

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

May 15, 2023

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, May 15, 2023. Chairman Dennis Ray called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Darrell Oetting and Member Debora Smith present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Felicia Strahm, Jesse Knight, Glenna Phillips, Jon Wright, Forrest Rhodes (via telephone), Diane Walters, Kelly Gourley, and Andy Thayer.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: WEB fund recommendations, a resolution lifting the burn ban, and mid-month accounts payable.
- Correspondence Action: The board reviewed the WEB fund board's recommendations for funding: Barnard Rural Fire - \$1,649.99; City of Lincoln Fire Department - \$4,355.81; Colorado Township - \$2,500; Humane Society - \$2,000; and City of Sylvan Grove - \$2,000. Debora Smith moved to approve the five WEB fund application requests that were submitted, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. Debora Smith moved to approve Resolution 2023-12, rescinding the State of Disaster Emergency Proclamation, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Dennis Ray moved to approve midmonth AP in the amount of \$6,893.55, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried.
- Minutes Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve the minutes of the May 8 meeting, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.
- Solid Waste Disposal Fee: Commissioner Oetting related that he was contacted by David Wacker, Prairie Land Gamebirds, regarding whether a decision was made to waive the business's solid waste disposal fees. The board decided to leave the solid waste disposal fee as assessed.
- Budget Request: Glenna Phillips, Executive Director of Central Kansas Mental Health Center, presented the organization's 2024 budget request.
- Landfill/Transfer Station: Landfill/Transfer Station Operator Jon Wright presented the current listing of items the facility will take and what he would like changed. Wright provided a copy of what Slechta plans to post on dumpsters addressing cat litter. The board related that cat litter is accepted at the transfer station and is not one of the excluded items of the trash collection contract.
- Abandoned Cemeteries: The chairman opened the bids received to mow and trim the abandoned cemeteries. Debora Smith moved to grant Don Howell the bid to mow the abandoned cemeteries four times for \$1,125, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing FMLA, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(2) for consultation with an attorney for the public body or agency which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room, with the commission, Forrest Rhodes via telephone, County Clerk Dawn Harlow, and HR Felicia Strahm, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 9:47 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.

Nursing Home: Diane Walters reported on the status of nursing home repairs and discussed maintenance needs. The State Fire Marshall inspected the assisted living unit, and all deficiencies were corrected while they were onsite. Walters related that the new fire door between the nursing home and assisted living did not work correctly, and after researching, the previous door had been modified, which voids the fire rating.

Economic Development: Economic Development Director Kelly Gourley related that she and Director of Highway Department Dale Hlad have opted in to participate in the NCRPC regional application for the Regional Safe Streets and Roads planning grant. The proposed project would be the Lincoln Ave bridge and walking bridge adjacent to Lincoln City Park. Gourley discussed McReynolds Park and whether restrooms should be installed. The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks has agreed to meet with Gourley and the board to discuss possibilities. The board agreed to meet at the site if Gourley would arrange the meeting.

Benefits Management: Andy Thayer, BeneBloc, provided information on the organization's benefit management services. BeneBloc's services are free to the county; however, it will require that the county only offers third-party supplement plans through them. BeneBloc will assist employees in transferring to private pay for employees who want to keep their current third-party supplemental plans. Debora Smith moved to utilize the services of BeneBloc for benefits management, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

Emergency Management: Emergency Management Director Jesse Knight provided a proposal for the annual cost of purchasing ten additional seats for the asset management system. Commissioner Ray suggested the cost come out of the County General Fund. Darrell Oetting moved to take the Lincoln County Salamander Inventory Project Proposal 5-11-2023, that comes to a total of \$4800 per year, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing FMLA, 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, County Clerk Dawn Harlow, and Felicia Strahm, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 11:06 a.m. Time out: 11:21 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:21 a.m. with no action taken.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing FMLA, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(2) for consultation with an attorney for the public body or agency which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room, with the commission, Forest Rhodes via telephone, County Clerk Dawn Harlow, and HR Felicia Strahm, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 11:24 a.m. Time out: 11:39 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:39 a.m. with no action taken.

Elections: County Clerk Dawn Harlow discussed the legislative post-election audit.

Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m. The next meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. Monday, May 22, 2023, in the courthouse commission meeting room.