

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

January 16, 2024

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. 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 recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: John Paul Ellis, Leann Johnson, Mary Ann Stertz, Brandon Cochran, Felicia Strahm, Elizabeth Sheldon, Jesse Knight, and Dan Heina.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: a letter from the USDA office; NRCS newsletter; an email from Diane Walters, Lincoln Park Manor; KCAMP invoice; mid-month accounts payable; and board appointments expiring at the end of February.
- Correspondence Action: Board positions expiring February 28 include the following: Barnard, Beverly, First, Hunter Rural Fire Districts (RFD) – one position each; Sylvan Grove RFD – 2 positions; Repeater Board – 2 positions; Hospital Board – 1 position; Crime Victims Restitution Board – 1 position; Delia Pittard Inheritance Guideline Committee – 1 position; Childrens Health Care Endowment Fund Guideline Committee – 1 position; and WEB Fund Board – 1 position. Anyone interested in serving on one of these boards should send the Commissioners a letter of interest with the board name and why. The board approved Double H's estimate to rebuild a valve. Dennis Ray moved to award Sunflower Supply Restaurant, in the amount of \$1,598, for the replacement of the garbage disposal in the kitchen (at Lincoln Park Manor), seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Dennis Ray moved to approve mid-month accounts payable in the amount of \$97,845.92, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. The board discussed the distribution of Services for the Aged tax appropriation.
- Minutes Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2024, commission meeting, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Courthouse Maintenance: Courthouse Janitor/Maintenance John Paul Ellis provided the estimate for a floor scrubber with a trade-in for the current scrubber. Debora Smith moved to purchase an Advantage 14 Auto Scrubber from Sage Products in the amount of \$4,098, to be paid for from the Equipment Reserve Fund, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- County Treasurer: County Treasurer Leann Johnson, with Deputy Treasurer Mary Ann Stertz, presented the total taxes collected and three resolutions for the board's approval. Johnson provided the following 4th quarter 2023 reports for the board to review: Treasurer's Quarterly Idle Funds Investment Report interest earned - \$108,507.40 and the Treasurer's Special Vehicle Fund Report with a 12-31-23 fund balance of \$25,607.42. Debora Smith moved to approve Resolution 2024-03, 2024-04, and 2024-05: 04, and 2024-05, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. (Resolution 2024-03, designating the following Lincoln County banks as depositories of all money for Lincoln County, Kansas, for the year 2024: The Bank of Tescott - Lincoln, Citizens State Bank & Trust - Lincoln, Bennington State Bank - Sylvan Grove, Farmway Credit Union – Lincoln, Wilson State Bank – Beverly, and State Municipal Investment Pool-State of Kansas depositories; Resolution 2024-04, authorizing the County Treasurer to develop and implement a cash management and investment program for the handling of money in the custody of Lincoln County, Kansas for the year 2024; and

Resolution 2024-05, allowing the County Treasurer to invest idle funds as seen feasible in Lincoln County banks or investments).

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten 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, Ambulance Director Brandon Cochran, and HR Felicia Strahm, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 9:29 a.m. Time out: 9:39 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 9:39 a.m. with no action taken.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for twenty minutes for the purpose of discussing employee evaluations, 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 Felica Strahm, and Ambulance Director Brandon Cochran, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 9:42 a.m. Time out: 10:02 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:02 a.m. with no action taken.

Ambulance Service: Ambulance Service Director Brandon Cochran notified the board that the shared EMS class with Mitchell County will begin on Monday, January 22. The board discussed public perception and budget concerns. The board requested that the department's 2024 payroll be reestimated with the proposed salary increase and presented at next week's meeting.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing employee evaluations at the health department, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(20)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room with the commission, Health Department Director Elizabeth Sheldon, and HR Felicia Strahm present, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 10:19 a.m. Time out: 10:34 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:34 a.m. with no action taken.

Health Department: Health Nurse/Administrator Sheldon requested that on the weeks that there are holidays, employees be allowed to work 38 hours and not be required to work two additional hours or use PTO time and that any employee who wants to use PTO may do so during the weeks with holidays. The board approved the request.

Emergency Management: Emergency Manager Jesse Knight notified the board that he's received his Emergency Management Certification from the Kansas Department of Emergency Management. Knight discussed community shelters and what surrounding counties provide. Knight requested approval to place bids on a truck auctioned on PurpleWave and set the maximum amount. Knight provided pictures and prices of additional trucks, including one in Arizona. Knight has a mechanic willing to inspect the truck in Arizona if the board approves. The board approved having the truck in Arizona inspected and gave Knight permission to negotiate if it is deemed sufficient.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing employee evaluations, 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, Emergency Manager Jesse Knight, and HR Felicia Strahm, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 10:59 a.m. Time out: 10:09 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:09 a.m. with no action taken.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing employee evaluations, 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 of the courthouse, with the commission, Noxious Weed Director Dan Heina, and HR Felicia Strahm, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 11:14 a.m. Time out: 11:29 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:29 a.m. with no action taken.

Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Felicia Strahm requested clarification on the evaluation process and wage increases.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing employee evaluations in the maintenance department, 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 HR Felicia Strahm, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 11:36 a.m. Time out: 11:47 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:47 a.m. with no action taken.

Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m. The next meeting will be in the courthouse commission meeting room at 8:30 a.m. Monday, January 22, 2024.