

MINUTES for April 22, 2024
BOARD of CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE

Chairman Cory Moates called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (the Board), to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, April 22, 2024, in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. County Commissioner Lorie Johnson opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners Cory Moates, Lorie Johnson, Myra Frazier, County Clerk Rebecca Brassart, and County Road and Bridge Road Supervisor Cody Zook were present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

Commissioner Frazier motioned to approve the minutes as presented from April 15, 2024, Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ROAD and BRIDGE

R&B Supervisor Cody Zook came before the Board to present the HRRR agreement for the west side of the county. The HRRR agreement is for signage to be placed on high-risk roads in the western part of the county. County Commissioner Moates motioned to approve the agreement. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Zook advised the Board that the Sportsman Association payment is due which allows the county to use material from the Sportsman Association ground. Zook stated he has not been using any of the material this year, so he wanted to check with the Board to see if the county wants to continue paying for the use of the material or to not renew the payment agreement. Discussion surrounded the options, and it was decided that we should continue to pay the Sportsman Association incase we would need to use the material in the future.

Cody informed the Board that the City of West Mineral had allowed him to place a burn pile at the old ballfield.

Commissioner Johnson notified Cody and the Board that Jerry Crain had contacted her regarding the work that R&B had done in trimming trees back on SW Beasley which had allowed Crain Farms to be able to get their farming equipment down that road. Crain requested that R&B also do some trimming SW Blackjack. Cody stated that R&B are currently trimming on NW Liberty, however the trimmer has broken down again. Cody stated that he would like to change out the current blades on the trimmer from a 5 blade to a 1 blade.

JAIL HVAC UNIT - ARPA

County Sheriff David Groves came before the Board to present a quote from CDL Electric for replacement of an outdated HVAC unit which has died. Groves stated the quate was for \$32,150. Commissioner Johnson motioned to approve the purchase of the HVAC unit from CDL for the jail in the amount of \$32,150 to be paid out of ARPA funding. Commissioner Moates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

\$1 MILLION EPA GRANT

Members of LHEAT, HBCAT, KDHE, and KUMC were present to discuss the EPA grant which the group had written to obtain grant funding for Cherokee, Labette, and Montgomery Counties along with HBCAT who is in Bourbon County, KDHE and KUMC. The group discussed what the grant would be used for, which includes food insecurity, school-based experiments with a mobile lab among other things. Regarding the funding the 3 counties will only receive \$159,795 each over a 3-year period, which will consist of \$61,464 from KDHE, \$165,600 from HBCAT's, and \$252,322 from KUMC. Overall KDHE will receive \$208,925, HBCAT's will receive \$296,094 and KUMC will receive \$494,981. The breakdown of the funding will be attached to the minutes for the publics review. Commissioner Johnson strongly voiced her opinion of the grant funding and what the plans are for the money in each county. Johnson stated the need to feed kids and the elderly and she did not feel a mobile experiment lab would do that. The group discusses food injustice, yet the largest portion of the money is going to KUMC, KDHE and HBCAT's, not to mention that Jody Love who is heading this grant is the President and CEO of HBCAT's in Bourbon County. Love stated that HBCAT's receive a part-time salary as well as travel expenses. Johnson addressed Love and explained to her that she felt there was a misappropriation of funds with this grant money. Discussion surrounded the fact that Cherokee County did not have a chat worker and when was appointed to the position that she isn't even a resident of Cherokee County. She resides in Crawford County. Johnson stated she had asked Love in an email about the chat worker and if they could discuss who would be best fitted for it and Love never set a time and instead someone was appointed to the position without notifying Johnson. The Board has requested that Love and the group provide a complete breakdown of the grant funding money that was requested. Johnson again addressed the group by stating that no one from LHEAT had any input in the grant.

Jody Love discussed how making edible boxes in the community would help sustain food. Health Department Director Peyton Kessler then spoke up by stating that Love is asking people to plant garden items in dirt that has not been tested for lead and that cats could defecate in the edible boxes. Commissioner Johnson suggested to the group that they go and make changes to the grant as they are not happy with it and feel that the funding is not being used for what it should truly be used for.

