

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
CLOUD COUNTY, KANSAS
JUNE 12, 2023
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Regular session of the June meetings of the Cloud County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on June 12, 2023 in the Commissioners' room at 811 Washington, Concordia, Kansas with Chairman Gary Caspers, Member Ron Copple, and County Clerk Shella Thoman present.

County staff attending was: Andy Asch, Highway Administrator; Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director; Ken Davis, Sheriff; Shea McMillan, Interim Appraiser; James Quillen, Emergency Preparedness Director; Jana Roush, Register of Deeds; Jeff Thoman, Maintenance Manager.

Others attending: Michael Cleveland; Toby Nosker, KNCK; and Brent Cunningham, Cunningham Telephone & Cable.

Brent Cunningham, Cunningham Telephone & Cable discussed the middle-mile network application to the Kansas Office of Broadband Development's LINC program and requested financial support and a letter of support. The funding will improve the lives of rural residents and will stimulate the economic development within rural Cloud County and impact the future growth and stability of the economy by reversing population decline, attracting new families, increasing home values, increasing the earning power of the rural residents, and providing equal education opportunity for students. The grant match is an 80/20 grant with a possible reward of \$200,000. The project will take 2 years to complete and while it will include the City of Concordia's north development 85% of the project is in Republic County. Cloud County did not financially support the project.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Caspers, unanimous vote the Board approved signing a letter of support for Cunningham Telephone & Cable for the middle-mile network application.

Department Head – 9:15 – 10:10 a.m.

Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director reported that the crawler was broken down at the Transfer Station and that the Recycling Center sold 45,420 lbs. of cardboard.

James Quillen, Emergency Preparedness Director - September 12th Cloud County will host an Incident Command System Overview for executives and senior officials and encouraged all elected county and city officials to enroll in the workshop. Twenty-five people attended the active shooter workshop. Will be attending the incident management team exercise in Colby next week. Active shooter tabletop will be in August at the Courthouse and there is a LEPC meeting next week.

Jana Roush, Register of Deeds – Routine Business

Andy Asch, Highway Administrator – The request for cost share on the Ames/Miltonvale road was denied. The one lane bridge on 40th and Camp near Glasco is closed. Working on the removal process of the trailer left on 40th by Jamestown. Have multiple positions open.

Shea McMillan, Interim Appraiser – Attended the Kansas County Appraisers Association conference.

Jeff Thoman, Maintenance Manager – East basement steps will be closed Friday to be painted, have a push trimmer they are needing to transfer to another department or sell, cannon repairs will begin this week.

Ken Davis, Sheriff – Attended a Mental Health in Law Enforcement Centers (LEC) workshop. Reported there are housing 40 – 50 inmates in the LEC. Have multiple Corrections positions open.

Shella Thoman, County Clerk – Reported that for the 4th week in a row Cloud County was the top large reporting organization for the Give Back Kansas Challenge with 291.25 volunteer hours from participating employees. All budget and payroll budgeting sheets need to be submitted. There will not be a primary election; the next election will be November 7th and the Presidential primary will be March 19, 2024. All employees need to complete NIMS 100 and 700 by September 30th; classes are set up if they don't want to do it individually and need 10 employees to do a class on the KCAMP University before June 30th.

On behalf of the Health Department Thoman reported that they held 3 bike rodeos in May, along with Clear the Crib safe Sleep instruction in Clyde, Jamestown and Miltonvale with a total of 43 children participating. They are still providing covid testing while supplies last, however they do not report to the state. Can provide at home tests upon request and have hand sanitizer for anyone that requests it. Currently fully staffed.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Caspers, unanimous vote the Board approved a 5-minute executive session for personnel exception to discuss non-elected personnel resuming open session at 10:26 a.m., including Andy Asch, Michael Cleveland and Thoman.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Caspers, unanimous vote the Board approved a 10-minute executive session for personnel exception to discuss non-elected personnel resuming open session at 10:44 a.m., including Andy Asch, Michael Cleveland, Ken Davis and Thoman.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Caspers, unanimous vote the Board approved hiring Brenda Thomas as a part-time Corrections Officer at an hourly rate of \$17.50 effective June 13, 2023.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Caspers, unanimous vote the Board approved the classification change for Mitchell McMillan from Corrections Officer to Sergeant with a wage change from \$18.20 to \$19.00 effective June 19, 2023.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Caspers, unanimous vote the Board approved signing a letter of support for the City of Concordia's application for the charging and fueling infrastructure discretionary grant. The funding will build reliable charging infrastructure more rapidly and help local counties and municipalities fill a gap in the availability of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in rural Kansas; furthermore, it may ultimately result in air quality improvements.

Received 2024 budget requests from the following Departments. Totals do not include payroll expense.

Solid Waste - \$1,373,500.00	Recycling - \$25,050.00
Commissioners - \$10,300.00	Appraiser - \$27,500.00
Election - \$131,438.00	Clerk - \$8,930.00

Recognized the following Community Corrections/JV Services wage changes:

- Leah Robinson, Secretary II from \$17.69 to \$18.57
- Dawn Synder, Assistant Director from \$35.89 to \$37.68
- Erin Garman, Intensive Supervision Officer from \$32.54 to \$34.17
- Christine Witt, Intensive Supervision Officer from \$32.54 to \$34.17
- Sarah Yungberg, Intensive Supervision Officer from \$26.12 to \$27.43
- Jen Warkentin, JIAS Coordinator/IIP Supervision Officer from \$30.26 to \$31.78

Community Corrections/JV Services wages are grant funded.

Recognized the retirement of Marlan Nelson, Corrections Officer effective June 8, 2023.
Review a letter sent by the County Attorneys office in reference to the trailer home abandoned on 40th road including notification that the owner has 10 days to remove the home.

The Board approved the following payroll expenses totaling \$172,659.05

General Fund – \$94,589.53	Road & Bridge - \$40,837.01
Appraiser - \$7,534.40	County Health - \$20,157.48
Noxious Weed - \$1,877.33	Election - \$1,630.30
Solid Waste - \$6,033.00	

Payroll Deductions & Benefits - \$72,159.91

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

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Caspers, unanimous vote the Board approved the June 5, 2023 minutes as presented.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Caspers, unanimous vote the Board adjourned at 11:07 a.m., until Monday June 19, 2023.

Cloud County Board of Commissioners

Attested:

Gary Caspers, Chairman

Mark Matthew, Member

Shella Thoman, County Clerk

Ron Copple, Member