Commissioner Thurlow, Commissioner Carlson, and Commissioner Mayo were present at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. The payroll in the amount of $180,244.95 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department worked on fixing culverts, removed trees that had fallen on roads from the storms, viewed roads in the Gas City area, hauled chips to Clifton, viewed the overlay project on the Oak Hill Road, worked in the shop and welded tanks to use as tubes. Mr. Shomper presented the proposed 2021 budgets for Road & Bridge, Special Highway, and Rural Highway to the Board and left them to be reviewed.

Rick James, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss the Kansas Open Records Request that Dana Rickley, County Health Director, received from the Kansas Justice Institute concerning the COVID-19 contact tracing policy that was put into effect on May 11, 2020. On June 9, 2020 the Legislature put into effect a new COVID-19 contact tracing privacy act and Mr. James stated that we must follow the new law. The contact tracing policy will be discontinued immediately at the Clay County Park.

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 2021 budget for Clay County. Mr. Gassman will return next week with the first budget draft for the Board to view and to make changes.

Commissioner Carlson made the motion to allow the purchase of 200 ton of cold mix from APAC at the cost of $58.50 per ton for an estimated total of $11,700. This is to be paid for out of the Special Highway Fund. Clay County will have to go to the mixing plant in Dickinson County to pick the mix up. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Kayla Wang, County Clerk, met with the Board to discuss the wages for the temporary contract Election help. So far, the Office has received 930 Advance Mail Ballot applications for the Primary Election. This is over triple the normal ballots requested. Ms. Wang asked the Board permission to pay the temporary help $10.00 per hour. Permission was granted.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. The Department continues to stay busy with out of town transfers and emergency runs. The staffing and personnel were discussed. Mr. Cramer informed the Board he needs to order two replacement batteries for the cots. Stryker provided a quote at a cost of $375 each. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to purchase two cot batteries at the cost of $375 each. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Cramer reported that he is putting in for a few requests to have paid for with the Sparks Funds that Clay County will be receiving. The Department would like to remodel the bedrooms and make them each an individual room. Right now, two people have to stay in each room and with the COVID-19 it would be better if they each had a room to stay in. With making this change, the EMS Directors Office will loose approximately 3 feet of space. Also, they would like to rearrange the
classroom and move it around to make it more classroom friendly with different tables and some updated equipment. This would be better for long meetings and webinars to be held. Mr. Cramer stated that with all of the PPE that they are having to store they are running out of storage space and would like to put a small shed out back to put the push mower and yard equipment in so that it would free up some space in the garage for storage. A bid was received from Central Office Service & Supply on the purchase of a replacement 24” Viewsonic monitor in the amount of $145. Commissioner Carlson made the motion to purchase the replacement monitor in the amount of $145 from Central Office Service & Supply for the EMS Department. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Chuck Dunn, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Dunn reported on the projects that he would like to do with the Sparks Funding. He will submit the projects once the quotes are received.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, and Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Rickley reported that she has filled the vacant RN position and stated that this individual has had a lot of training on different programs that the Health Department provides. Ms. Rickley provided statistics on the COVID-19 pandemic to the Board. Ms. Kemp provided the new State of Local Disaster Emergency Proclamation that will extend the current one that terminates on July 18th. The new Proclamation will remain in force until it is rescinded by the Board of Commissioners. This Proclamation continues to allow the Emergency Manager to request resources from the State for the County.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to discuss personnel at the Landfill. Ms. Carroll asked permission to hire two people for the Landfill. Over a period of time they have had three vacant positions and had only filled two of them. Currently they have two that are vacant. Permission was granted to hire two individual and to fill both vacant positions.

Lori Huber, Economic Development Director, met with the Board to hold the Conflict of Interest Hearing for the Clay County CDBG-CV grant at 12:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners Room. The Public Hearing for the Conflict of Interest was held with no one from the public attending.

The Board approve the Watchguard Security Suite for the Clay County Landfill in the amount of $164.58 from Networks Plus.

Melissa Stellner, District Court Clerk, met with the Board to discuss the possibility of making the jury’s box safe to use with the COVID-19 pandemic so that the Courts can hold jury trials again. There will be no change to the design of the Courtroom. This would be to put up plexi glass in between the jurors so that they would be protected on each side. Ms. Stellner stated that she doesn’t feel that they would be able to put the glass in front of the jurors for people have a hard time hearing in the Courtroom now and this would make it worse. The Board granted permission to put together a plan and to get prices to bring back to them for a decision.
Jody Thorman, Clay County Park Manager, met with the Board to give an update on the Clay County Park. Ms. Thorman stated that everything is going well and the income is good. They will be working on Wayne’s World maybe this week. It has been cleaned up and they are trying to figure out what fencing they want to use. There are a few more electrical issues that will need to be fixed after the camping season is over. Ms. Thorman also reported the she is needing to purchase picnic table legs, so she is researching different kinds and what would be the best to purchase.

The Board adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

David M. Thurlow, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
July 20, 2020
Clay Center, Kansas