

June 26, 2023

Commissioner Thurlow, Commissioner Carlson, and Commissioner Mayo were present at a regular meeting beginning at 7:45 a.m. The minutes were approved as printed. Payroll in the amount of \$210,436.17 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Randy Gassman, Pottberg, Gassman, & Hoffman, Chtd., met with the Board to hold the first budget workshop to gather all of the information and to start the process of preparing the 2024 budgets for Clay County and the Rural Highway. Mr. Gassman will return next week with the first budget draft for the Board to review and to make changes that need to be done.

Kayla Wang, County Clerk, met with the Board to present the proposed 2024 budgets for the County Clerk's Fund and the Election Fund. Ms. Wang provided documentation for the request and discussed the increase in cost of items in her office. Wages and the cost-of-living increase were reviewed. The Board stated that they will review the documents provided and make a decision for the 2024 budget. The budget was left with the Board for review. Ms. Wang reported that on the Surface Pro that was approved on May 30, 2023 has increased in price by \$222. The Board approved the amended cost of the Surface Pro computer at a new cost of \$2,237.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County Business. Mr. Mason stated that he will work on the new contract between Clay County and the Clay County Fair Association (Fair Board) that will include the new building.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department bladed roads, mowed roadsides, weed control, patched asphalt, moved equipment to Buffalo Rd. & 16th Rd., worked on the pipe at CCMC, worked in the yard, and picked up the PUPS that they purchased off of Purplewave. Mr. Shomper reported that there is a pipe at the location of 6th Rd. & Quail Rd. and it will require a lot of ditch work to fix the problem. Also, on Indian Rd. between 14th Rd. & 15th Rd. there are some limbs that need to be trimmed. They will try to get that done soon. Mr. Shomper reported that the 2023 chip seal project has been completed. The pipe for Prairie Circle has arrived but they had to purchase a longer and thicker pipe so the purchase price was more than the first quote. The Martin's are paying for all of the materials and asked the County if they would pay for the excess cost on the pipe of \$8,000. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to fund the additional cost of \$8,000. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Abatement 2022A23 in the amount of \$254.96 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Board reviewed a quote from Network's Plus on the renewal of the County Health Firewall in the amount of \$2,010 for three years. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to approve the purchase for the County Health Firewall in the amount of \$2,010 for three years. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to present the updated contract between Clay County and the Clay County Fair Association for their review. The Board approved the document.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer stated that the Department is at 434 emergency runs so far for the year. The Board thanked Mr. Cramer for his years of service and all that he has done for Clay County and to enjoy his retirement.

Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Rickley presented and explained the Health Departments 2024 proposed budget to the Board. The budget was left with the Board for review. Clay Counts budget year ends before the Leadership Conference in Texas so the Board prepaid an invoice for 5 students and 3 adults to attend the Conference. The Board granted permission to place an employment ad in the newspaper for the hiring of a nurse to fill an upcoming vacant position.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Ms. Kemp presented the 2023-2024 Clay County LEPC Appointees to the Board for approval. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to approve the LEPC Appointees as printed.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga discussed the process of purchasing new patrol vehicles along with the length of time it takes to receive them and the increase in price. Sheriff Benninga reported that he has been researching a new cell monitoring equipment to report on a distressed inmate. He will report back at a later date on the information that he finds out. Sheriff Benninga presented the Sheriff's Department proposed 2024 budget and left it for review.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to discuss the letters that were received from KDHE last week. This is reference to 2022 Fall monitoring report on the groundwater at the current Landfill and the 2022 annual arsenic monitoring report on the previous Landfill location. Clay County has a contract with Associate Environmental, Inc. and they have not completed the monitoring reporting to KDHE for the year 2022. The Board asked Ms. Carroll to call them and see what their plan is since the due date is in July. Ms. Carroll also presented bids from two other companies that do this kind of monitoring services. The Board reviewed and tabled the bids until they find out how the current company is going to handle the issue. Ms. Carroll is to report back next week with the information that she receives. Ms. Carroll presented the annual Commercial Haulers Permit for the City of Clay Center, City of Morganville, and C & M Refuse for renewal. The Board signed and approve the Commercial Haulers Permits.

Susan Mall, Register of Deeds, met with the Board to present the Register of Deeds 2024 proposed budget. The budget was left for review.

The Board adjourned from the Commission Room at 11:20 a.m.

Reconvened at the Clay County Museum at 11:25 a.m.

Jeff Gaiser, Museum Curator, and Pat Gilbert, Board Member, provided a tour for the Board on the section of the Museum that rotates out different items for the public to enjoy. Mr. Gaiser shared a new

software program on Land Ownership Records that they would like to have up and working by Piotique for people to be able to do research on.

