JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES

OF THE CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 10, 2020

August 10, 2020 at 10:00 am, Anthony Hazelton-Chairman, William Fillmore Vice-chairman, Randy Talkington-member and Connie Pretzer-County Clerk assembled in the Chase County Commission Chambers. Hazelton opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Kyra Jumper—Emporia Gazette, and Melinda Graham.

***Motion to recess the regular meeting*** ***at 10:01 to call the Board of County Canvassers into session*** with Commissioners Randy Talkington and William Fillmore by Commissioner Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0. ***Motion by Hazelton to conduct canvass in Commission Chambers*** (pursuant to KSA 25-3105) in order to accommodate space was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0.

County Election Officer Connie Pretzer presented 11 provisional ballots. The Board considered each ballot along with the provided State Statutes. Provisional Ballots #1 through #5 were valid and counted. Ballots #6 through #11 were not validly cast ballots and were rejected.

***Motion by Hazelton (2nd by Talkington) to recess the Board of County Canvassers*** at 10:10 in order to allow the County Election Officer to take the valid ballots to a Counting Board convened in her office for the purpose of counting Provisional Ballots.

At 10:30 the Board reconvened and received the results of the Provisional Counting Board. Upon ***Motion by Chairman Hazelton, 2nd by Commissioner Talkington*** and by unanimous vote, the Board of Canvassers signed the Abstract of the Primary Election of August 4, 2020 for Chase County, Kansas, as reported by the County Election Officer. ***Motion to adjourn the Board of County Canvassers*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to convene regular session of the Board of County Commissioners at 10:35*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve Minutes of July 31, 2020 by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington.*** Motion carried 3-0.

Melinda Graham visited with the BOC regarding the recently denied $400,000 grant with Pathways for Healthy Kansas and thanked them for the letter of support. The history of the grant was to be available to rural and frontier communities; but this year was available to every county except Johnson and Sedgwick. The health and wellness survey that was conducted county wide was used to apply for the grant. This valuable information is available and strongly recommended to be used during the SPARK planning stage. Commissioners agreed that the survey should be used by the SPARK committee and thanked Graham for the information.

Scott Wiltse, Jennifer Laird and Chelsea Knight updated the BOC on the SPARK committee findings.

Commissioner Fillmore questioned the name change to Chase County Grant Assistance from the Chase County Chamber. Laird explained the change had happened to facilitate a better understanding of the $80,000 grant assistance program. Fillmore inquired of the $4000 administration fee. Laird explained that this was the only grant program within the Direct Aid Plan and the State says 5% can be allocated. Discussion followed with the understanding that Laird and Wiltse will administer the Direct Aid plan in its entirety. ***Motion by Hazelton 2nd by Talkington to approve the preliminary SPARK Direct Aid Plan.*** Motion carried 3-0.

Detention Facility Administrator Larry Sigler reported 5 new positive COVID cases among the inmates at the facility. There are no new positive cases among the employees. The Facility is following KDHE guidelines. ***Motion at 11:10 for 10 minutes of executive session for non-elected personnel by Hazelton with Sigler and clerk was 2nd by Talkington.*** Motion carried 3-0. Meeting resumed at 11:20 with no action taken.

County Fire Chief Steve Fillmore briefly met with the Board to advise on a meeting that he had with Rebecca Heatherington of Insurance Services Office (ISO). The purpose of Heatherington’s visit was to inform of changes to guidelines in fighting structure fires. Chief Fillmore is working on a plan and will report to the Board.

County Election Officer Connie Pretzer informed the BOC of an incident at the Polling Location on Tuesday, August 4th. Deputy Election Officer Tiffany Harshman asked a gentleman to remove his hat due to electioneering rules set by the Secretary of State Office. The gentleman made vile comments and refused to remove his hat. BOC recommendation is post signage and call law enforcement if the problem arises in the next election.

Public Health Officer Carol Coirier met with the Board along with Road & Bridge Supervisor Thom Kirk, County Treasurer Dow Wilson, Sheriff Richard Dorneker and County Attorney Bill Halvorsen. Coirier spoke about the 5 new positive cases at the detention facility and was encouraged by the fact that there were no new cases within the jail staff; reiterating the fact that masks do work. Further discussion about a mask mandate was held with no action being taken.

***Motion to adjourn at 12:33 by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington.*** Motion carried 3-0.

Next scheduled meeting is August 17, 2020 at 10:00 am.

ADOPTION OF ABOVE MINUTES

STATE OF KANSAS

COUNTY OF CHASE

NOW ON This 17th day of August, 2020, 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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William Fillmore, Vice Chairman

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Randy Talkington, Member

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

Connie M. Pretzer, County Clerk