JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES

OF THE CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

February 14, 2022

February 14, 2022 at 10:00 am, Anthony Hazelton-Chairman, Randy Talkington Vice-chairman, Matthew Miller-member and Connie Pretzer-County Clerk assembled in the Chase County Commission Chambers. Hazelton opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Motion to approve Warrant Payables 02/14/2022*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington.Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve Minutes of January 31, 2022*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington***.*** Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve Minutes of February 10, 2022*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington.Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to appoint Cynthia Jane Hoedel to the 5th Judicial Nominating Committee*** *by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington.*Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to sign Bridge Inspection Proposal from Cook Flat & Strobel*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve Change Orders 2021-20 through 2021-24*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington.Motion carried 3-0.

Chase County EMS Director Scott Harris visited with the Board about wages for his department. Topics discussed were pay for ‘on call’ and ‘call out’, vacation pay and training pay. Commissioners were agreeable to training pay, and will research other pay before making a decision on February 28th.

Empower House representative Melissa Landis spoke to the Board on the opening of the facility on February 1st. Empower House has capacity for 6 ladies with the anticipation of further growth. A Discretionary Community Development Block Grant from the Kansas Department Commerce for $41,000 has been received as well as $15,000 from Coffey County.

Landis will revisit the Commission at budget time in May.

Commissioner Miller reported 1st Choice had scoped the Courthouse sewer line that has been causing problems and discovered a break in the line. They will submit a proposal for consideration.

District Court Clerk Barb Davis submitted an application for ARPA funds to microfilm the court files of 1990 to 2016 and probate files. ***Motion to approve ARPA funds of $17,747.50*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0. Davis also informed the Board that she had applied for state funding and would reimburse the County if that were approved.

Ryan Acton of ImageQuest presented a quote for a copier lease for the Courthouse. The 60 month lease will be $207.12 per month. Another quote from 360 Documents was also considered. ***Motion to approve lease agreement*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0.

County Fire Chief Steve Fillmore requested $4000 from his fire equipment budget to purchase a used UTV from Cole Starkey and a used 16’ tandem axel trailer from Brett Talkington for $1200. After discussion, Commissioners approved both purchases on a ***Motion by Hazelton and 2nd by Talkington.*** Motion carried 3-0.

Detention Facility Administrator Larry Sigler appeared and asked for executive session. ***Motion at 11:15 for 15 minutes of executive session with Sigler to discuss wages for non-elected personnel*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 3-0. At 11:30 with no action taken, Hazelton ***Motioned for 10 minutes of executive session with Sigler to discuss wages for non-elected personnel.*** Talkington 2nd the motion; carried 3-0. Meeting resumed at 11:45 with no action taken. ***Motion to approve recommendations*** of Detention Facility Administrator regarding wages by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 3-0.

City of Cottonwood Falls Councilman Pat Larkin and BG Consultants Bruce Boettcher met with the Commissioners to discuss the low water dam on the Cottonwood River at Cottonwood Falls. The 100 year old dam has been undermined over time and has developed a 19’ scour hole. The present log jam has pushed the water toward the North side of the dam and is undermining the retaining wall. The City has restricted access to the dam due to possible failure. A groundwater study was performed by the Water Supply District which resulted in a report stating the failure of the dam would result in a significant impact on the wells and the well levels would drop. Total cost of the project is projected to be about 4 million dollars. Larkin reported a $500,000 grant had been received from the Department of Fish & Game. Another opportunity for a $4 million 75/25 matching grant from the Department of Commerce has become available. This would leave a gap of a ½ million dollars. The City of CWF willing to put up $125,000. The City of Strong City and the Rural Water District will be approached for likewise funding. Commissioner Miller asked about continuing maintenance on the basic design and how debris will be removed. Larkin indicated that accessibility will be planned in the design. Miller said that he wouldn’t have a problem working with next year’s budget to accommodate a $125,000 commitment to the project. Talkington said 90% of his constituents wouldn’t think County money should be used for this project and bridges should be a priority.

Boettcher reminded the BOC that ARPA funds could be used for the project. ***Motion to commit $125,000 to the City of Cottonwood Falls for Low Water Dam project*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15. Next scheduled meeting is February 28, 2022 at 10:00 am.

ADOPTION OF ABOVE MINUTES

STATE OF KANSAS

COUNTY OF CHASE

NOW ON This 28th day of February, 2022, as shown in the Minutes of this date’s meeting, the above Minutes are hereby ADOPTED as the official record of the proceedings, business and actions of the Board of Chase County Commissioners during the session above described.

BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Anthony Hazelton, Chairman

SEAL

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Randy Talkington, Vice Chairman

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Matthew Miller, Member

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Connie M. Pretzer, County Clerk