The Board adjourned at the Museum at 11:55 p.m.

Reconvened in the Commission Room at 11:57 p.m.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, returned to get Bridge Replacement agreements signed by the Board. The agreements were as follows:

1. Agreement between Twin Valley Telephone and Clay County 14 C-5149-01 on Valleyview Road, 5.3 miles South and 1.0 Miles East of Green.
2. Agreement between Washington Co. RWD#2 and Clay County 4.0-U.5 on 28th Road, 2.0 miles South and 2.0 miles East of Fact.
3. Agreement between Bluestem Electric Coop. and Clay County 14 C-5149 on Valleyview Road, 5.3 miles South and 1.0 miles East of Green.
4. Agreement between Twin Valley Telephone and Clay County 4.0-U.5 on 28th Road, 2.0 miles South and 2.0 miles East of Fact.

The Board reviewed and signed each of the agreements.

Mike Argo, Fair Board President, met with the Board to discuss the monetary donation that they have received for the new building at the Fairgrounds. Brandon Lee and Sandy Fox, Union State Bank Representatives, Karen Yarrow, Fair Board Secretary, Missy Scott, Mike Scott, Brian Gierns, Fair Board Members, Roger Forsyth, Rebecca Frerking, Pam Dankenbring, Kim Hofmann, and Ed Ames, Farm Bureau Representatives, and Joel Mason, County Attorney, were also present. Mr. Argo discussed the signage that Farm Bureau and Union State Bank have requested. Commissioner Thurlow stated that he agrees that they need to be recognized for their donations but the signage will be on the inside of the building not on the outside. The only signage on the outside of the building will be the name that is decided upon. After much discussion, Ms. Frerking and Mr. Lee will work together on designing a sign and bring it back to the Board of Commissioner for approval. Commissioner Mayo asked Mr. Argo if there was anyone else that had given a sizeable donation to the fundraising. Mr. Argo stated that United Bank & Trust had given a sizeable donation. The Board would like to recognize all donations in some manner. Mr. Argo would like to thank the Commissioners for all that they have done for the community with the new building. It will be so nice to have for the County Fair this year and for the different events that it can be rented for. Also, he would like to thank the Highway Department for all of the labor and equipment that they have provided to help on several projects at the new building. Commissioner Thurlow asked if they have decided on the rent that will be charge for different events to use the building. Mr. Argo stated that they are still working on this and hope to have a base rent decided soon. They may have to make changes to the rent schedule once they find out what the monthly expenses will be on the building. Mr. Argo presented the 2024 Proposed Fair Maintenance budget to the Board and explained that it does not include any expenses on the new building because they do not know how much this will be at this time. The budget was left for review.

Whitney Baer, Noxious Weed Director, met with the Board to present the 2024 proposed Noxious Weed budget. The budget was left for review. Ms. Baer presented bids on the purchase of a new mower for the Noxious Weed Department as follows:

Bruna Implement Co. - Cub Cadet with Kohler Motor, 54" Deck – \$3,800 - \$750 trade in \$3,050

Cub Cadet with Kawasaki Motor, 54" Deck - \$4,600 - \$750 trade in \$3,850

John Deere – John Deere Z325EZTrak, 54" Deck - \$3,699

Anderson Equipment LLC. – Bad Boy Mower Adventer, Kohler Motor, 54" Deck - \$4,500

After reviewing all of the bids, Commissioner Mayo made the motion to accept the bid from Brunna Implement on the Cub Cadet with the Kohler Motor with the trade in for a final cost of \$3,050. Ms. Baer reported that the Noxious Weed has finished spraying 8 townships in the north part of the County and will have 4 additional finished this week.

Danny Mesalles, County Appraiser, met with the Board to present the Appraiser's 2024 proposed budget. After reviewing, the budget was left for review. Mr. Mesalles reported that he has been in contact with Marvin Planning to get a date as to when the Clay County Land Use Plan will be finalized. They stated that they hope to finish it by the end of July.

The Board adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

Brett Ohlde, BHS Construction Superintendent, met with the Board to give a partial final tour of the new building located at the Fairgrounds. The Board was very pleased with the large room and the storage area. The kitchen will be completed soon and then they will need to make a decision on the Extension area. They will need to decide if they are going to finish the area now or wait awhile. It will depend on the cost of finishing the area. There are several small projects that have been placed on a list to finish.

The Board adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

David M. Thurlow, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk

July 3, 2023

Clay Center, Kansas