contacted the Board to ask permission to use the west side of the Courthouse Square on May 25, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. for a group of trumpet players to play Taps and a couple of other songs together. Permission was granted for this event.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department graded roads, hauled rock, worked in the shop on rainy days, removed and replaced bridge signs, mowed roadsides south of Clay Center and by Wakefield, patched blacktop roads, cleaned an area at the Landfill where the shooting range will be located, delivered rock to the Landfill, and got the chip sealer ready to use. APAC will move to the Clay Center area to begin laying blacktop in late May or early June. Husker Steel has a tentative date in August to replace two bridges. The estimated time on each bridge will be six weeks. Mr. Shomper informed the Board that he has had several individuals contact him with the letter from the Postmaster about the relocation of their mailboxes. This is pretty much a done deal that should have been enforced several years ago. This Postmaster stated that he is just enforcing the federal law. The owner of the mailbox will be liable for the expense and supplies of moving the box to a dedicated spot.

Ryan Wilson, Clay Center Dispatch, went live on Facebook at 8:40 a.m.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The EMT class is back to meeting in person two nights a week. Osage Ambulance has been in contact and they are estimating a four-week delay in receiving the new ambulance that has been ordered. The door sensor on Medic 8 has been repaired. Mr. Cramer received a quote from Zoll Medical Corporation on a Basic Zvent Portable Ventilator, carrying case, and 4-year Contract with Battery Replacement in the amount $12,216.75. This item qualifies for this to be purchased with the COVID-19 Stimulus Grant Funds that EMS received. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to purchase the Zvent portable ventilator, carrying case, 4-year Contract with Battery Replacement in the amount of $12,216.75 plus an order for both infant and adult circuits which is the tube that runs from the machine to patient. This is to be paid for out of the Stimulus Grant Funds. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Cramer stated the funds for this grant will need to be tracked. Christine Swaim, County Treasurer and Kayla ang, County Clerk agreed that they will separate the funds between the EMS and County Health and then will set it up with a project number for each Department.

Christine Swaim, County Treasurer, met with the Board to report on Tax Collections for the 2019 Tax Year. Ms. Swaim reported that at this same time with the 2018 tax year, the County was at 18.2% on uncollected taxes and at the same time for the 2019 tax year we are at 12.95% on uncollected taxes.

Mike Carney, Clay County Park Manager, Dana Rickley, County Health Administrator, Gail Westgate, Park Board Member, and Brandy Riggs, Wakefield City Council met with the Board to present the COVID-19 plan for the Clay County Park. Ms. Rickley presented the plan for the Clay County Park Re-Opening for
the COVID-19 suppression. They will be initiating a campsite registration that includes: Date, Name, County/State, and contact information at minimum. This will be used to contact individuals if there were to be a positive COVID-19. Each campsite will complete an attestation that they will enforce social distancing measures, mass gathering guidelines, and other items listed on attestation document. Each campsite will keep records of visitors to their campsite. All campsite visitor logs will be handed in and given to the Public Health Director weekly. Bathhouses/Restrooms may open no sooner than Phase 3 with daily cleaning and signage on how to reduce risk of contacting COVID-19. Playgrounds will remain closed to the public. Commissioner Thurlow asked Ms. Riggs if the City of Wakefield was satisfied with this plan, Ms. Riggs stated that the City is good with the plan. Commissioner Thurlow asked Ms. Rickley if she was satisfied with this plan since it would involve her with the contacting of individuals if there should be a positive case in the park. Ms. Rickley stated that she was good with the plan and that they all had input into the plan the night that they had their work session. Mr. Carney asked if they would be able to open the park as of today. The Board asked Mr. Carney where he was on the electrical work and the repairs of the water lines. Mr. Carney stated that there were different brands of pedestals that he was not aware of so some of the pedestals will take different receptacles than he had ordered.

Commissioner Mayo stated that the park is not ready to open this week and that he needs to find the different receptacles and get the electricity working and the waterlines fixed before opening. Mr. Carney asked if the campers would be able to move in this week even if he was not finished with the repairs. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to open the Clay County Park on May 18th, pending the State announcement of moving to Phase 2. If the State does not move to Phase 2 the Park will not open. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Carlson asked if Mr. Carney had a plan if he would have a camper that refused to fill out the required documents that need to be done in order to open. Mr. Carney responded that he will hand it to the camper to fill out when they register to stay in the park. Commissioner Carlson stated that he will need to be able to enforce this plan or the park will not be able to stay open. Mr. Carney left the meeting. Ms. Westgate stated that she will do what she can to help Mr. Carney with the opening of the park. Commissioner Thurlow asked Ms. Riggs if the City of Wakefield had their washing stations in place at the local businesses. Ms. Riggs reported that they had asked each business about placing a wash station in front of their business and they had seven agree to it. The City is currently paying to have seven wash stations at these businesses in Wakefield.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager and Dana Rickley, County Health Administrator, met with the Board to provide an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Kemp reported on the numbers of COVID-19 positive, deaths, and recovered cases. Everyone needs to be careful when ordering Personal Protective Equipment from companies. There are a lot of scams and fraudulent businesses that are selling counterfeit products. Ms. Kemp informed the Board that the Local EOC Group is still meeting daily and have reviewed the State updates and discussed the current needs of Clay County. Ms. Rickley reported that she will be meeting with employees of the Mini Bus to go over the sanitation that will be needed to get the buses back in service and to protect both the drivers and the clients that ride the bus. She will also be meeting with the City of Clay Center and the Parks and Recreation Committee about the City Pool.

Chuck Dunn, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report.
Kayla Wang, County Clerk, met with the Board to provide information on the upcoming Elections. A letter will be sent to all who previously served and individuals that have shown interest in being a Poll Worker at an Election with a survey asking if they are interested in working the 2020 Elections with the unknown conditions of the COVID-19. Ms. Wang stated that their goal is to run a successful Election in an environment that helps to keep both the workers and the voters safe. Ms. Wang also provided a letter that she has drafted and would like to send to every registered voter in Clay County explaining with unknown circumstances caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic that there are three ways to cast their ballot. She would include the applications for an Advance Mail Ballot for both the August and November Elections. The Board thought that this would be a good idea and would give the voter an option to choose to be able to vote. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to allow the cost of the mailing to all registered voters in Clay County. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Wang reported that the Secretary of State’s office is offering reimbursements to Counties for COVID expenditures in preparation for the August and November Elections. This is Federal funding that the US Congress passed as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act which appropriated $400 million in Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds to all states. This funding is intended to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus for the 2020 Federal Election Cycle. Clay County is eligible to receive $7,756.78 in reimbursements to help with the cost of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Board reviewed a quote for a glass security window to be installed at the EMS Office from DS Glass Shop LLC in the amount of $372.55. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to accept the quote from DS Glass Shop for a glass security window in the amount of $372.55 to be installed at the EMS Office. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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David M. Thurlow, Chairman  Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
  May 18, 2020
  Clay Center, Kansas