

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

March 15, 2021

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, March 15, 2021. Chairman Randy Lohmann called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Dennis Ray and Member Darrell Oetting present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Kelly Gourley, James Gabelmann, Sarah Hageman, Diane Walters, Dana Rice, Julia Manglitz (telephone), Caleb Holeman, and Baldwin Fisher.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: two packets from Norm Kincaid; an email from Kelly Gourley regarding the homes received at the tax sale; a letter from Kathy Moss resigning from the Central Kansas Library System Executive Committee; and a cereal malt beverage license.
- Heritage Area Partnership: Economic Development Director Kelly Gourley, a member of the Kansas-Nebraska Heritage Area Partnership, clarified what the partnership is and its goals. Gourley stressed that it is written in Federal legislation that National Heritage Areas are not allowed to do anything that affects property rights. Gourley explained that the group is identifying the area's heritage and cultural resources to group them and market them to attract tourism into the area's communities.
- Dilapidated Properties: Commissioner Ray related that he had spoken with Carly Errebo and that the PRIDE committee is willing to tear down and dispose of the two homes received from the tax sale if the County would donate the use of one or two trucks. Ray related that he would donate his personal dump truck and equipment to assist with the project. The group plans to demolish the 5th Street home first. Ray noted that the house on 3rd St had personal items remaining and suggested that they grant the family the opportunity to remove any remaining items as soon as possible. The board approved. Ray related that he had also spoken with three contractors regarding demolishing and disposing of the building on W Lincoln Ave. The board discussed placing the Budweiser sign on a sealed bid, with the successful winner responsible for removing the sign.
- Cereal Malt Beverage License: Randy Lohmann moved to approve the request from the Sylvan Grove Fair & Agricultural Association for a cereal malt beverage license beginning April 1, 2021 and expires July 31, 2021, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.
- No Burn Ban: Commissioner Ray requested that it be reiterated that the County does NOT have a burn ban at this time. Controlled burns are allowed until the board takes official action.
- Courthouse Repairs: Clerk Harlow presented the contract from TreanorHL to prepare construction plans to make repairs to the courthouse.
- Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Sarah Hageman inquired if the board would like to meet with Attorney Forrest Rhodes regarding the EEOC complaints on the telephone or in person. The board requested to meet with Rhodes in person; Hageman will schedule the meeting. Hageman discussed the results from the survey of other counties regarding nepotism policies, providing the policies that she has received. Hageman requested an executive session. Randy Lohmann moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes to discuss employee evaluation performance guidance, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of
- Executive Session:

nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commissioners' room upon completion, with the commissioners and HR (Hageman), seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Time in 9:30 a.m. Time out: 9:40 a.m.

- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 9:40 a.m. with no action taken. The board authorized HR to resolve issues and return if improvements are not made. Employees are reminded to use the employee complaint form. Hageman related that Ray Harlow notified her that he would like to retire on April 25. The board discussed options for the recycling center. The board approved placing an advertisement for a part-time employee to work at the recycling center.
- Human Resources:
- Nursing Home: Diane Walters and Dana Rice, Lincoln Park Manor, updated the board on the water damage to the facility and provided a bill received from Lamunyon. Walter reported an electrical issue in room 110. The three-door refrigerator can no longer be recharged, so the evaporator will need to be replaced, or the unit replaced. The board discussed that the facility should consider purchasing the refrigerator. Walters inquired about what to do with the nursing home beds that are no longer being used. The board approved for Lincoln Park Manor to dispose of the beds, and any proceeds should be remitted to the County if the beds are salvaged as junk iron. The board approved Walters asking the Highway Department to remove the beds for disposal and to notify the County of the items disposed of for removal from inventory listings.
- KWORCC: Jes Pfannenstiel, KWORCC, presented the board with an award for an exceptional loss ratios. Pfannenstiel provided a brief overview of the services and training that the organization offers.
- Courthouse Repairs:
Contract Approved: Julia Manglitz, TreanorHL, answered questions regarding the contract submitted for approval. Dennis Ray moved to allow the chairman to sign the American Institute of Architects document G802 – 2017 in conjunction with the TreanorHL Inc for the Lincoln County Courthouse Project, total amount of the project is \$128,550, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. The board approved the expenditure from the Capital Improvement Fund.
- Siren Project: Commissioner Ray related that the repeater board and fire chiefs requested that the commission consider utilizing WEB funds to pay for the siren project's remaining costs. Darrell Oetting moved that we take up to \$30,000 out of the pilot fund (WEB fund) to fund the remainder of the siren project for Lincoln County, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. (This will be to complete the project for non-income qualified communities of Barnard, Denmark, Lincoln, and Westfall)
- Highway Department: Interim Director of Highway Department Caleb Holeman requested an executive session. Randy Lohmann moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing employee duties and roles, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the commissioner room, with the commission and Highway Department Interim Director (Holeman), seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. Time in: 11:03 a.m. Time out: 11:04 a.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:04 a.m. with no action taken.
- Executive Session: Randy Lohmann moved to recess into executive session for five minutes for the purpose of discussing employee roles, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of

nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the commission room, with the County Commission and Interim Director (Holeman), seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion Carried. Time in: 11:16 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.
- Highway Department: Holeman discussed a tentative activity list for the department and the goals for the department if weather permits. Holeman identified two projects that need to be completed and inquired which project should be completed first or if the board had a preference. The board related that it is not their intention to micromanage the highway department and that Holeman has the authority to identify and prioritize projects based upon the department's expertise. The board also noted that emergencies happen and that they recognize that some repairs or requests can be delayed. Holeman clarified expectations for the asphalt road projects for this summer.
- Minutes Approved: Randy Lohmann moved to approve the corrected minutes, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.
- Siren Project: The board discussed who would own the sirens once the project is completed. Ray related that the repeater board is not interested in being responsible for the ownership. Clerk Harlow read portions of previous minutes that addressed ownership, which stated the repeater board was willing to accept ownership contingent upon funding availability to maintain the sirens appropriately. The board will discuss the matter further.
- Emergency Management: Emergency Manager Baldwin Fisher forwarded information from KDEM requesting commissioners to contact their Senator and Representatives to support continuing Instant Management Teams as the Adjutant General has removed the program.
- HR 1: Commissioner Ray inquired about the impact of HR 1 on the county elections.
- Adjourn: Dennis Ray moved to adjourn at 12:09 p.m., seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. The next meeting will be Monday, March 22, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. in the courthouse commission meeting room.