

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
CLOUD COUNTY, KANSAS
APRIL 15, 2024
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Regular session of the April meetings of the Cloud County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on April 15, 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; Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director; Tonya Sulanka, Health Department Administrator; Melissa Chaplin, Deputy Treasurer; Ken Davis, Sheriff; Kim Winsett, County Appraiser; James Quillen, Emergency Preparedness Director; Jana Roush, Register of Deeds; and Jeff Thoman, Maintenance Manager.

Others attending: Toby Nosker, KNCK; Kristi Benyshek, District Court Clerk; Danny Kearn; Ronnie Buckland; Florence Giard, Bruce Graham & Jane Demanette, Cloud County Museum; Nicki Reed, CloudCorp Director; Carol Torkelson, North Central Regional Planning (by conference call); John Markel, Kirkham Michael; and John Cooper & Don Bonneau.

Ronnie Buckland discussed what the intangible tax was about. The intangibles tax is a local tax levied on gross earnings received from intangible property such as savings accounts, stocks, bonds, accounts receivable, and mortgages paid to the County and distributed to the local entities participating in the tax.

Department head 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director reported that the Transfer Station crawler is down, discussed the trailer bids, reported that 84,218 lbs. of cardboard was sold at 140 a ton and is looking to trade their mower.

James Quillen, Emergency Preparedness Director reported that the Storm spotter meeting was last week, LEPC is today, are in the final planning stages for the full-size exercise and severe weather is expected tonight.

Jana Roush, Register of Deeds – Routine business.

Kristi Benyshek, District Court Clerk – Routine business

Andy Asch, Highway Administrator – Reported they were hauling rock.

Ken Davis, Sheriff – State is beginning to bring inmates back to the Law Enforcement Center.

Jeff Thoman, Maintenance Manager – All the new security locks are installed, corrected the code violations the fire department found and the old jail lot was seeded over the weekend.

Tonya Sulanka, Health Department Administrator – There were 7 attendees at the Community Baby Shower, working on audits and Bike Rodeos are coming up.

Kim Winsett, County Appraiser – There were 28 appeals on valuations compared to 90 last year. Today was the last day to file an appeal. Personal Property valuation will be sent out at the beginning of the month. Staff will be attending some training.

Melissa Chaplin, Deputy Treasurer – 2nd half of taxes are due May 10th.

Shella Thoman, County Clerk – The Kansas Gives Back Challenge has begun, anyone with hours should report to the County Clerks' office. Deadline to file for office is June 3rd at noon, all County positions are up for election. Budgets are due. We're sending out a message on Everbridge called Cloud County Happenings. It lists activities happening in the next 4 weeks, any additions can be sent to the Clerk's office.

Gary Caspers, Commissioner – Hosted an area Commissioners meeting that was well received; planning to have at least an annual if not bi-annual meeting.

Florence Giard, Bruce Graham & Jane Demanette, Cloud County Museum presented a county area staff evaluation chart, reported the museum hosted over 6,000 visitors in 2023 and presented a 2025 budget request in the amount of \$53,962. This amount will cover the budgeted payroll and utility expenses.

Nicki Reed, CloudCorp Director and Carol Torkelson, North Central Regional Planning (by conference call) discussed the environmental review records for Ride On and JKCC Printing & Design for the 23-CVR-002 project.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved Chairman Gary Caspers sign the environmental review record for The Whole is Greater dba Ride On (14 Spruce, Miltonvale) and JKCC Print & Design (119 N. Railroad Ave, Glasco) in reference to the Cloud County 23-CVR-002 project.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved Chairman Gary Caspers signing the 23-CVR-002 audit information form.

Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director reported that Jewell County looked at the trailer last week and will be discussing it with their Board.

Andy Asch, Highway Administrator and John Markel, Kirkham Michael discussed the UP Bridge and presented information regarding the right-of-way and temporary easements. Kirkham Michael will prepare letters of purchase to the landowners.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved the request and petition from ONEOK North system LLC crossing Jade east of 290th and Iron Road east of 280th.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the hiring of Christopher (Paul) McGuire as an Equipment Operator at the Highway Department effective April 29th at a 6-month introductory rate of \$17.50.

The Board reviewed the Fund Status Report as of March 31,2024 with an ending cash balance of \$14,554,596.56.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved Resolution 2024-08 voiding wire #2479 on April 8, 2024 in the amount of \$45.00 to the Kansas Department of Revenue due to the wrong form of payment.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved hiring Timothy Dareen Wogoman Jr. as a part-time Deputy effective April 20, 2024 with an introductory wage of \$18.50.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the Real property relief application for James and Ethel White due to a fire at 424 E 8th, Concordia.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the appointment of Keith Best and David Gentry to the Cloud County Commission Aging Board representing Jamestown replacing Katherin Paul and Roger Barrett who's terms expire June 30, 2025.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the bid to purchase the Emergency Preparedness truck from Mike Hake at \$13,050.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved the purchase of a 2023 Ford XLT F150 from Farm Country Ford for \$57,160 after discounts, financing credits and rebates and authoring County Clerk Shella Thoman signing the financing agreement.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved the purchase of a 2024 50ft WAVE Tipper Trailer for Travis Body & Trailer, Inc for \$80,225 for the Transfer Station.

Recognized the termination of Tyler Reed effective April 11, 2024.

The Board received 2025 budget requests from the following:

- Pawnee Mental health - \$108,962
- District Court - \$243,000
- OCCK, Inc. - \$107,686
- Road & Bridge - \$3,940,750 (not including payroll)
- Noxious Weed - \$224,137 (not including payroll)
- Register of Deeds - \$6,000 (not including payroll)
- Solid Waste - \$1,253,500 (not including payroll)
- Recycling - \$71,600 (not including payroll)
- Maintenance - \$51,205 (not including payroll)
- County Treasurer - \$16,9230 (not including payroll or auto special reimbursement)

The Board approved the following payroll expenses totaling \$176,296.33

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| General Fund – \$92,035.58 | Road & Bridge - \$49,685.39 |
| Appraiser - \$5,553.54 | County Health - \$19,646.82 |
| Noxious Weed - \$1,991.37 | Election - \$1,712.32 |
| Solid Waste - \$5,671.31 | |

Payroll Deductions & Benefits - \$213,878.36

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 Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board approved abatements 2024-89 thru 2024-90 with a net change of (\$308.98), no refund.

Commissioner Copple attended the Cloud County Resource Council meeting on Thursday April 11th. Commissioner Caspers and Copple attended the Retirement reception for Robbin Cole, Pawnee Mental Health on Thursday April 11th. All Commissioners attended a Regional Commissioners meeting on Wednesday April 10th in Concordia.

On a motion by Commissioner Cleveland, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved the April 8, 2024 minutes as presented.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Cleveland, unanimous vote the Board adjourned at 11:47 a.m., until Monday April 22, 2024.

Cloud County Board of Commissioners

Attested:

Gary Caspers, Chairman

Michael Cleveland, Member

Shella Thoman, County Clerk

Ron Copple, Member