

August 9, 2021

Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, and Commissioner Thurlow were present at a regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. The minutes were approved as printed. Payroll in the amount of \$186,094.14 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Joel Mason, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss County business. Mr. Mason reported that Natalie Muruato, Economic Development Director visited with him about the NRP Plan. Several different options were reviewed and the Board will consider re-activating the residential portion of the NRP Plan. Commissioner Thurlow asked Mr. Mason the status on the delinquent tax sale. Mr. Mason stated that he needs to set a sale date and move forward with it.

Randy Gassman, Pottberg, Gassman, & Hoffman, Chtd, met with the Board to hold the final budget workshop. The Board made several changes to the draft budget before finalizing the 2022 Clay County budget and the Rural Highway Budget. Mayor Jimmie Thatcher joined the meeting. The budget hearing for both budgets will be held on August 23, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the Clay County Courthouse.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer discussed staffing issues with all of the emergency transfers and runs that they have been making. The Board approved the purchase of a replacement battery for one of the electronic cots from Stryker in the amount of \$375. The Board signed an Event Approval for an employee of the EMS Department to attend a Conference in Mulvane, Kansas.

Pam Kemp, Emergency Manager, and Dana Rickley, County Health Director, met with the Board to give an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Clay County currently has 19 positive COVID cases. These cases are all in the younger ages with the youngest being 9 years old to the oldest in their 40's. The Health Department gave 84 COVID vaccines within the week ending 8/6/2021 to individuals 12 years of age and older. Ms. Rickley stated that they have been doing a lot more testing recently.

Alan Benninga, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Benninga presented an estimate for the printing of 3,000 Notice to Appear Tickets from Sir Speedy in the amount of \$1,278.20. The Board granted permission to order the tickets from Sir Speedy in the amount of \$1,278.20. Sheriff Benninga stated that an employee of the Sheriff's Department is needing to use 38 hours out of the Clay County Sick Leave Pool Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to allow an employee of the Sheriff's Department to receive 38 hours of sick leave out of the County Sick Leave Pool. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the use of the County Sick Leave Pool and if there should be a limit placed on the number of hours that an employee is able to request out of the pool. After much discussion, Commissioner Mayo made the motion to place a cap of 80 hours per person per year out of the Sick Leave Pool effective 08/09/2021. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Dale Bechard, Courthouse Custodian, met with the Board to discuss some concerns that he has. Mr. Bechard asked to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to go into Executive

Session under the Personnel Exception of non-elected personnel for 15 minutes beginning at 11:30 a.m. with Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Mayo, Commissioner Thurlow, Kayla Wang, County Clerk, present. The subject to be discussed is employee performance. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The regular meeting reconvened at 11:45 a.m. with no action being taken during the session.

Ann Clark, Community Chamber Orchestra, met with the Board to inform them of a performance that the Orchestra will be doing in Wakefield on Friday September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Wakefield Grade School and at the Wakefield Care & Rehabilitation Home. They will be doing 2 mini concerts at the school and will be presenting on the patio at the Care Home. There will be 8 players of different ages. From the youngest being a 4<sup>th</sup> grader on up in age. Ms. Clark stated that the players are paid to perform and she was wondering if the County would be willing to make a donation towards this performance. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to donate \$200 to the Community Chamber Orchestra for the concert that is being put on in Wakefield. This will be paid for out of the Parks & Recreation Fund. Commissioner Thurlow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board signed the contract with the State of Kansas for the renewal of the Kansas State Employee Health Plan (SEHP) Non-State Group Entities Program for another three years beginning at 01/01/2022. This is the County's Health Insurance that is offered to all eligible employees.

Arnie Knoettgen, County Maintenance, met with the Board to review the estimate for the stone cleaning and repair on the Courthouse. The Board instructed Mr. Knoettgen to have GKW Group draw up a contract to sign. Mr. Knoettgen informed the Board that repairs need to be done on the maintenance pickup at an estimated amount of \$425 at Five Creeks Automotive. The Board granted permission for the repairs on the pickup to be made.

Rhonda Carroll, Landfill Director, met with the Board to present the propane bids. The bids for 4,000 gallons of propane were opened as follows:

- Propane Central - \$1.699 per gallon
- Home Oil - \$1.34 per gallon
- Hoover - \$1.49 per gallon

After reviewing the bids, Commissioner Thurlow made the motion to accept the bid for the purchase of 4,000 gallon of propane from Home Oil in the amount of \$1.34 per gallon. Commissioner Mayo seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

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Eric A. Carlson, Chairman

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Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk  
August 16, 2021  
Clay Center, Kansas