

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

February 19, 2019

- Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners was held in the commission meeting room of the courthouse Tuesday, February 19, 2019. Chairman Alexis Pflugh called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Al Joe Wallace and Member Randy Lohmann present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Mona Gerstmann, Glenn Stegman, Steve Schneider, Robert Crangle, Dwight Heller, Sharon Dohe, Judy Ahlvers, Jolene Cole, Allan Serrien, Deb Ortiz, Nancy Nitsch, Susan Crangle, Shirley Small, Mike Kratky, Kenny Small, Michel O’Hare, Robert Howe and Tanner Yost.
- Minutes Approved: Al Joe Wallace moved to approve the minutes of February 11, 2019 regular meeting, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: a letter signed by several individuals concerning road maintenance in Golden Belt, Valley and Indiana Townships; bills for Lincoln Park Manor; email from the State regarding requirements when making changes to the hours, fees and/or operations of the bus.
- Tax Abatement: Alexis Pflugh moved to approve tax abatement 2018-13 in the amount of \$46.36, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.
- Road Request: Steve Schneider with his Attorney Robert Crangle requested the county gravel portions of two roads in Cedron Township, providing background information on his previous requests and why they did not agree to the mediation settle agreement that was provided to them. After a lengthy discussion Crangle related that the contention of the mediation agreement is that \$10,000 would be paid up front and that they had agreed to pay \$5,000 up front and \$1,000 per year for five years, with the money being used specifically on these particular roads. No final decision was made, however the board will ask the highway department to provide a new cost estimate to gravel the roads, utilizing materials from a new pit that is closer to the area. Crangle requested that costs not include items that would have already been budgeted, such as vehicle base charges and employee’s times.
- Services for the Aged: The board met with representatives from the Lincoln County Council on Aging, Lincoln Senior Center, and Sylvan Senior Center to discuss future distributions to the organizations from the Services for the Elderly mill levy. Council on Aging and Lincoln Senior Center representatives provided 2018 financial information for their respective organizations. The board asked questions regarding each entities budget and whether there are duplicate items being requested between the Council on Aging and the Lincoln Senior Center. Commissioner Wallace proposed the following distributions be made from funds remaining in 2018 and funds available from 2019 tax disbursements: \$10,000 to Sylvan Senior Center, \$18,000 to Lincoln Senior Center and \$24,000 to the Council on Aging. No decision was made this date. (Clerk’s Note: Current available funds include \$14,500 from 2018 and \$45,750 from 2019 for a total of \$60,250 with an additional \$29,250 available in May 2019 after tax collection)
- Highway Department: The board forwarded the complaint letter received earlier this date to Director of Public Works Michel O’Hare and Road and Bridge Supervisor Robert Howe. O’Hare provided information

received regarding potential funding sources from the State of Kansas with one program potentially being restored. O'Hare issued concerns with how the Smoky Hills wind farm will dispose of the wind blades during the repowering project of the windfarm. O'Hare related that he does not believe that there would be sufficient space in the construction/demolition pit, if they intend on disposing blades in the county landfill, and that he had asked Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael to look at the property to determine if another cell could be added. The board asked Yost to provide an estimate on the cost to complete an assessment of the property. The board discussed Steve Schneider's request for gravel. No final decision was made this date, but the board requested that the Highway Department recalculate the cost to gravel the road, which had already been provided. After a lengthy discussion it was determined that Schneider would formulate an agreement requiring him to pay \$5,000 up front and Schneider would provide materials for all future improvements for a period of five years, subject to approval by the highway department prior to being applied to the surface. The board reviewed the letter prepared in response to correspondence received from the Block Family Ventures attorney regarding the gravel pit reclamation. Alexis Pflugh moved to sign and send the letter regarding the Block Family Venture gravel agreement, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

- Purchase Policy: The board reviewed the County Purchase Policy that was approved September 10, 2001 to determine what changes could be made to the existing policy.
- Nursing Home: The board worked on preparing a public statement regarding the nursing home.
- Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:32 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Monday, February 25, 2019 in the commission meeting room of the courthouse.