SANATATION FINES

County Emergency Manager Matt Haviland came before the Board to discuss the issue with septic systems being installed without proper applications and permits. He stated that he would like to change the fine amount that was previously set by a resolution. The discussed the issue and will have County Counselor Jake Conard draft a new resolution.

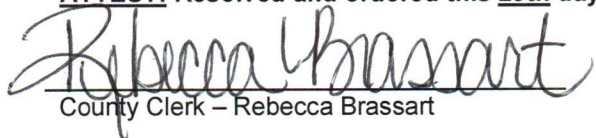
DUMP TRUCK INTEREST

Commissioner Johnson discussed with the Board the current interest on the dump truck and stated that she felt the Board should always request that a bid for interest be requested anytime the county is purchasing an item that requires a loan. She stated that she has had local banks interested in holding the loan for the dump truck and they are stating that they can beat the current loan rate that the county has.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Moates made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 29th day of April 2024.


County Clerk – Rebecca Brassart


Commissioner Chairman – Cory Moates


Commissioner – Lorie Johnson


Commissioner – Myra Carlisle Frazier

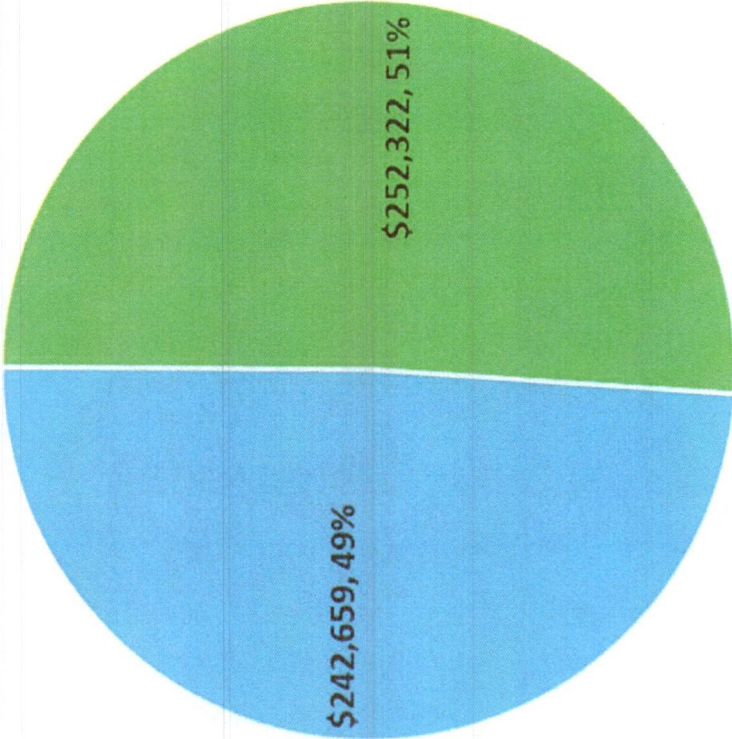


Budget

Additional Income		Planned Expenses	
Month	Amount	Month	Amount
June		November	
December		December	
January		July	
		January	
		January	
		January	
		January	

Annual Budget by Month			
Month	April	May	June
Income	9,915	13,220	16,525
Expenses	7,000	7,000	7,000
Surplus	2,915	6,220	9,525
Reserve	0	0	2,000
Balance	2,915	6,220	3,695
Start	1,220	0	0
End	0	0	0

KUMC's 3 Year EPA Budget \$494,981 (49.5% of total award)



KUMC's funding:

- Personnel
- Travel
- Publications
- Digital Storytelling
- Conference Travel
- Indirects

- Community Investing
- KUMC

Community Investing:

- Printing
- Postage
- LHEAT Communication
- CHW Salary (100% for 3 yrs)
- CHW Supplies
- CHW Travel
- CHW Conference Attendance
- Participant payments



Budget

Additional Income	
June	13,220
December	7,000
January	3,695
January	0
January	0
January	0
January	0

Planned Expenses	
November	13,220
December	7,000
July	0
January	0
January	0
January	0
January	0

