JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES

OF THE CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 15, 2021

March 15, 2021 at 10:00 am; Anthony Hazelton-Chairman, Randy Talkington-Vice chairman, Matt 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 03/15/2021 Warrants*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington***.*** Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve Special Payroll for one employee 2/26/2021*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington.

***Motion to approve Minutes of February 26, 2021*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington***.*** Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to schedule a Special Meeting for March 23rd at 10:00 am for the purpose of resuming department head meetings, discussing Executive Order No. 20-68 and wage study*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0.

Senior Center Director Deb Haglund asked the Board if the Senior Center could open and if so what restrictions there might be. Commissioner Miller inquired if the Seniors had been vaccinated and Haglund said most have been vaccinated. Commissioner Talkington remarked that if Haglund felt safe reopening, it should be considered. Haglund said that not all activities would resume upon reopening, but it was important to get the Seniors out of their homes again. Commissioners would like to discuss the reopening plan with Health Department Nurse Candra Good and Public Health Office Carol Coirier at the Special Meeting before making a decision.

County Sheriff Rich Dorneker appeared before the Board. ***Motion by Hazelton for 10 minutes of executive session at 10:25 for non-elected personnel with Dorneker*** was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting resumed at 10:35 with no action taken.

EMS Director Scott Harris expressed concern to the Board about the lack of interest in the community on becoming certified EMT’s. Harris is operating the ambulance barn by himself along with 5 part time people. EMS is mandated by State Regulations to have 2 certified attendants on every call; 1 EMT and 1 EMR at the minimum. Harris is very appreciative of the 5 part time people that he has and with the time they are putting in, but would like to see more Chase countians take the classes and become certified. Harris would love to double or triple his staff. Chase County will pay for the classes upon successful completion. Harris has advertised for potential candidates with no luck. Harris has also checked into a private ambulance service (AMR) that could assume the ambulance duties; costing around $750,000. Harris has also checked with surrounding counties with no luck. Commissioners directed Clerk to post the employment opportunity on the County website and Clerk’s Facebook page. ***Motion for 5 minutes of executive session at 10:53 for non-elected personnel with Harris*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting resumed at 11:02 with no action taken.

Register of Deeds Kathy Swift reported the need for a new table top in the deed vault room at a cost of $1300. Swift also informed the Board of the cost to digitize 85 old land books in her office. $31,000 can be budgeted and paid for over a period of 4 years. Commissioners took the information under consideration.

County Appraiser Andy Durbin reported the County valuation notices had been mailed and gave a brief report on what the valuation entailed. Durbin also praised his assistant, Levi Whitaker. Durbin also gave the BOC quotes for tires for department Explorer. Commissioners recommended the Hankook brand which will come out the Appraiser budget.

County Fire Chief Steve Fillmore informed the Board that he would be traveling to Texas in the near future to inspect the tanker truck for purchase. Fillmore also told the BOC that there is always a need for new equipment for the Fire Department.

Emergency Preparedness Director Scott Wiltse briefly met with the Board to say that he had been working on the County Emergency Operating Plan and the flood plain map. Commissioner Hazelton asked about the notification system “Everbridge”. Wiltse said he was working on the IRIS system and will work with the sheriff on this.

Detention Facility Director Larry Sigler reported a current inmate count of 42. The count should begin to pick up soon, but the facility has been counting on the reserve to carry them through. Sigler advised the BOC of using Vend Engine for people to put money via a debit or credit card on inmates’ accounts without an in-person visit. Sigler is also using video visitation instead of in person visitation.

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thom Kirk expressed concern about future fuel costs. Kirk will continue to monitor prices and vendors. Commissioners discussed the wage study with Kirk for the Road & Bridge Department. Kirk also provided information about a traffic counter.

Commissioners entered into a wage study session at 12:30 pm. No action was taken.

***Motion to adjourn at 2:00 pm by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington.*** Motion carried 3-0.

Next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at 10:00 am.

ADOPTION OF ABOVE MINUTES

STATE OF KANSAS

COUNTY OF CHASE

NOW ON This 31st day of March, 2021 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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Matt Miller, Member

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

Connie M. Pretzer, County Clerk