JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES

OF THE CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 30, 2021

July 30, 2021 at 10:00 am; Randy Talkington-Vice Chairman, Matthew Miller-member, Connie Pretzer-County Clerk, Emporia Gazette Reporter Megan Sando and patrons Thane Cozart and Howard Chapman. Talkington opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Hazelton was absent.

***Motion to approve 07/30/2021 Warrants*** by Talkington was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 2-0.

***Motion to approve 06/25/21 to 07/24/21 Payroll*** by Talkington was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 2-0.

***Motion to approve Minutes of July 12, 2021*** by Talkington was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 2-0.

***Motion to approve Resolution 2021-09*** (a resolution establishing fund 350 for ARPA monies) by Talkington was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 2-0.

Thane Cozart presented a petition signed by homeowners that are affected by dust on the first two miles of YY Road. Cozart pointed out that YY road used to be blacktop which was a significant factor in the homeowners’ decision to purchase or build their present homes. The homeowners are requesting a dust suppressant to alleviate traffic dust around their homes. YY Road carries a significant amount of traffic to Lake Kahola and semi-truck traffic to the cattle pens. Commissioners will take the request under advisement and speak with the road supervisor.

Howard Chapman had questions about the August 1st enforcement of weight limits on county bridges and designated truck routes. Commissioner Miller stated there were 2 truck routes in place within the county at this time with the possibility of more to come, and extensive research by the road supervisor is conducted involving the traffic counter and the expertise of an engineering firm to establish truck routes. Miller concluded by saying he was present at last year’s Commission meeting when the decision was made by the former Commission to remove all bridge weight limits, “I’m not okay with that”.

Clerk presented Resolution 2020-10 which was drafted by County Attorney Bill Halvorsen. The resolution would submit a proposition to permit the sale of alcoholic liquor by the drink in public places without the 30% food sale requirement of gross receipts. If passed, the resolution would allow the question to be placed on the November ballot for voters of Chase County to decide. *“Shall sale of alcoholic liquor by the individual drink in Chae County be allowed in public places without a requirement that any portion of their gross receipts be from sales of food?”*

Commissioner Miller contacted Halvorsen by phone for clarification.

***Motion to approve Resolution 2021-10*** (submitting to qualified electors a proposition to permit the sale of alcoholic liquor by the drink)by Miller was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 2-0.

Greg Watkins of Watco Benefit Group met with the BOC to offer his services in obtaining health insurance quotes for county employees. Watkins discussed the pros and cons of self-funded insurance plans and captive plans. Watkins then presented an opportunity with United Healthcare for the Board to review. The offer has a September 1st effective date. Commissioners will look over the materials and clerk will reach out to department heads and assessed a list of primary care physicians used by employees.

Senior Center Director Deb Haglund met with the Board to report that the center’s dishwasher was no longer working. Commissioners gave permission for her to purchase a Hobart model from Sunflower out of Salina for $6,993 and a 3 vat sink for approximately $1,300.00.

Road & Bridge supervisor Thom Kirk entered the meeting. Discussion was held regarding the engineering report for bridges on truck routes. BSN200 is identified as a 37 ton bridge for inventory rating purposes. In theory this means that if the bridge is traveled at no more than 37 tons it will remain in inventory indefinitely. Operating weight rating can be a higher weight limit, however the bridge will not remain in inventory as long. ***Motion at 11:15 for 5 minutes of executive session for attorney client privilege with Kirk*** by Talkington was 2nd by Miller. Motion passed 2-0. Meeting resumed at 11:20 with no action taken. Kirk reported that after speaking to the county attorney that he had the authority to establish a truck route. Kirk has identified two roads that will soon become truck routes in the Bazaar area and old highway 50. Local traffic only signs were also discussed in order to keep heavy truck traffic off of some local county roads. A county resolution would be needed in order to post the signs. Kirk was also directed by the Commissioners to check on prices to enable dust control on gravel roads.

Kirk will begin the chip seal process on Bazaar and Matfield areas in the next couple of weeks. Materials and money allowing, the crew will try to resurface the road by Swope Park. The traffic counter was placed on this road and reported around 650 vehicles a day.

Meeting recessed at 11:45 until 1:00 on a motion by Talkington; 2nd by Miller. 2-0

Meeting resumed at 1:00 at which time BG Consultants was scheduled. County Fire Chief Steve Fillmore and Strong City Fire Chief Greg Davis were present. Various topics were discussed as a generator to power the community building; what steps could be taken to lower the county ISO score which is now a 6; condition of county fire trucks; possible uses of ARPA money, etc.

Clerk presented information and sample resolutions regarding indigent death. The County does not currently have anything in place to take care of people that die and have no family or funds for burial. Clerk was directed to forward the information to the county attorney in order to draw up a resolution for discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 on a motion from Talkington; 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 2-0.

Next scheduled meeting is August 16th at 10:00 am.

ADOPTION OF ABOVE MINUTES

STATE OF KANSAS

COUNTY OF CHASE

NOW ON This 16th day of August, 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