

Chase County Commissioners  
March 25, 2025

The regular meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Jacci Brown at 8:05 on Tuesday, March 25, 2025. Also present was Commissioner Billie Muehlenkamp, County Clerk Wendy Moe and Road Secretary Jordan Beard. The meeting had been advertised in the Imperial Republican and on the County website. The open meetings act, and agenda were posted.

With nobody present for Open Forum, Commissioners moved on to agenda items. Crystal Walgren, Evelyn Skelton and Rick Einspahr were present on behalf of the Village of Wauneta, and Leanne Klein, Jason Arellano and Liz Arellano were present on behalf of Wauneta EMS, all present for the Village of Wauneta Ambulance Barn agenda item.

Commissioner Bernhardt joined the meeting.

Rick Einspahr first noted that the Village is very appreciative of Wauneta EMS and the service they provide as well as the County for the new ambulance that is being purchased; the reason for the visit was to notify the County that the new ambulance is wider than the current units and as such the doors on the ambulance barn will need to be made wider. The estimated cost for the project is about \$15,500. The Village did not budget for the expense this year. Commissioner Brown stated that the County did not realize the problem and does not want to put the entire burden on the Village.

The current Interlocal Agreement between Wauneta EMS and the Village of Wauneta was discussed as well as the expectations of each entity. Rick said through this meeting they wanted to make sure that the lines of communication were opened, and steps could be taken to find a solution for the building. Jason Arellano stated that the EMS service is outgrowing the space, they do not have enough storage room, meeting room space, etc. Commissioners said they will take these things into consideration and thanked everyone for coming. Village and Wauneta EMS representatives left the meeting.

Sheriff Kevin Mueller joined the meeting for Open Forum. Kevin would like to install three or four cameras at the fairgrounds, so they have continuous visual access during the fair and then are able to monitor the grounds year-round as well. Fair Board was made aware of this last week at their meeting and indicated they would like to have cameras installed. Kevin would like to have the cameras installed before fair this year. Commissioners had no objections.

Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to approve claims as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. 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 INC	SE	50.00
AFLAC	PE	657.78
AFLAC (AFTER TAX)	PE	35.36
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	53.55
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	9049.53
AT & T MOBILITY (FIRSTNET)	UT	819.24
BANEY NATALIE	SE	1800.00
BEARD, JORDAN	TE	258.54
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	366.46
BCBS OF NE	PE	26434.99
BRICO PEST CONTROL	SE	30.00
BROPHY ELECTRIC	RP	83.75
CHASE CO TREAS/CAFETERIA	PE	229.15
CCCH	SE	107.00
CHASE CO SHERIFF	CC	238.98
CHASE CO TREASURER	SU	986.89

COLONIAL LIFE	PE	273.35
CROWNE PLAZA	TE	464.85
DAN'S R US SANITATION	UT	173.98
DAS STATE ACCTG	SE	186.00
EAKES, INC	SU	29.24
EFTPS	PE	14522.83
ESKEW, BILLY	SE	137.34
FRENCHMAN AUTO	SE	139.25
FRONTIER ACCESS & MOBILITY, INC	RP	218.56
FVFC	SU	2077.48
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS INC	UT	215.14
HARVOY, ROBERT S	AP	62.50
HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION	UT	327.28
HILLS FAMILY FOODS	SU	47.15
IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY, INC	SE	213.32
IMPERIAL COUNTRY FORD	PT	62.93
IMPERIAL REPUBLICAN	SE	1302.95
LAKE MAC ASSESSMENT, LLC	SE	922.50
MCI (SHRF BILLS)	UT	86.24
MUELLER, KEVIN	SU	22.99
NE CHILD SUPP PMT CTR	PE	320.00
NE DEPT OF REVENUE (COURSES)	TE	600.00
NE STATE INCOME TAX	PE	1851.09
PICTOMETRY INTERNATIONAL CORP	SE	28678.34
PLATINUM CUSTOMS, LLC	SU	30.00
PROTEX CENTRAL INC	SE	360.00
SWPPD	UT	157.46
TODD, DUANE	TE	60.00
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	SU	196.72
Net Payroll		44502.30
<b>General Fund Total</b>		<b>139443.01</b>
AFLAC	PE	285.09
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	35.70
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	1228.84
AT & T MOBILITY (FIRSTNET)	UT	46.43
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	2203.19
BCBS OF NE	PE	2654.60
CCCH	SE	321.00
CHASE CO TREAS	SU	2.76
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	151.36
DAN'S R US SANITATION	UT	98.41
EFTPS	PE	3570.61
FVFC	SU	5279.51
HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION	UT	163.91
NE STATE INCOME TAX	PE	905.48
OFFICE SERVICE INC	SU	522.93
SAPP BRO PETROLEUM INC	SU	3049.80
THE AUTO SHOP	PT/L	2331.85
TROXELL'S HEATING & APPLIANCE, LLC	RP	148.45
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	SU	1581.66
Net Payroll		21251.02
<b>Road Fund Total</b>		<b>45832.60</b>
HICKMAN, NORMA J.	SE	300.00
<b>Tourism Fund Total</b>		<b>300.00</b>
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS INC	UT	386.52
<b>E911 Fund Total</b>		<b>386.52</b>
NORTHLAND BUSINESS SYSTEMS	SE	4166.15



