JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS AND MINUTES

OF THE CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 14, 2021

June 14, 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 06/14/2021 Warrants*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington***.*** Motion carried 3-0.

***Motion to approve Minutes of May 28, 2021*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington***.*** Motion carried 2-0. Miller abstained due to absence at the May 28th meeting.

***Motion to approve Special Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2021*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington***.*** Motion carried 3-0.

Deputy Clerk Tiffany Harshman informed the Board that she had cancelled the 3 American Express credit cards due to recurring charges by Microsoft 360. Several charges that were recurring were set up by past employees which were impossible to close due to security questions. Commissioners supported Harshman’s decision to no longer allow recurring charges to the County credit card. Harshman also informed the Board of bills still being received from AT&T for disputed charges that had been turned over to the County Attorney.

Detention Facility Administrator Larry Sigler presented April 2021 reports for the facility. The report showed $150,632.46 billed to ICE for the month. Sigler has billed $230,000 in May for housing and transportation. Covid is still an issue with ICE only allowing ¾ capacity. Sigler reports no COVID in the facility and 1 employee in quarantine. Sigler then discussed the budget for the facility noting increases in food cost, etc. Discussion was held on potentially offering sign-on bonuses. Sigler will also get bids for a new copier for the facility.

District manager for the Chase County Conversation District Mallory Burton met with the BOC to ask for the annual appropriation of $17,000 for FY2022 operations. Commissioners will consider the request at a future Budget meeting. Burton informed the Board of planned activities for 2022 along with the Conservation investment into Chase County.

Ty Wheeler of Kansas Legal Services (KLS) met with the Commissioners to request an annual appropriation of $3500. The primary mission of KLS is to provide equal access to justice for persons not able to pay for legal and other essential services. The Board will consider the appropriation at a future Budget meeting.

County Attorney Bill Halvorsen met with the Board to discuss the Crime Prevention request of $1000 to USD 284 for “Go Bags” for each classroom to update the crisis plan. ***Motion to approve request of $1000 of Crime Prevention funds to USD 284*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Miller discussed with the county attorney the condition of county roads and bridges and enforcement of resolutions that could be placed into effect. Halvorsen advised the Board that placing weight restrictions on bridges will in effect impose weight restrictions on county roads. This topic will be addressed at the next meeting and will include the Road & Bridge supervisor. Miller also envisions evening meetings being held in various parts of the county to discuss patron concerns.

xzEMS supervisor Scott Harris reported the first one-half of the American Rescue Plan funds of $257,171.50 were received on June 3rd. The 2nd half of these funds will be received around the same time next year for a total of $514,343. December 31,2024 all funds must be expended. December 31, 2026 all projects must be completed. Harris will complete the 5 annual reports that must be done but feels the people that want to tap into these funds should do the research to see if these funds are eligible for that use and get bids on the project. Harris will be available to guide individuals but will not do the research. <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments> and <https://www.naco.org/resources/featured/american-rescue-plan-act-funding-breakdown>

are good sources of information. Harris informed that the final ruling would not be issued on these monies until sometime in July.

Road & Bridge supervisor Thom Kirk reported to the Commissioners; 1) The Buchman bridge on Diamond Creek road has the shoe-fly in place and waiting on the contractor. 2) Bridge No. BSN150 guardrail will be installed and bridge is now at maximum capacity. 3) APAC leveling estimates on the State Lake Road are forthcoming 4) Patching & chip/seal will begin soon. 5) Work will begin soon to repair pot holes in the concrete on the bridge decks. 6) The traffic count report was discussed. The reports not only show traffic count, but length and speed of the vehicle. Kirk also prints a report for law enforcement. Miller asked for a spreadsheet with the report information. Kirk reported on a section of T road that would need to be excavated and reworked due to heavy truck traffic. The Road & Bridge budget for 2022 was discussed. Kirk’s consensus was to concentrate on culverts and bridges as money and manpower allows, noting that the department has 2 blade operators retiring this year. Talkington commented that it was important for all road & bridge employees to be cross trained. Miller emphasized the importance of making sure duties are completed and budgeting is adequate.

Discussion was also held on equipment to chip & seal roads. Kirk was asked for alternatives to (a)purchasing a new machine (b) purchasing a used machine along with maintenance (c) leasing the equipment (d) having a company like APAC do the work. The current County owned machine is aged and parts are becoming hard to find.

County Appraiser Andrew Durbin met with the Commissioners to review the 4 year Appraiser appointment resolution that will need to take effect on July 1st. ***Motion at 11:25 for 20 minutes of executive session for non-elected personnel with Durbin*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting resumed at 11:45 with no action taken.

***Motion for 5 minutes of executive session at 11:50 for non-elected personnel*** by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting resumed at 11:55 with no action taken.

***Motion to adjourn at 12:58 by Hazelton was 2nd by Talkington.*** Motion carried 3-0.

Next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, June 30, 2021 at 10:00 am.

ADOPTION OF ABOVE MINUTES

STATE OF KANSAS

COUNTY OF CHASE

NOW ON This 30th day of June, 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