JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES

OF THE CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 31, 2023

May 31, 2023, at 9:00 am; Anthony Hazelton-Chairman, Matt Miller-Vice chair, Alan Phipps-member, Connie Pretzer-County Clerk assembled in the Chase County Commission Chambers. Hazelton opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present was Shayla Gaulding-Chase County Leader News and patron Carl Antes.

***Motion to approve 05/31/2023 Warrants*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve 04/25/2023—5/24/2023 payroll*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Phipps. Motion carried 3-0

***Motion to approve 05/15/2023 Minutes*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller***.*** Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve RenoDry contract for $15,870*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Phipps***.*** Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to add Diana Lauer to operating account #051525 at Citizens State Bank*** by Miller was 2nd by Hazelton. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve $72,826 proposal from Modern Air to replace chiller at the Courthouse*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Phipps. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to pay $5,287 bill from Will-Burt for light upfitting fire department rescue truck*** by Miller was 2nd by Phipps. Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion at 9:45 for 15 minutes of executive session for non-elected personnel with Pretzer*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting resumed at 10:00 with no action taken.

Carl Antes of Lake Kahola requested the BOC review the bid from Doyle Conley for ditch work and blading of the south entrance of Kahola the dam (Z Road). A 2009 agreement with the County was also presented detailing the County’s participation in maintaining the road. Commissioners will forward the bid to R&B supervisor.

EMS Director Scott Harris presented the 2024 EMS budget along with supporting documents. Harris is concerned that citizens are not stepping up and taking classes to be certified EMS volunteers. The service to the community could be lost if more people are not willing to become certified. Harris has checked into the option of contracting with a company to provide ambulance service to Chase County but would cost from $500,000 to $775,000. Harris also spoke about the longevity of ambulances and the need for the County to replace them around every 10 years. Miller suggested that Harris continue to budget $25,000 in his capital outlay every year to be transferred to the ambulance equipment fund. Harris also informed the BOC that the new ambulance would be delivered later in 2024.

Mallory Burton representing the Chase County Conservation District requested $17,000 be appropriated from the County’s 2024 budget. The request has remained the same for several years. She also provided information on programs and events the district offers.

Miller reported he had negotiated the price for the building at 200 N. Walnut for $194,000 and $1,000 for closing costs. An agreement was signed with Lyon County Title to draft the sales agreement, title insurance etc. with the closing on June 12th. Possible uses for the front of the building could be for the health department. The Sheriff’s department could then be moved to the existing health department, solving the space issue for that department. This would also free up space for the detention facility. Uses for the back of the building could include fire department and building maintenance workshop. Any changes to the building for fire would come out of the fire district budget.

Julie Yarmer of Freedom Claims gave the Commissioners reports on County reserves from the insurance plan the Commissioners initiated this year. The report showed $21,356.95 in reserve since January 1st inception. Yarmer also explained the 2 card system to the Board and if new employees have any questions, they should call Freedom Claims.

Commissioner Phipps left the meeting at 10:20.

Road & Bridge Supervisor Thom Kirk presented 2 reports comparing the Dusty Fink and Glendale Ranch bridges. The bridges are similar in size with the difference being cost of the contracted bridge at $300,000 vs the county installed bridge at $100,000. Kirk would like to see his crew replacing the smaller bridges but will not be able to keep up with roads without more help.

Miller relayed the information previously submitted by Carl Antes to Kirk and stated that the County has an obligation to honor the agreement while also noting Kirk’s department was understaffed. After discussion, it was decided to authorize Kirk to make the decision to hire the contractor and contact parties involved.

Kirk would like clarification on whether the City of Cottonwood Falls or the County is responsible for maintenance on several hard surfaced roads. Kirk and Miller will attend the next city council meeting on June 5th to discuss the issue.

***Motion at 10:55 for 20 minutes of executive session for non-elected personnel with Pretzer*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Miller. Motion carried 2-0. Meeting resumed at 11:15 with no action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 on a ***motion from Hazelton 2nd by Miller***. Motion carried 2-0. Next scheduled meeting is Monday, June 12th @ 9:00 am.

ADOPTION OF ABOVE MINUTES

STATE OF KANSAS

COUNTY OF CHASE

NOW ON This 12th day of June, 2023 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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Matt Miller, Vice Chairman

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Alan Phipps, Member

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

Connie M. Pretzer, County Clerk