JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES

OF THE CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 22, 2022

WORK SESSION

June 22, 2022 at 8:00 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.

The purpose of this meeting is to review department budgets and discuss roads with the Road and Bridge department.

County Appraiser Andrew Durbin provided spreadsheets to the Commissioners that explained county assessed values in real estate, personal property, ag land, state assessed utilities, etc. and how assessed values relate to tax statements. The largest, public utilities (state assessed) make up 1/3 of our county assessed value and tax revenue. Residential and ag land are also large contributing factors. Some counties have seen an increase of 20% in real estate, however Durbin noted that Chase County has only seen an increase of about 1/3 of a percent. Every property is different with unique situations such as deferred maintenance. Commissioners thanked Durbin for the information. Durbin also discussed his budget request with Commissioners.

Register of Deeds Kathy Swift provided the Board a sheet that compiled the Register of Deeds salaries from other counties with a population of 3000 or less. Swift would like the BOC to consider raising her salary to be more in line with County departments and RODs across the state. Miller asked Swift how many other ROD departments have additional staff in their offices. Swift said most have more than one person, but a few had one person in the office. Swift commented that there has always been two in her office. Miller stated that the Board had studied salaries and wages and have increased accordingly over the past two years. The salary adjustments are made at the 1st of the year. Hazelton also commented that studies have been done and wage adjustments have been made but the Commission can’t make a large increase all at once. Hazelton invited Swift to return during an open meeting for further discussion. Talkington commented that all departments are important and the Commission is trying to help with wages without raising taxes. Miller commented that there is only so much money to go around some departments grab more attention; like road & bridge. And they will continue to.

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thom Kirk discussed his department’s budget request. Kirk began by saying he wasn’t sure what the prices of chemical, fuel, rock, oil ect. would be next year and wanted to emphasize that the figures were just a guess. “I will just make do with whatever you guys see fit. It’s hard to tell what this economy will do”. Equipment was also discussed along with the need for a mini-excavator. Kirk will obtain 3 quotes.

Commissioners continued review of other department head budget requests and directed Clerk to forward the figures to Cindy Jensen, CPA. Further discussion will be held at the next scheduled meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00. Next scheduled meeting is June 30, 2022 at 10:00 am.

ADOPTION OF ABOVE MINUTES

STATE OF KANSAS

COUNTY OF CHASE

NOW ON This 30th day of June, 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