

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
CLOUD COUNTY, KANSAS
NOVEMBER 13, 2023
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Regular session of the November meetings of the Cloud County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on November 13, 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; Ken Davis, Sheriff; Kim Winsett, County Appraiser; James Quillen, Emergency Preparedness Director; and Jeff Thoman, Maintenance Manager.

Others attending: Toby Nosker, KNCK; and EDP Renewables North American LLC staff: Chase Dekrell, Project Developer; Clemente Armenta, Project Developer; David Neely, Director New Development Initiatives Group; Greg Zavoluk, Project Developer; and Caitlin Jancuska, Project Manager.

Department Head – 9:15 – 10:08 a.m.

James Quillen, Emergency Preparedness Director – Cyber Security Training December 5 and 6th; must be signed up by the end of the month. Submitted the grant for a Hazardous waste exercise and a grant for the Courthouse generator.

Andy Asch, Highway Administrator – Will be publishing a notice for electric fencing, discussed issues with finding people to work, waiting on Kirkham Michael on the Glasco Bridge.

Jeff Thoman, Maintenance Manager – Painted new lines in the parking lot and upgraded lighting in the foyer and getting the shed set up.

Kim Winsett, County Appraiser – Working on analytical work, will start final review in the next few weeks.

Report for the Health Department – Walk-in Wednesday include COVID vaccines. Received Work Force Grant for approximately \$80,000. Received an award for Safe Kids Coalition. Community Baby shower had 13 people attended. Received a Gold award from the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition. COVID transmission is low.

Ken Davis, Sheriff – Routine business

Shella Thoman, County Clerk – County will be challenging each Department to collect pop tabs. The Team that collects the most by the January annual employee meeting will put a pie in the face of another employee. Defensive driving make-up session will be next week. Open enrollment will be next week for the 2024 benefits.

Mike Cleveland – Discussed security and the possibility of putting an emergency book at each phone.

Andy Asch, Highway Administrator - Discussed the cost of a railcar to be used for bridge replacement.

James Quillen, Emergency Preparedness Director – Discussed the Miltonvale Repeater Tower and a lease agreement.

EDP Renewables North American LLC staff: Chase Dekrell, Project Developer; Clemente Armenta, Project Developer; David Neely, Director New Development Initiatives Group; Greg Zavoluk, Project Developer; and Caitlin Jancuska, Project Manager discussed the “Plum Nellie” Windfarm project. The project is moving forward and will include 40 – 50 turbines.

The Board reviewed the Budget Status report ending October 31, 2023.

The Board acknowledged the termination of Sarah Sanders, Corrections officer effective November 7, 2023.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved Transfer 2023-1113-1 debiting Noxious Weed – Chemical and crediting Weed Capital Outlay – Transfer In \$3,800 to fix the fund on receipt #27708 for revenue from the sale of a vehicle.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved nominating Ron Copple as the alternate representative on the Pawnee Mental Health Board for a 3-year term.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the presented option 2 for the 2024 Health Insurance coverage with a 15.97% increase.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board recessed until 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday November 14th.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the letter of support for Sunset Home’s application for assistance in covering operating expenses from the Kansas Department of Transportation.

The Board approved the following payroll expenses totaling \$174,069.06

General Fund – \$93,188.36	Road & Bridge - \$44,994.48
Appraiser - \$5,396.70	County Health - \$20,859.81
Noxious Weed - \$1,876.10	Election - \$1,702.08
Solid Waste - \$6,051.53	

Payroll Deductions & Benefits - \$72,818.02

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

Commissioner Cleveland met with Ashley Hutchinson on Friday November 10th. On November 7th he met with James Quillen and Jim Demars regarding the Miltonvale repeater tower.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the November 13, 2023 minutes as presented.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board adjourned at 8:28 a.m. on Tuesday November 14, until Monday November 20, 2023.

Cloud County Board of Commissioners

Attested:

Gary Caspers, Chairman

Michael Cleveland, Member

Shella Thoman, County Clerk

Ron Copple, Member