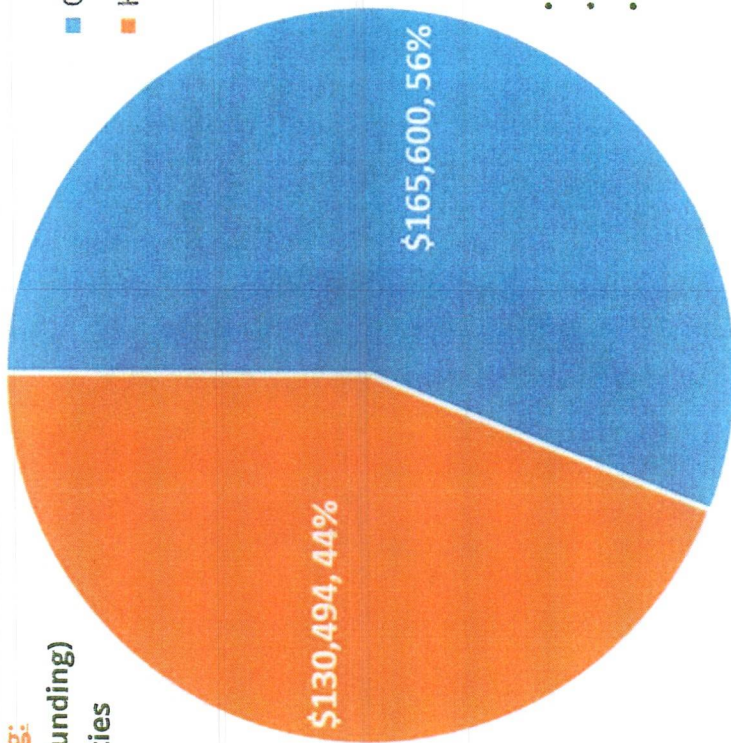
Annual Budget by Month		
April	May	June
9,915	13,220	16,525
7,000	7,000	7,000
0	0	7,000
3,695	3,695	2,000
0	0	3,695
1,220	0	0
		0

HBCAT's 3 Year EPA Budget \$296,094 (of total award 29.6%)

HBCAT's funding:

- 1 PT staff (3 yrs of funding)
- Travel to communities
- Indirects

- Community Investing
- HBCAT



Community Investing:

- LHEAT Member incentives
- LHEAT Facilitator stipend
- LHEAT Innovation budgets



Budget

Additional Income		Planned Expenses	
Month	Amount	Month	Amount
June		November	
December		December	
January		July	
		January	
		January	
		January	

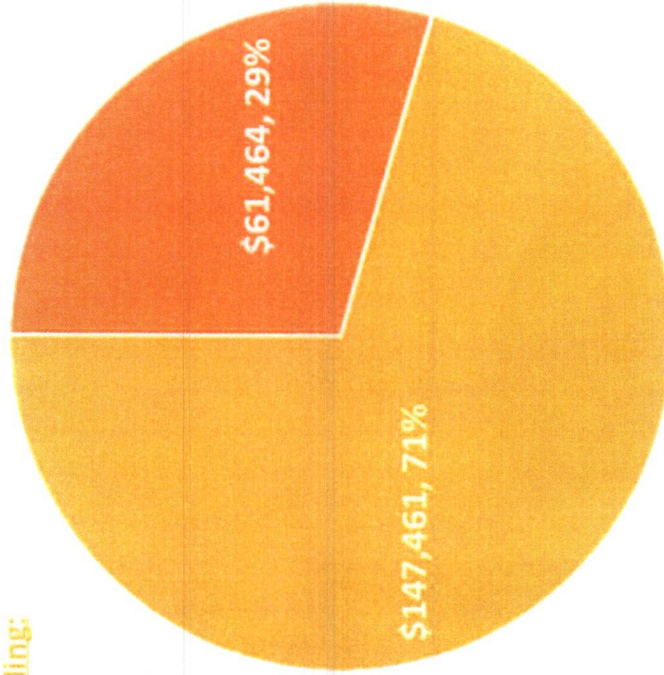
Annual Budget by Month			
Month	Amount	Month	Amount
April	9,915	May	13,220
	7,000	June	16,525
	0		7,000
	3,695		2,000
	0		3,695
	1,220		0
			0

KDHE's 3 Year EPA Budget \$208,925 (20.9% of total award)

KDHE's funding:

- Personnel
- Indirects

- Community Investment
- KDHE



Community Investing:

- School based experiments
- Travel in communities