

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

September 11, 2023

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, September 11, 2023. Chairman Dennis Ray called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Debora Smith and Member Ryley Hembry present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as a recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Bill Huehl, Rhonda Wright, Jesse Knight, Cheyenne Suneagle (via telephone), Roberta Turner, Brandon Cochran, Dale Hlad, Tanner Yost, Richard White, Jeff White, Steve McReynolds, Kelly Gourley, and Tim Meier.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: a flyer from Midwest Land Group; a bill for Lincoln Park Manor; and an invitation from Saline County to commemorate the opening of the new Saline County Sheriff's Office and Jail facility.
- Condolences: The board extended their condolences to Woodson County for the loss of Commissioner Wayne Faulkner.
- Hospital Board: Bill Huehl, Hospital Board of Trustees Member, related that the Board of Trustees has agreed to compensate members \$50 per meeting to attend the monthly board meetings. Huehl asked for the commissioner's approval according to the bylaws. The board inquired if the Trustees had considered the tax implications of the request. Huehl will discuss it further with the Trustees.
- County Clerk: County Clerk Dawn Harlow forwarded an inquiry from Adam Boyd concerning the dilapidated housing program requirement. The board approved the Boyd project to qualify for participation in the dilapidated housing program. Clerk Harlow reported that the claims manager from Malarkey has decided to pay the County the material costs for the nursing home roof rather than issue an account credit to the vendor. An agreement will be sent for the board's approval.
- Floodplain Management: Cheyenne Suneagle, Kansas Department of Agriculture, via telephone, with Emergency Manager Jesse Knight, answered questions concerning the Floodplain Management and the County's responsibilities moving forward.
- Transportation Bus: Transportation Bus Director Roberta Turner reported that the new van was delivered and that she is working on submitting the required paperwork. The board approved listing the red van for sale on PurpleWave. Turner related that she would like to apply for a grant to replace the white van in November.
- Ambulance Service: Ambulance Service Director Brandon Cochran provided an update on department activities. Cochran related that he would like to start advertising in November for a full-time position to replace the full-time staff member who plans to retire on February 1. The board approved the request.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for five minutes for the purpose of discussing employee negotiations, 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 and County Clerk Dawn Harlow, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 9:54 a.m. Time out: 9:59 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 9:59 a.m. with no action taken.

County Clerk: County Clerk Harlow requested approval to hire Katharina DeMeo as a part-time clerk/secretary. Debora Smith moved to hire Katharina Demeo at Grade 13 Step 10, \$15.06 per hour, as a part-time clerk/secretary, effective September 12, 2023, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.

Highway Department: Director of Highway Department Dale Hlad provided an update on the N 60<sup>th</sup> Rd project. Hlad reported that the county was selected for funding to replace Off-System Bridge OS 107. The group discussed bridge Off-System Bridge OS 68.

Road Complaint: Richard White and Jeff White issued a complaint regarding the millings placed on N 240<sup>th</sup> Rd. The board agreed to view the road in question later this date.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for five minutes for the purpose of discussing landfill personnel, 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, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 10:40 a.m. Time out: 10:45 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:45 a.m. with no action taken.

Landfill/Transfer Station: Landfill/Transfer Station Operator Daniel Muchow updated the board on department activities. Muchow related that Slechta Enterprises bid to remove the white goods pile for \$75 per hour to pack and \$310 per load to take the materials to Salina. The board declined the bid and asked Muchow to reach out again to the company in Great Bend that has provided the roll-off. Muchow inquired about when the department would change to winter hours. The board related that the hours typically change in November after the time changes. The group discussed a point-of-sale system allowing landfill staff to correctly calculate amounts owed and allow customers to pay with debit/credit cards. Muchow requested approval to work on the track loader that is currently inoperable. The board approved. The group discussed staffing levels and spending limits for the department.

McReynolds Park: Economic Development Director Kelly Gourley presented an agreement to extend the time to complete the grant with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks for McReynolds Park improvements. Debora Smith moved to approve the Amendment to the Community Fisheries Assistance Program Grant Agreement Between the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and Lincoln County to extend the grant through March 2024, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Gourley provided estimated costs for several different restroom options. The board tabled a decision for two weeks on whether to approve the installation of a bathroom at the park.

Minutes Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.

Tabled Action: The board decided not to render a decision on the letter from the City of Lincoln concerning the permit request for chickens and quail and allow the Hospital Board of Trustees to decide on providing comment.

Recess: The chairman recessed the meeting at 11:40 a.m. to view county roads with Highway Director Dale Hlad and Tanner Yost. Chairman Dennis Ray will not view the county road and will instead travel to the landfill/transfer station to meet with staff.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

Road Viewing: Commissioner Smith and Commissioner Hembry discussed the county roads they viewed, including the road complaint by Richard and Jeff White.

Landfill: Commissioner Ray discussed the landfill/transfer station operations.

Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:43 p.m. The next meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. Monday, September 18, 2023, in the courthouse commission meeting room.