

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
CLOUD COUNTY, KANSAS
JANUARY 11, 2021
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Regular session of the January meetings of the Cloud County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on January 11, 2021 in the Commissioners' room at 811 Washington, Concordia, Kansas with Chairman Bill Czapanskiy, Members Gary Caspers and Ron Copple, and County Clerk Shella Thoman present.

County staff attending was: Ken Davis, Sheriff; Andy Asch, Highway Administrator; Barry Porter, County Appraiser; Henry Eilert, Maintenance Manager; Jana Roush, Register of Deeds; Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director; JoDee LeDuc, County Treasurer; Brandi Bray, Health Department Administrator; and James Quillen, Emergency Preparedness Director.

Others attending: Kristi Benyshek, District Court Clerk; Toby Nosker, KNCK; and Jon Halbegwachs, Kirkham Michael & Associates, Inc.

Brandi Bray, Health Department Administrator reported the Health Department is being compensated \$30 for each saliva test, they have tested 199 people as of Friday and would like to use these funds to purchase desks and that they would be ordering new chairs. Rapid tests are now available for anyone showing symptoms, saliva tests are available to anyone (showing or not showing symptoms) as part of the Test All Kansas initiative. Commissioner Caspers reported that he had 2 calls from people that tested positive that thought the directions were confusing. Bray will develop new paperwork that may make it more clear. Close contacts should quarantine for 10 days from the last date of exposure and monitor and take precautions for an additional 4 days. COVID Results: 896 positive, 7 hospitalized & 23 deaths. Caspers also asked if LEPC notices and login information could be sent prior the day of the meeting.

Department Head – 9:27 – 10:18 a.m.

Jana Roush, Register of Deeds – Routine business

Henry Eilert, Maintenance Manager – Helping finish up with preparation of the EOC.

Brandi Bray, Health Department Administrator – Saliva testing is available to anyone, rapid testing is available to those showing symptoms. All 1st round doses of vaccines are completed and the 2nd dose will arrive this week. They do 10 vaccines at 1 time and are putting together a list of people that could come immediately if an individual from the current phase is unable to vaccinate on the scheduled day.

JoDee LeDuc, County Treasurer – Tax collection through December was approximately \$12.4 million, 61.5% and average based on the last several years. Tax distribution is due by January 20th.

Barry Porter, County Appraiser – Personal property was mailed out, working on rechecking remodels and doing payments under protest.

Andy Asch, Highway Administrator – Ditch and tree work. A position will be coming open for an equipment operator due to retirement.

James Quillen, Emergency Preparedness Director – Work on the EOC is getting finished up. The trailer is expected to be delivered in the next week or two. Looking into a grant to cover expenses for exercise and training for LEPC. Need to create a purchasing and conflict of interest policy before finishing the grant. Lift is installed and are talking to the company about a couple concerns on the operation buttons.

Kristi Benyshek, District Court Clerk – Working on jury plans. A trial is scheduled for January 27 – 29th. Will have training for equipment Tuesday and a mock trial next Tuesday. The Washington County magistrate judged retired.

Shella Thoman, County Clerk – Working on end of the year W-2's and 1099's.

Ron Copple, County Commissioner – Would like to come around to each department in the next few weeks to learn more about each department.

Bill Czapanskiy, County Commissioner – Thanked everyone for a job well done on the 2020 budget, it's in the best shape since he's been on the Board.

Andy Asch, Highway Administrator and Jon Halbegwachs, Kirkham Michael & Associates, Inc discussed the agreement for Engineering services for Bridge 7116 located 1.1 miles east and 5.2 miles north of Miltonvale on 270th road over Mulberry Creek and Bridge 841 located on Fawn Road approximately 950 feet east of 90th road over Mortimer Creek. Bridge 7116 is expected to cost approximately \$837,148 with 20% being the local share cost. Bridge 841 is expected to cost \$231,000 with a local share costing under \$81,000. The Board will revisit moving forward on Bridge 7116 next week.

Asch reported that they have 2 payments left on the 1st new grader and are looking at a 2017 from Foley Equipment with 1,500 hours at a cost of \$185,000 before trade; and will be demoing a skid steer with a tree cutter from Murphy Tractor this week. Asch will be attending the Kansas Highway Association meeting this week and sending some employees to crane training next week.

Ken Davis, Sheriff presented classification changes and invited the Board to tour the Law Enforcement Center.

On a motion by Commissioner Caspers, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved the classification change for Nick Patterson from Undersheriff to Sergeant effective January 11, 2021 with no wage change.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Caspers, unanimous vote the Board approved the classification change for James Belden from Deputy Sheriff to Undersheriff at a rate of \$20.00 effective January 11, 2021.

Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director reported that he attended the Republic County Board meeting this morning to review the Solid Waste contract and fees, they asked for language changes. Hake will work on the language and re-present. The Transfer Station is scheduled to be closed January 26th and 27th for repairs to the building. The annual Solid Waste meeting will be January 19th at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse meeting room.

Reviewed a Wind Farm Funds Application from the City of Miltonvale for the Miltonvale EMS & Miltonvale Fire Radio Project in the amount of \$7,647.00, total cost of the project is \$7,647.00. The funds would be used to purchase 10 new digital radios, offering a more reliable signal and keeping emergency services equipped to respond in emergencies for the residents of the area that can mean life or death based on response time.

Wind Farm Fund applications are available through March 30th on the County's website.

The Board discussed County employee COVID pay. Beginning January 31st pay will be reduced to 70% up to 40 hours a week for individuals required to quarantine due to being a close contact or positive. Hours will include any holiday hours.

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Quarterly Report with an ending cash balance of 21,165,791.92.

On a motion by Commissioner Caspers, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved abatements 2021-1 thru 2021-13 with a net change totaling \$9,297.00 and refund totaling \$4,966.33.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Czapanskiy, unanimous vote the Board appointed Gary Caspers as Chairman of the Board for Cloud County. On a motion by Commissioner Czapanskiy, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved Resolution No. 2021-4 establishing the wage scale for employees of Cloud County Kansas for the pay dates in the year of 2021.

The Board approved the following payroll expenses totaling \$171,226.36.

General Fund – \$91,403.53	Road & Bridge – \$43,430.68
Appraisal - \$5,465.52	County Health - \$21,909.23
Noxious Weed - \$1,763.96	Election - \$1,643.72
Solid Waste - \$5,609.72	

Payroll Deductions & Benefits - \$72,742.66

The above expense detail is available at the County Clerk's office and the Clerk's Public Records webpage.

Commissioner Czapanskiy attended the Chemical Dependency Committee meeting Friday January 8th.

On a motion by Commissioner Caspers, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved the January 4, 2021 minutes as presented.

The Board adjourned at 2:38 p.m., until Tuesday January 19, 2021.

Cloud County Board of Commissioners

Attested:

Gary Caspers, Chairman

Bill Czapanskiy, Member

Shella Thoman, County Clerk

Ron Copple, Member