

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS  
CLOUD COUNTY, KANSAS  
MARCH 18, 2024  
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Regular session of the March meetings of the Cloud County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on March 18, 2024 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; and Tonya Sulanka, Health Department Administrator.

Others attending: Toby Nosker, KNCK; Michelle Bombardier and Susie Haver, Cloud County Tourism; Melissa Swenson, Brown Grand Opera House Director; Richard Schultz, District #3 Fire Chief; and Gail Engle.

Andy Asch, Highway Administrator reported that the County line bridge will be open soon. Hall Brothers will be making cold mix. Will be evaluating damage on the Ames/Miltonvale road and is reviewing chemical quotes.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved the classification change for Larry Miller to \$18.04 an hour effective March 24, 2024 due to the introductory period ending.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved hiring Clinton Viereck as Equipment Operator at the Highway Department at an introductory wage of \$17.50 an hour effective March 18, 2024

Tonya Sulanka, Health Department Administrator reported that Bike Rodeo's are being planned. Requested to close the office on May 23<sup>rd</sup> for Mental Health training. Discussed making changes to positions adding an additional CNA. The Board agreed to open applications for an additional CNA, taking applications through March 25<sup>th</sup>.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the classification change for Emily Goddard from Home Health Nurse to Immunization Director including a wage change from \$24.16 to \$26.00 effective March 18, 2024.

Melissa Swenson, Brown Grand Opera House Director presented a Windfarm application in the amount of \$9,367. The total project is projected to be \$10,922.90 and will add hot water to the utility sink and repair the broken unlevel staircase.

Susie Haver and Michelle Bombardier, Cloud County Tourism Co-Directors reported on 2023. The Tourism gift shop collected \$1,459.53 in sales tax. They hosted 36 group tours and welcomed 4,813 visitors. Concordia was designated the Friendliest Small Town in the

US by Travel Awaits! The office hosted 65 meetings in the building with 729 attending, in addition they attended meetings and events at 39 other locations.

On a motion by Commissioner Cople, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the following nominations to the Cloud County Convention and Tourism committee to fill terms through December 31, 2026:

Joan Fraser – National Orphan Train Complex  
Barbara Shunn – POW Camp Concordia  
Catherine Doud – Cloud County Historical Society Museum

Richard Schultz, District #3 Fire Chief stopped in to visit about burn ban procedures and the Everbridge system.

The Board received a Windfarm application from the Glasco VFW Post #7697 in the amount of \$1,800. The project total is projected at \$5,000 and will be used to replace the existing ceiling and lighting in the dining area.

The Board received a Windfarm application from the American Legion Riders Post 76 in the amount of \$19,534. The projected total is projected at \$22,000 and will be used to install a digital marque sign on the front of Legion Post #76.

The Board received a Windfarm application from USD 333 Concordia in the amount of \$10,000. The project total is projected at \$169,300 and will be used to reduce the burden to local citizens of the cost of completing a safe and secure outdoor recreational space at Concordia Middle School.

The Board approved the following payroll expenses totaling \$180,998.51

General Fund – \$95,715.12	Road & Bridge - \$47,599.46
Appraiser - \$5,530.67	County Health - \$22,107.67
Noxious Weed - \$1,969.29	Election - \$1,747.72
Solid Waste - \$6,328.58	
Payroll Deductions & Benefits - \$209,417.40	

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

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Cople, unanimous vote the Board approved abatements 2024-75 thru 2024-80 with a net change of (\$740.32) and refund of \$161.44.

Commissioner Cople attended the Cloud County Resource Council meeting on Tuesday March 12<sup>th</sup> and attended The Learning Tree's open house in Jamestown on Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Cleveland attended the G0191 – Incident command System / Emergency Operations Center class on March 12<sup>th</sup> and had a conference call with

Representative Lewis Bloom on Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Caspers attended The Learning Tree's open house in Jamestown on Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved the March 11, 2024 minutes as presented.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board adjourned at 11:50 a.m., until Monday March 25, 2024.

Cloud County Board of Commissioners

Attested:

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Gary Caspers, Chairman

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Michael Cleveland, Member

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Shella Thoman, County Clerk

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Ron Copple, Member