

March 20, 2022

BOARD OF FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Location: Franklin County Annex Building Commission Chambers

Chair Dickinson called the study session to order at 8:30a.m.

All commissioners were present.

Nine community partners were in to discuss the budget request that were submitted for the 2024 budget.

Franklin County Conservation District- Keri Harris, Director, discussed the request of \$56,000. She said they would use the increase in funds to hire a technician to implement the programs that the district oversees. The additional county funds would be used as a match for state funds for the position. She said she is currently the only employee of the district and she relies on NRCS to use their technician; however, they haven't had that position filled for three months now. The request was up from \$47,500 in the 2023 budget.

Services for the Elderly- Sharon Geiss discussed the request of \$125,000. She said they would use the additional funding to cover inflationary increases and keep their wages competitive. The request was up from \$118,400 in the 2023 budget.

Richmond Free Fair- Sarah Peters discussed the request of \$1,400. She said every dollar they receive goes toward putting on the fair and keeping their facilities in good shape. The request was up from \$1,300 in the 2023 budget.

Prairie Paws Animal Shelter- Vanessa Cowie, Director, discussed the request of \$44,099. The additional funds requested would go toward closing the funding gap of the facility. She discussed other changes they have made to save money and generate more revenue. The request was up from \$42,815 in 2023.

COF Training Services, INC.- John Griffin, CFO, and Patrick Gardner, CEO, discussed the request of \$125,000 for operating costs and \$75,000 for their capital campaign. They discussed the cost for services not covered by Medicare or other federal and state funding sources that COF relies on county funding to continue these services. The operating request was up from \$100,000 in 2023. The capital request of \$75,000 would go toward their goal of raising \$3 million in 3 years to purchase a building for Thriftopia.

The Commissioners took a break at 9:32a.m. and reconvened at 9:40a.m.

Elizabeth Layton Center- Chris Scott, CFO, and Amy Wacker, Community Services Director, discussed the request of \$192,937. They discussed the four areas that funding is used for: 24/7 crisis mental health response, un-insured or under-insured residents, community partnerships, and community outreach. They discussed the goal to become a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic. The request was up from \$183,750 in 2023.

CASA of the Fourth Judicial District- Haley Harshaw, Director, discussed the request of \$20,000. She said the agency provides services for 65 kids in Franklin County but covers all four counties in the 4th Judicial District. She said the additional funds requested would only be used in Franklin County. The request was up from \$15,000 in 2023.

Hope House- Michelle Graf, Co-Director, discussed the request of \$10,000. She said the funds would go to continue the mission of helping the homeless in the county. She said they have changed from providing hotel rooms on the coldest nights to providing a tent, sleeping bag and heater with propane for the homeless. They are also working with FRETSA to improve two transitional housing homes to help work people out of homelessness. The request was flat compared to 2023.

East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging- Leslea Rockers, Director, discussed the request of \$109,700. She discussed the services that offered to seniors including meal delivery and sites that are open for meals. She said the small increase they are requesting would cover increases in utilities. The request was up from \$107,200 in 2023.

Two partners did not make their meeting time, Lane Agricultural Fair Association and Franklin County Agricultural Society. The request from Lane Fair was flat from 2023. The request from Franklin County Fair was an increase and the Commissioners had questions. They asked the County Clerk to reach out and try to get them rescheduled so they can hear the request.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03a.m.

Clerk

Chair