

June 20, 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. Account Payables in the amount of \$437,080.85 were review and approved by the Board.

The Board approved a bill in the amount of \$111,500.36 to BHS Construction.

A request was received from the City of Wakefield to help with the fireworks display. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to donated \$500 out of the Alcohol Fund. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Central Fitness Clay Center emailed a Corporate Rate Proposal for the Commissioners to review for a 1 year contract. It was tabled for the time being.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason also discussed staff duties with in his office since he has an employee leaving.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator met with the Board to give his weekly update for his department. They have finished chip sealing and everything looks good. They also bladed roads and mowed roadsides. The Board discussed an issue at 6th and Quail of water being over the road and Mr. Shomper is going to go look at it and see what needs to be done to fix the issue. Mr. Shomper presented his 2024 Budget and left it for review.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board and gave his weekly department update. Mr. Cramer stated that they have been on 422 runs for the year, this is down from 519 runs last year at this time. Mr. Cramer informed the Board that he did research and they did not purchase mattresses when they redid the bunk rooms. He stated that he will be back with prices on mattresses at a later date. Mr. Cramer presented his 2024 Budget to the Commission and left it for review.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Preparedness Director, met with the Board and gave a weekly update. Last week she held the Everbridge Group Manager's meeting. She also attended the Regional Emergency Management meeting that was held in Abilene.

Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board and informed them that Advance Electric had been there to fix the GFI issues. Ms. Rickley also informed the Board that she is going to have a nurse position open in the near future.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give his weekly update. Mr. Benninga reported that things have slowed down right now. Mr. Benninga discussed options for working on his budget. The need for two new patrol vehicles was discussed and he will be working on getting quotes to present at a later date. Craig Williams with Networks Plus also joined the meeting to discuss the Microsoft Exchange that will be changing in the future and the cost for the emails.

Lori Feldkamp, Big Lakes Development, met with the Board to give an update on Big Lakes Developmental Center. Ms. Feldkamp presented her 2024 Proposed Appropriation request to the Board. Ms. Feldkamp stated that Big Lakes Developmental Center, Inc. has provided services to 21 Clay County residents. After a discussion the request was left for review.

Robbin Cole, Pawnee Mental Health, met with the Board to present her 2024 proposed Appropriation request. Also in attendance was Marcy Schooley, Pawnee Mental Health Board Member. Ms. Cole stated that Pawnee provided mental health and substance abuse treatment services to 219 unduplicated Clay County residents. This is an increase of 23 over fiscal year 2021. In the calendar year 2022, 94 Clay County residents were served by Crisis Services and of those 62 were served in the ER, 29 went directly to the Crisis Services Unit, and 3 were screened in the jail. In 2022 the Kansas Suicide Prevention Headquarters reports for Clay County that 17 people called the 988 Crisis Hotline. After a discussion the request was left for review.

Aaron Brinkerhoff, Washington National Insurance, met with the Board to give a presentation on the Insurance that he has to offer. Mr. Brinkerhoff stated that he represents 32 Kansas Counties. The Board thanked Mr. Brinkerhoff for his presentation and will be in touch.

Taylor Mall with Travel and Tourism, and Natalie Muruato with Grow Clay County met with the Board to discuss the Travel and Tourism 2024 Budget. Tim Mayo with the Site Council was also present. Ms. Mall gave an update on the travel guide and the Explore Clay County bags that have been purchased. The Board also discussed the Guest Bed Tax that is currently 2% for Clay County. Mr. Mayo asked if there is a way to get information out about Clay County and what it has to offer. Ms. Muruato stated that they have brochures and information at Grow Clay County and that she would be more than happy to work with Mr. Mayo and the Site Council. Ms. Muruato stated that she would like to present the 2024 proposed budget for Economic Development Fund. Also in attendance were Economic Development Board Members: Thomas Mulligan, Matt Thompson, Brad Fowles, Scott Leitzel, Monte Green, Ashlee Wallace, Ashley Beswick, Melissa Combs, and Brandon Lee. Ms. Mall and Mr. Tim Mayo left the meeting. Ms. Muruato and her Board members informed the Board of Commissioners that Grow Clay County has brought in a little over \$850,000 in grant dollars and secured \$431,424 matching dollars for projects county-wide with an estimated total project of \$1,943,691. They have assisted over 100 different businesses and organizations in the County. After a discussion they left the budget for review.

The Board adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

David M. Thurlow, Chairman

Attest: Shelby Crimmins, Deputy Clerk
June 26, 2023
Clay Center, Kansas