JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES

OF THE CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 31, 2024

October 31, 2024, at 9:00 am; Anthony Hazelton-Chairman, Matt Miller-Vice chair, Alan Phipps-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 10/31/2024 Warrants*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Phipps. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve 09/25/2024 to 10/24/2022 payroll*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve 10/14/2024 Minutes*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Phipps***.*** Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve/sign Resolution 2024-05, Rural Opportunity Zone*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Phipps***.*** Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve/sign 2024-02 Disaster Declaration due to wildfires*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to sign letters of support to KDOT for continued funding of the general public transportation program and authorize Deb Haglund as coordinator of Chase County Senior Center*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Phipps. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve a Crime Prevention request of $2,204 from USD 284 for safety upgrades*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners reviewed a quote from Justice Painting for painting and repairs to the Courtroom and Judge’s chambers for $80 per hour. ***Motion by Miller to proceed with the bid from Justice Painting not to exceed $5000 and paid from fund 04 (Courthouse preservation)*** was 2nd by Phipps. Motion carried 3-0.

Grant writer Christie Reinhardt reported that she was working on a grant for matching funds from the Trusler Foundation to the Kansas Department of Emergency Management hazard mitigation grant program for 5 storm sirens. Reinhardt then requested a county laptop and software to use for county business for audit purposes. Adobe Acrobat, Microsoft 365 and Zoom. ***Motion to purchase a laptop for $1280 and necessary software and licensing*** ***from fund 200 (jail excess revenue)*** by Miller was 2nd by Phipps. Motion carried 3-0.

Freedom Claims president Julie Yarmer presented the County employee health insurance renewal rates. The rates with United Health Care show a 25.2% increase over the 2023 rates. Blue Cross/Blue Shield’s quote for a rate was 57% higher than United Health Care. Aetna’s quote will not be competitive. Yarmer will continue to negotiate with UHC and will also figure rates to include better lab cost coverage.

Ideatek representative James Krstolich met with the Board to ask for a letter of support for Ideatek to include in a BEAD grant that would supply fiber internet. A total of 145 homes in Chase County have been identified as qualifying. Krstolich will be in contact with the Clerk’s office with more information.

Andrew Durbin presented Resolution 2024-06 Operation Green Light. Durbin explained the event to take place from November 4th through November 11th to honor veterans was organized by the National Association of Counties. Durbin will illuminate the County Courthouse with green filters on the flood lights. ***Motion to approve Resolution 2024-06*** by Miller was 2nd by Phipps. Motion carried 3-0.

Road & Bridge supervisor Thom Kirk provided information on the bid opening for the Cedar Point bridge replacement. Of the three bids received for the project, AM Cohron & Son Inc was the low bid at $1,752,198 which was considered satisfactory when compared with the engineer’s estimate. ***Motion to accept the bid for Project #009- C-5219-01*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 2-1 with Phipps opposing. Commissioner Phipps asked Kirk for a total of expenses the County has incurred to date on the bridge. Kirk will get the totals together.

Clerk provided the Board with information on BOC meetings and holidays for 2025. Commissioners will review dates and have suggestions before the year end. Reviewed a budget amendment for the Road & Bridge department that will need to be published in November. Clerk also gave figures on early voting for the 2024 General Election.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am on a motion from Hazelton 2nd by Miller. Next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 12 @ 9:00 am for the Canvass of the 2024 General Election and regular County business.

 ADOPTION OF ABOVE MINUTES

 STATE OF KANSAS

 COUNTY OF CHASE

NOW ON This 12th day of November, 2024 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

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 Matt Miller, Vice Chairman

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Alan Phipps, Member

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

 Connie M. Pretzer, County Clerk