Chase County Commissioners July 22, 2025

The regular meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Jacci Brown at 8:00am on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, in the meeting room of the Chase County Courthouse. Also in attendance were Commissioners Billie Muehlenkamp and Kurt Bernhardt, Clerk Wendy Moe, Attorney Joel Burke and Assessor Tori Mueller. The agenda and open meetings act were posted; the meeting had been advertised in the Imperial Republican and on the County website.

At 8:00am Chairman Brown recessed the meeting for Board of Equalization. Meeting reconvened at 9:02 with three Commissioners and Clerk present.

Natalie Baney, contracted cleaning person for the Courthouse and Extension Building, joined the meeting. Board addressed the agenda item of Custodian Position. Board wants to add a few things to the duty list of the Custodian, including upkeep of Courthouse exterior entryways, steps and walkway – daily cleaning/sweeping of those areas. Commissioner Brown moved to advertise for bids for the Custodian Position, with general cleaning duties plus the addition of the noted exterior areas. Bids to be open on August 12, 2025, at 9:00am. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Isaac Hughs and Jordan Gardner from Murphy Tractor and Equipment joined the meeting for agenda item of Walk-N-Roll Packer purchase. Commissioner Bernhardt moved to purchase the Walk-N-Roll WR90 for \$32,650. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. (Additional bids were not sought as this is a specialty item, only manufactured by this vendor in the US.)

Jake Burke joined the meeting for the agenda item of Eagles Booth Roof. The Eagles Booth under the grandstands at the fairgrounds needs repaired as water leaks through anytime there is rain. Discussion of having spray foam applied to seal it, Commissioner Bernhardt noted that we should have it inspected to make sure there aren't further issues or damage within the roof that need to be repaired before the spray foam is applied. Will have someone look at the roof and address the issue at a later date.

Transit Administrator Jordan Beard and driver Diane Mathews joined the meeting for agenda item of Transit Rates and Review of Passenger Handbook. Jordan presented the listing of current passenger rates, no changes were made to that. Discussion of the handbook lead to changes in the cancellation policy, cancellations must have a minimum of one-hour notice; the \$5 late cancellation fee was removed, the three-strike rule was amended to a phone call for the first late cancellation/no-show offense, a written warning for second offense, and a two week suspension of riding privileges after the third offense. Additional offenses will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Child passenger rules were amended; a parent/guardian accompanying a minor child to a medical appointment will not be charged fare for the trip, in-town field trip rates for the daycares were set at \$10 for a round trip. Commissioners stated that their intention is not to remove riding privileges from anyone, this is a public service, but the time and efforts of our Transit Employees need to be appreciated and respected by riders. A complete copy of the updated passenger handbook can be obtained from the Transit Administrator.

Jordan asked the Board about offering rides for medical appointments to Gretna or Omaha, Board said no, that trip is too long for our drivers and they will not be offer or allow rides to those destinations.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2025, meeting as written. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Claims as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

PE=payroll exp, TE=travel exp, SU=supply	/,			
SE=service, CC=court cost, RP=repairs,				
PT=parts, L=labor, UT=utility, AP=Appt. Counsel,				
PS=Prior Service EQ=Equipment JD=Juv Div				
AFFILIATED BENEFITS CONSULTANTS	SE	50.00		
AFLAC	PE	657.78		
AFLAC (AFTER TAX)	PE	35.36		
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	50.50		
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	9100.26		
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES				
LLC	SE	50.00		
AT & T MOBILITY (FIRSTNET)	UT	899.32		
BANEY NATALIE	SE	1620.00		
BEARD, JORDAN	SU	27.98		
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	159.98		
BCBS OF NE	PE	30218.91		
BLUFFS FACILITY SOLUTIONS	SU	148.00		
BRICO PEST CONTROL	SE	30.00		
CHARM-TEX, INC.	SU	941.40		
CHASE CO TREAS/CAFETERIA	PE	229.15		
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	234.75		
CREDIT MANAGEMENT	PE	243.22		
DAN'S R US SANITATION	UT	173.98		
EFTPS	PE	14781.37		
ESKEW, BILLY	SE	1373.40		
FVFC	SU	1936.83		
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS INC	UT	1568.33		
HILLS FAMILY FOODS SSH INC	SU	12.18		
IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY, INC	SE	228.28		
IMPERIAL REPUBLICAN	SE	649.03		
IMPERIAL, CITY OF	UT	2849.53		
MCI (SHRF BILLS)	UT	86.55		
MUELLER, KEVIN	SU	238.00		
NE CHILD SUPP PMT CTR	PE	320.00		
NE STATE INCOME TAX	PE	1883.12		
NE STATE FIRE MARSHALL	SE	120.00		
OFFICE SERVICE INC	SU	175.65		
PANKONIN AG SERVICES INC.	SE	1550.00		
REGION II SERVICES (DEV.DISABILITY)	SE	2102.00		
SWPPD	UT	236.14		
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	SU	114.50		
WILEY'S TOP NOTCH TREE SERVICE	SE	3800.00		
Ne	t Payroll	43498.67		
General Fu	nd Total	122394.17		
AFLAC	PE	235.24		
AJK SERVICES, LLC	SE	456.40		
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	41.65		
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	1308.42		
AT & T MOBILITY (FIRSTNET)	UT	46.43		

BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	91.97
BCBS OF NE	PE	2791.47
BUD'S TIRE REPAIR INC	RP	237.00
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	151.38
DAN'S R US SANITATION	UT	98.41
EFTPS	PE	3911.45
FVFC	SU	931.67
GENERAL COLLECTION COMPANY	PE	247.41
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS INC	UT	237.39
HARCHELROAD MOTORS INC	PT/L	626.02
IMPERIAL, CITY OF	UT	311.47
MURPHY TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO INC	PT/L	11390.15
NE STATE INCOME TAX	PE	958.42
NEBRASKA MACHINERY COMPANY	PT/L	2781.01
PETTY CASH-CHASE CO.TRANSIT/ROAD	SU	15.00
SUPER FOODS	SU	19.69
ULINE. INC	SU	169.54
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	SU	519.36
	ayroll	22112.04
Road Fund		49688.99
HICKMAN, NORMA J.	SE	300.00
Tourism Fund		300.00
BWTELCOM	UT	283.40
CENTURY LINK-FORMERLY QWEST	UT	81.00
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS INC	UT	386.52
E911 Fund		750.92
CENTURY LINK-FORMERLY QWEST	UT	1986.38
Wireless 911 Fund		1986.38
AIRGAS USA, LLC (BILLING ADDRESS)	SU	1377.50
AT & T MOBILITY (FIRSTNET)	UT	592.51
BITTNER, WILLIAM	SE	111.20
BROWNING, EMILY,E	SE	29.72
CASTILLO-ARVIZO, RAQUEL	SE	53.70
FVFC	SU	131.44
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS INC	UT	321.83
GREENE, AARON PATRIC	SE	29.36
GREENE, TIMMIE D.	SE	76.80
HATZ, ANDREW	SE	53.00
HAYES, DEBRA	SE	325.70
HIYKEL, FAY D.	SE	21.68
HUNT, GARY K.	SE	62.00
IMPERIAL COUNTRY FORD	PT/L	215.81
KELLEY, MARCIE	SE	13.18
KLEIN, TYLER	SE	11.20
KLEIN, LEANNE L.	SE	173.20
KLENTZ, MELISA K.	SE	53.00
LOEFFLER, DESIREE	SE	13.18
MARIS, JAYDEN	SE	53.70
MILLER, JOHN W.	SE	35.22
MILLER, JUSTIN	SE	16.18
MILLER, ROXANE K.	SE	288.82
MUTHS, JOLENE D.	SE	58.20
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	SE	2027.47
PRYOR, ALLISON A.	SE	13.18
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	SU	56.75
Ambulance Fund		6215.53
Grand Total All Claims 181335.99		

Correspondence was received from Prairie Plains CASA requesting an annual contribution of \$4,500. Commissioners noted that there has not been much CASA activity in Chase County, they feel that a lower contribution would be adequate. Commissioner Bernhardt moved to contribute \$2,000 to CASA. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Discussion of gravel contract pricing. No changes at this time.

Allo Managed IT Services were discussed. After meeting with Allo representatives recently, and comparing current vendor rates and services to those proposed by Allo, the Board would like to transition the County to Allo for Managed IT Services. Commissioners feel that having the opportunity to obtain these services locally will be a benefit to the County. Commissioner Brown moved to contract with Allo for Managed IT Services for the County. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Discussion of Road Shop Fleet Foreman, this proposed position would be the creation of a Foreman over the truck drivers from each district shop. Commissioners decided to make no changes to the structure at this time, the position will not be created.

Region II Human Services requested annual share for Behavioral Health is \$17,012.34. This is an interlocal agreement for the region. Commissioner Bernhardt moved that the County set up a quarterly payment schedule for this contribution. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to engage Gabriel, Burger & Else, CPA audit firm for the completion of Audit services, beginning with FY2025-2026. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Kurt gathered informal bids for the purchase of a mower for the Lamar shop; bids collected were as follows: Titan Machinery – Bush Hog 2215 Rotary Mower, \$24,500; 21<sup>st</sup> Century John Deere – 2023 JD FC15E Flex Wing Rotary Cutter, \$20,500; Harchelroad Motors – 2024 Ironcraft 3515 Mower, \$22,500; Yost Farm Supply – Land Pride RCCM3715, \$20,928; Yost Farm Supply – Land Pride RCM4715, \$25,996. Commissioner Brown moved to purchase the Bush Hog 2215 Rotary Mower from Titan Machinery for \$24,500. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to appoint Nicole Hendricks to the Chase County Community Hospital Board of Trustees, to fill the position vacated by Deaun Carpenter. Term to run through April 1, 2027. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to surplus two Dell Computer Monitors, to be transferred from the Treasurer's office to the Clerk's office. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to surplus the 2008 Chevy Silverado sign pickup, to be sold by sealed bid, with a minimum bid of \$2,500. Bids to be opened on August 12, 2025 at 9:15. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Muehlenkamp has been working with members of the Wauneta Village Board and Wauneta EMS to locate an existing site or building to house the Wauneta Ambulances and EMS service, or to determine if property could be purchased to construct a new building. She asked what the County is willing to put toward the new building. Commissioners were in agreement that the preferred outcome would be for the County to own the building and then have an interlocal agreement with the Village for EMS services. Billie will take that information back to the committee.

Chairman Brown recessed the meeting for Board of Equalization at 11:10am. Meeting reconvened at 11:20am with three Commissioners and Clerk present.

Deb Hayes joined the meeting for Open Forum to discuss EMS needs at the fair. Board instructed Deb to use her discretion, and have units available at the fairgrounds as needed or have personnel available on-call.

Commissioner Brown moved to go into closed session for the matter of road personnel, with all three Commissioners and Jordan Beard in attendance. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Closed session commenced at 11:28am for the purpose of discussing road personnel issues. Closed session ended at 11:57am.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:57am.

CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Rillio Muchlankamn - Commissioner District #1

dcci Brown – Commissioner District #2

Kurt Bernhardt - Commissioner, District #3

Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk

