

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

May 20, 2024

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room on Monday, May 20, 2024. Chairman Dennis Ray called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Debora Smith present and Member Ryley Hembry absent. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as the recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Dustin Florence, Rhonda Wright, Elizabeth Sheldon, Brandon Cochran, Felicia Strahm, Diana Walters, Roberta Turner, Rhonda Wright, Dan Heina, Jesse Knight, Denae Smith, Leann Johnson, and Mary Ann Stertz.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: a bill for Lincoln Park Manor.
- Law Enforcement: Sheriff Dustin Florence inquired if the board plans to pass any regulations concerning the ability to stay in McReynolds Park.
- Drainage Issue: The board discussed drainage issues on county-owned property. Chairman Ray agreed to speak with the tenant concerning the matter.
- Minutes Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve the May 13th minutes, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.
- Health Department: Health Nurse/Administrator Elizabeth Sheldon provided a list of items she plans to purchase with the remaining COVID grant funds. All funds must be allocated by June 30, 2024, and spent by December 31, 2024. Sheldon provided an update on department activities.
- Ambulance Service: Human Resource Officer Felicia Strahm, with EMS Director Brandon Cochran, requested to reemploy Jerry Hlad as an EMT. Cochran provided an update on equipment repairs. The group discussed whether the department was making money when agreeing to take transfers from hospitals outside the county to facilities in Topeka and Kansas City by the time you consider labor costs for four attendants, supplies, operating and replacement costs for the unit. The board reiterated that the counties where those facilities are located are responsible for providing the service to their residents and that Lincoln County taxpayers should not bear the expense for another county. Debora Smith moved to reemploy Jerry Hlad as a part-time per-need EMT at his former rate of pay of \$16.80 per hour, effective April 14, 2024, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.
- Nursing Home: Nursing Home Administrator Diane Walters provided an update on facility maintenance projects and upcoming facility activities.
- Transportation Bus: Transportation Bus Director Roberta Turner provided estimates received to repair the Dodge van. The board suggested that the vehicle be taken to a Dodge dealer to have it looked at.
- County Appraiser: County Appraiser Rhonda Wright inquired about how the board would like to handle budgeting for the 2025 department wages. The board instructed Wright to budget the same as last year, and they will adjust when the time comes to complete the overall budget.

- Noxious Weed: Noxious Weed Director Dan Heina presented the department's 2025 budget request. The board requested that Heina represent the budget after he has calculated or obtained payroll estimates for the suggested salary increases. Heina presented a bid received to purchase and install a spray rig on the new truck. Dennis Ray moved to purchase a spray assembly for the noxious weed department from Fairbank Equipment in the amount of \$19,799.79, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Heina presented the department's 2024 Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report for 2024 for the board's approval. The board requested that Heina provide a map monthly of the area sprayed and that Heina contact Dale Hlad to get the GPS units reinstalled on the trucks. Debora Smith moved that the board sign the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication report for 2024, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.
- Floodplain Management: Emergency Manager Jesse Knight provided an update on floodplain management activities. The group discussed the noncompliant projects and recommendations received regarding compliance issues. Knight provided a summary of FEMA-NFIP minimum standards, KDA-DWR requirements, enforcement, fines and penalties, and State consequences for County non-compliance.
- Emergency Manager: Emergency Manager Jesse Knight provided an update on emergency management activities and projects.
- Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Felicia Strahm, with Denae Smith, provided a copy of the agreement to reinstate PTO time. Debora Smith moved to approve the PTO Reinstatement and Wage Deduction Agreement with Denae Smith, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.
- Executive Session: HR Officer Strahm requested an executive session. Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing applicants in the Treasurer's Office, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room with the commission, HR Felicia Strahm, Treasurer Leann Johnson, Deputy Treasurer Mary Ann Stertz, and County Clerk Dawn Harlow, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 11:39 a.m. Time out: 11:49 a.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:49 a.m. with no action taken.
- Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m. The next meeting will be in the courthouse commission meeting room at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 28, 2024.