

November 30, 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. Payroll in the amount of \$193,013.55 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Abatement 2020A07 in the amount of \$43.12 was reviewed and approved by the Board.

Bobby Shomper, Highway Administrator, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Last week the Department graded roads, completed the final mowing of roadsides, rocked roads in several locations, finished the project of cutting down trees at the Clay County Park and moved equipment back to the shop, worked inside the shop because of the weather, changed grader tires, and serviced pickups and the Kenworth semi. Mr. Shomper reported that they received the permit from the Corp of Engineers for the creek project on Meadowlark Rd. between 10th Rd. and 11th Rd. Also Mr. Shomper received approval from Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks for the ditch cleaning project in the Broughton Bridge area.

Rocky Cramer, EMS Director, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Mr. Cramer stated that the emergency runs had slowed down through the Holiday weekend. The EMS budget and expenses were reviewed. The Department is back to full staff after several employees reported having COVID.

Melissa Stellner, District Court Clerk, met with the Board to present a quote on the equipment that needs to be purchased to make it possible to cast their zoom meetings on a television in the Courtroom for those in attendance to see. The quote was reviewed as follows:

Amazon – Actiontec Wireless HD Video Kit - \$122.33 (2 units)

Amazon – DP Display Port to HDMI Adapter - \$8.99

Commissioner Mayo made the motion to purchase the equipment as presented from Amazon for the casting of the zoom meetings on a television in the Courtroom in the amount of \$131.32. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Rick James, County Attorney, met with the Board to discuss two cases that he has worked on since 2017 and 2018. The 2017 case is now before the Supreme Court and the 2018 case is waiting for a written ruling to be issued. Mr. James stated that he would like to remain on those cases until they are resolved. To make this possible the Board could appoint Mr. James as the Special Prosecutor for these two cases only. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to appoint Mr. Richard E. James as Special Prosecutor on District Court Case No. 19JV33 and Appellate Case No. 20-122685-S until they are both resolved. This appointment would take effect on December 13, 2020 until completed. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. James stated that he had one more request for the Board to consider. That request would be to make the County Attorney a full-time position effective January of 2025. Mr. James stated that there is too much work for it to be a ¾ time position. The Board stated that they will take this under consideration.

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 since Wednesday November 25th there are 26 new positive cases in Clay County and they expect that it will continue to increase with the family gatherings through the Holiday Season. Ms. Rickley informed the Board the KDHE is streamlining the process of a positive case.

County Health Department will handle the cases that are age 17 and below and greater than age 65. KDHE will handle the cases that are age 18 to 64 and they have designed a shorter investigation form for both parties to use. Twin Valley Telephone will be installing three additional phone lines to be used for contact tracing and they are loaning the Health Department three phones to use at no cost to the County. Ms. Rickley ordered three phone headsets to use for the tracing at a cost of \$240 each. Ms. Rickley reported that with the rain last week the roof on the County Health Building leaked. McGee Roofing stated that they had previously provided a quote to power wash the roof with chemical spray and apply a silicone roof coating to Mr. Knoettgen, County Maintenance, and that the price would still be good at this time. The Board stated that they would visit with Mr. Knoettgen about this quote. Ms. Kemp reminded the Board that the first County Compliance Questionnaire to the Office of Recovery is due today. An email was read from Dr. Penner asking the Board of Commissioners to consider extending the mask mandate for an additional period of time. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to extend the mask mandate until December 14th, 2020 and then it will be reviewed again at that time to either continue or to end the mandate. Also, all County Office will continue to remain in lock down and provide services by appointment only. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Rickley stated that they have signed up with KDHE to be able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine should it become available to our County. They are saying that we could possibly receive doses for 10% of the eligible population. The Board approved the purchase of a speaker to be installed at the front desk of the County Health Department from D & S Glass not to exceed \$500.

Chuck Dunn, Sheriff, met with the Board to give the weekly report. Sheriff Dunn stated that the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend was pretty quiet.

Shannon Stark, Travel & Tourism Representative, met with the Board to present a T & T Grant Application. Michelle Tessaro was also present for the meeting. Ms. Stark stated that the Grant Application was for the Cloverton Caroling Concert to be held in Clay Center on December 15, 2020 at Dexter Park in the Bandshell. Ms. Tessaro stated that she is promoting the event personally for the group. The application is requesting \$500 to use for promoting this event on the radio and in the newspaper. Commissioner Mayo made the motion to donate \$500 out of the Travel & Tourism Fund for the Cloverton Caroling Concert on December 15, 2020 in Clay Center. Commissioner Carlson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Arnie Knoettgen, County Maintenance, met with the Board to discuss the quote from McGee Roofing on the roof at the County Health Department. Mr. Knoettgen stated that he had received the quote and then had been told that there could possibly be some previous hail damage to the roof. The Board instructed Mr. Knoettgen to bring the quote to them next week for further discussion.

The Board adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

David M. Thurlow, Chairman

Attest: Kayla Wang, County Clerk
December 7, 2020
Clay Center, Kansas