<b>Wireless 911 Holding Fund Total</b>		<b>4166.15</b>
AIRGAS USA, LLC	SU	1237.68
ARELLANO, ELIZABETH	SE	556.20
ARELLANO, JASON M	SE	60.80
AT & T MOBILITY (FIRSTNET)	UT	592.51
BITTNER, WILLIAM	SE	227.40
BURKE JOSH	SE	12.96
CASTILLO-ARVIZO, RAQUEL	SE	602.40
CHASE CO TREAS	SU	10.35
EAKES, INC	SU	212.00
GREENE, AARON PATRIC	SE	30.26
GREENE, TIMMIE D.	SE	821.80
HAYES, DEBRA	SE	140.24
HAYES, SABRINA	SE	43.36
HUNT, GARY K.	SE	282.60
KELLEY, MARCIE	SE	13.10
KLEIN, TYLER	SE	218.80
KLEIN, LEANNE L.	SE	444.20
KLENTZ, MELISA K.	SE	294.60
LOEFFLER, DESIREE	SE	30.26
MARIS, JAYDEN	SE	124.80
MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	SE	25.00
MILLER, JOHN W.	SE	235.80
MUTHS, JOLENE D.	SE	53.00
SUEPER, JACOB	SE	13.10
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	SU	174.86
<b>Ambulance Fund Total</b>		<b>6458.08</b>
<b>Grand Total All Claims</b>		<b>196586.36</b>

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2025, meeting as written. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Jason Speck, County Sign Technician, joined the meeting for agenda item of Sign Pickup. The current pickup is a 2008 Chevy 2500 HD with 196,000 miles on it. After recent mechanical issues he took it to the shop and mechanics found that the #3 cylinder has no compression, parts would be about \$6,000 plus labor, likely \$12,000-15,000 for the repair. Due to the age and mileage on the vehicle, Board thinks replacement would be better than repairing the current pickup. Jason provided a few quotes for pickups that he found. Commissioners want to look and see what the State Bid is on available pickups.

Travis Petsch and Jarvis Culler were present on behalf of Applied Connective. Travis informed the Board that Jarvis is based out of Kearney and will be taking over the County's account. Travis reviewed recent changes, updates, and the status of the SLCG process and made recommendations for future updates that the County may want to consider. Travis also noted that Applied Connective has an AVS crew and would be happy to provide a quote for cameras at the fairgrounds as previously discussed. Commissioners directed Travis to contact dispatch or the sheriff's office to get specifics to provide a quote for the cameras.

Jason Speck returned to the meeting with State Bid prices. Commissioner Brown moved to purchase a new 2500 HD Chevy four-wheel drive regular cab pickup for \$42,630 from the State Bid. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Assistant Highway Superintendent Dick DeWester and Jordan Gardner from Murphy Tractor & Equipment joined the meeting regarding the purchase of the used 2017 770GP Grader, Jordan informed the Board that the grader should be ready to go in the next day or two but as they currently do not have a delivery driver, Murphy would take \$1,000 off of the original price quoted for the used grader if the County would be willing to come get it. Board agreed that the County can have

someone go pick it up. Commissioner Bernhardt moved to purchase the 2017 770GP Grader from Murphy Tractor & Equipment for \$147,000 using funds from Inheritance Tax. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. A resolution for repayment of funds to Inheritance Tax will be drawn up for consideration at the next meeting.

Caleb Johnson joined the meeting to inform the Board of legislative updates that could affect the County's budgeting process. Sheriff Mueller was present and noted that he would like to add a sinking fund to the budget for funding of necessary E911 upgrades. The funds paid in by the City and Village for dispatch services would go into the sinking fund. Caleb said he will send out preliminary budget worksheets in mid-May to being the budget process.

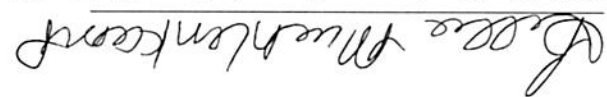
Transit Administrator Jordan Beard presented Resolution 2025-6, to apply for FTA Public Transit Assistance for FY2026-2027, for the Board's approval. Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution #2025-6. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

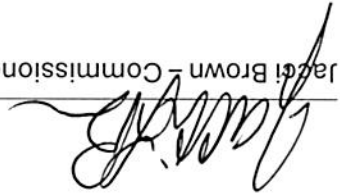
Surplus property from the Extension Office was reviewed. Commissioner Bernhardt moved to surplus an old office chair, headset and amplifier for phones, all to be disposed of in the trash. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

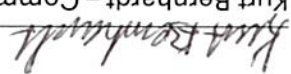

Wauneta EMS personnel Leanne Klein, Jason Arellano and Liz Arellano rejoined the meeting for Open Forum. They indicated that the Wauneta EMS service has had difficulties with the Wauneta Village Board when EMS has requested repairs or modifications in the ambulance barn. Commissioners directed that any future issues come to the Board of Commissioners first and Commissioners will then reach out to the Village Board if necessary.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Jacci Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:00am.

#### CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
Billie Muehlenkamp – Commissioner District #1

  
Jaci Brown – Commissioner District #2

  
Kurt Bernhardt – Commissioner District #3  
ATTEST:   
Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk