

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
CLOUD COUNTY, KANSAS
JULY 17, 2023
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Regular session of the July meetings of the Cloud County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on July 17, 2023 in the Commissioners' room at 811 Washington, Concordia, Kansas with Chairman Gary Caspers, Members Michael Cleveland and Ron Copple, and County Clerk Shella Thoman present.

County staff attending was: Andy Asch, Highway Administrator; Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director; Tonya Sulanka, Health Department Administrator; and Rob Walsh, County Attorney.

Others attending: Toby Nosker, KNCK; and Susie Haver & Michelle Bombardier, Cloud County Tourism. Others attending by conference call: Joshua Meyer, Chaput-Bouy; Lincoln County Commissioners: Debora Smith, Dennis Ray & Darrell Oetting; Dawn Harlow, Lincoln County Clerk; and Dustin Florence, Lincoln County Sheriff.

The Board talked to Lincoln County Commissioners: Debora Smith, Dennis Ray & Darrell Oetting; Dawn Harlow, Lincoln County Clerk; and Dustin Florence, Lincoln County Sheriff regarding the District Coroner service. Lincoln County will look into using a Deputy Coroner from Mitchell County.

The Board contacted Joshua Meyer, Chaput-Bouy for feedback regarding District Coroner services including the waiting period for documentation.

Susie Haver and Michelle Bombardier, Cloud County Tourism presented a 2024 budget request. All funds for Tourism are provided by the bed tax collected from County lodging facilities. The County budget will include all available dollars in the 2024 budget and is estimated to be \$199,478.

Andy Asch, Highway Administrator reported he was spraying Johnson grass, working on the Miller pit, sold 2 trucks, is receiving additional feedback on the Ames / Miltonvale repair and presented a resignation.

Acknowledged the resignation of Greg Lagasse effective July 10, 2023.

Tonya Sulanka, Health Department Administrator reported they applied and were accepted for a Safe Sleep training scholarship. They will be participating in National Day Out on August 1st at the Broadway Plaza. They are currently doing a fan drive and will be assisting the Resource Council prepare back to school back packs.

Rob Walsh, County Attorney discussed contracting with Klenda Austerman LLC to complete the real estate tax foreclosure. Klenda Austerman will handle all foreclosure matters for a flat fee for each parcel; the fee ranges from \$200 to \$350.

Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director reported that they sold 44,280 lbs. of cardboard last week and discussed the rental agreement for the farm ground at the Transfer Station.

The Board reviewed documents related to the Taxable Industrial Revenue Bonds, Series 2012 (Cloud County Cooperative Elevator Association project). Documents including Resolution 2023-11 authorizing the sale and conveyance of property to Cloud County Cooperative Elevator Association, Release of Lease, and Bill of Sale.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board authorized the Chairman to sign documents allowing the Cloud County Cooperative Elevator Association, Inc. to exercise the option to buy out the lease for the Cloud County Cooperative Elevator Association project.

The Cloud County 2024 budget estimates a budget authority of \$18,448,692 including \$8,718,361 to be collected in ad valorem tax at an estimated mill levy rate of 65.797. The 2022 assessed valuation and mill levy totaled \$120,252,981 and 67.475 mills. The 2023 valuation total equaled \$127,558,184 and 63.603 mills. The Cloud County Revenue Neutral Rate & Budget hearing will be at 9:00 a.m. on Monday September 11, 2023.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved giving notice to the Cloud County Clerk of the intent to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the classification change for Brenda Thomas, Corrections Officer from part-time to full-time with a wage change from \$17.50 to \$18.20 effective July 16, 2023.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved hiring Jason McCollough as a full-time Corrections Officer at an hourly rate of \$17.50 per hour beginning July 6, 2023.

Acknowledged the resignation of David Penn III effective July 2, 2023.

Acknowledged the resignation of Spencer Edwards effective June 21, 2023.

The Board approved the following payroll expenses totaling \$170,405.22

General Fund – \$92,665.23	Road & Bridge - \$42,814.30
Appraiser - \$4,521.06	County Health - \$20,713.34
Noxious Weed - \$1,879.26	Election - \$1,682.85
Solid Waste - \$6,129.18	

Payroll Deductions & Benefits - \$74,111.60

The Board approved the following expenses totaling \$171,439.22

General Fund – \$66,900.72	Road & Bridge – \$28,058.37
Juvenile Justice - \$2,357.09	Employee Benefits - \$1,150.00
Appraisal - \$359.66	Juvenile Reinvestment - \$2,114.55
Community Correc - \$1,041.70	County Health - \$8,467.89
Noxious Weed - \$399.71	Election - \$25.02
Auto Special - \$44.27	Court Services - \$3,561.89
Solid Waste - \$32,035.45	Co Tourism & Convention - \$24,922.90

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

Commissioner Copple attended the Cloud County Resource Council meeting on Tuesday July 11.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved the July 6, 2023 minutes as presented.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board adjourned at 11:57 a.m., until Monday, July 24, 2023.

Cloud County Board of Commissioners

Attested:

Gary Caspers, Chairman

Mike Cleveland, Member

Shella Thoman, County Clerk

Ron Copple, Member