

May 1, 2023

The Stanton County Board of Commissioners met in regular session May 1, 2023. Present were Commissioners Chris Floyd, John Smith and Lonnie Brown, County Attorney Clint Floyd, and Deputy County Clerk Amber Wilkerson. Chairman Floyd called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes of April 17 were read and approved.

Vouchers were approved and paid as follows:

General	\$	35,992.44
Road & Bridge		11,129.38
Airport		6,418.33
Golf Course		1,687.35
LTCU		278,750.36
LTCU – 2022		648,659.69
4-H Building		304.43
Noxious Weed		379.02
Fire & Rescue		750.03
County Equipment		60,338.00
E-911		125.44
MASA		<u>14.00</u>
Totals	\$	1,044,548.47

An email was presented to the Board from Hospital CEO Jay Tusten on behalf of the Hospital Trustees concerning the \$2,000 monthly decrease to public health funding beginning May 1, 2023. Based on the December 2022 financial statement the Health Department showed a profit of over \$36,700. However, there are also additional costs absorbed by the Hospital that do not appear on the income statement, including administration fees, maintenance/grounds, housekeeping, and use of hospital vehicle. They estimate those costs to be \$46,000 annually. The Hospital and Trustees are asking the County Commissioners to reconsider the cut to County Health and note provision in the Agreement for Public Health Services outlining the County's responsibility should the County Health Department lose money in 2023. After some discussion, the Board's motion passed April 17, 2023, to reduce the Health Department's monthly allocations still stands.

Commissioner Brown made a motion to pay the Stanton County Hospital for the remainder of 2022 funds of \$648,659.69 and 2023 appropriations for \$278,750.36. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion Carried.

Road Supervisor Troy Brickman met with the Board to update them on issues pertinent to his department. The Pneumatic Trailer was sold to Syracuse Dairy for \$32,100 without the pump. A few employees will be working on the driving portion for their CDL this week.

Sealed bids were opened for the 2001 Ford F-150. Sold for \$1,777 to Rhett Seyb.

Troy presented his proposed budget for 2024. Troy is asking for \$1,764,200, a \$395,083.31 increase from his 2023 budget of \$1,369,116.69. Stating additional funds needed for road materials, meeting/office furniture, computers, and capital outlay. No decision was made at this time.

Sheriff Clayton Kester met with the Board to give an update on the Sheriff's Department. The Cooper Clark Foundation denied Clayton's request for funding to help offset the costs of new mandated radios needed for the LEC by the end of the year. Clayton will continue to look for grant funding through other organizations.

County Attorney Clint Floyd left the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Mark Hinde, President and CEO, Southwest Developmental Services, Inc, met with the Board to discuss services offered in Stanton County and requested \$18,249 for their 2024 budget. No decision was made at this time.

Early Intervention Program Coordinator, Stephanie Wills, with Russell Childhood Development Center met with the Board to submit their 2024 budget request of \$9,000 and to discuss services offered to Stanton County. No decision was made at this time.

Kayla Janko with Cimarron Basin Community Correction Authority updated the Board with cost estimates to replace 6 vehicles. Through KHP she can get one vehicle for \$26,000 or six for \$130,000. Commissioner Smith asked about doing a rotation. Kayla did not know if that was possible currently because of high mileage and gas consumption. Commissioner Floyd asked what the other 5 Counties had decided about funding. Kayla explained the Counties are waiting to see how budgets come out in June before deciding on the \$25,000 budget request. Kayla will update the Board in July.

Interim Library Director Heather Polzin, board members Ann Davis and Linda Nicholas updated the Board on activities at the library and presented their 2024 budget request of \$231,250. No decision was made at this time.

Don Rivera with Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center met with the Board to present services provided to Stanton County and requested \$4,000 for their 2024 budget. No decision was made at this time.

Stanton County Senior Board Member Randy Morris met with the Board to discuss 2024 budget requests for the Memorial Living Center and Stanton County Senior Center. The board is requesting \$168,700 for the Senior Center and \$145,520 for the MLC. A combined increase of \$62,066 from 2023 budget. Due to rising food and utility costs the board believes this is beyond their control. They have been looking at ways to cut cost and increase revenue, including raising meal prices and residential rent. No decision was made at this time.

County Treasurer, Vanessa Trujillo met with the Board to review YTD financials and present her 2024 budget request of \$24,925. No decision was made at this time.

The Stanton County Senior Board submitted minutes of their March 21st meeting.

The Stanton County Prairie Pines Golf Board submitted minutes of their April 26th meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Floyd adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

Amber Wilkerson
Deputy County Clerk

SIGN:

Chris Floyd
Chairman