

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

May 8, 2023

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, May 8, 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: Scott Wright (via telephone), Rhonda Wright, Brandon Cochran, Ben Knight, and Jesse Knight.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: a letter from Tori O'Toole expressing interest in serving as the Madison Township Treasurer; a bill for Lincoln Park Manor; a letter from Steve Davis, Shive Hattery recapping the meeting held on April 24; and the North Central-Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging 2024 budget request.
- Madison Township Appointments Tabled: The board tabled a decision on appointing individuals to the Madison Township Clerk and Treasurer's positions until after May 22.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing the nursing home lease, 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, with the commission, County Clerk Dawn Harlow, and County Attorney Scott Wright via telephone, second by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 8:40 a.m. Time out: 8:50 a.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 8:40 a.m. with no action taken.
- County Attorney: County Attorney Scott Wright related that he had sent a Memorandum of Understanding to the City of Lincoln Center regarding replacing the storm drain on Lincoln Ave and 3rd St.
- County Appraiser: County Appraiser Rhonda Wright related that valuation appeal hearings had been concluded, personal property valuations were mailed, and they will soon be certifying valuations to the County Clerk.
- Human Resources: County Clerk Dawn Harlow presented new hires for the board to approve. Dennis Ray moved to employ Jonathan Clemens to the Highway Department, effective May 9, 2023, Grade 15 (less than) Step 9, \$16.32 per hour, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. Debora Smith moved to employ Felicia Strahm as HR, effective May 15 at Grade 34 Step 7, \$22.39, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Commissioner Oetting inquired whether the Highway Department had reported an accident. Clerk Harlow was unaware of nor notified of an accident or damage to equipment. County Clerk Dawn Harlow suggested that the Human Resources office be moved to the computer room to facilitate training. The chairman recessed the meeting at 9:14 a.m. to view the computer room. The board approved relocating the HR office temporarily. The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 9:27 a.m.
- Minutes Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve the minutes for the May 1 regular and May 5 special meetings, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

- Human Resources: Clerk Harlow related that if the first seven steps are removed from the pay scale, there could be an issue. The pay scale in 2022 was fully funded, and all employees were placed on their appropriate steps; if the steps are removed, it will cause all employees to no longer be on the correct steps. Commissioner Ray suggested that instead of removing the steps, the Board could expand the department head's negotiation power to step 13. Clerk Harlow related that the second pay resolution must be corrected as the effective date was printed as the approved date rather than the first day of the pay period. A corrected resolution will be presented at a future meeting. Clerk Harlow related that department heads would like to meet with the board on the last meeting of the month at 1:00 p.m. A light lunch will be provided at 12:00 p.m.
- Ambulance Service: EMS Director Brandon Cochran presented a bid from Zoll to upgrade the free monitor and the service's current monitors; the total cost is \$20,027.78. Cochran requested that the board consider paying the expense from the ARPA funds as the board was willing to commit to paying for the original monitor match cost. Debora Smith moved to approve the \$20,027.78 from ARPA funds in lieu of match money for the grant, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.
- Solid Waste Disposal Fee: Ben Knight contested the solid waste disposal fee assessed for his business. Knight suggested that the board consider moving the Highway Department away from Lincoln's residential areas.
- Emergency Management: Emergency Manager Jesse Knight provided a cost estimate to hold a Household Hazard Waste disposal event.
- Meeting Moved: The board approved moving the May 30 regular meeting to May 31, beginning at 8:30 a.m.
- Complaint: Eric Wolgamot issued a complaint regarding the disposal of materials at the transfer station.
- Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:29 a.m. The next meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. Monday, May 15, 2023, in the courthouse commission meeting room.