

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

October 25, 2021

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, October 25, 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: Howard Wehrman, Mike Schrant, Sarah Hageman, Rhonda Fernandez, Louis Kottman Jr, Mary Kottman, Diane Walters, Dale Hlad, Tanner Yost, Frank Lamb, Leann Bishop, and Ladonna Reinert.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: a bill for Lincoln Park Manor; the Hospital Board of Trustees meeting packet; a Letter of Engagement from Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris, Chartered; CDBG documents for the emergency siren projects; and a budget forecast for the health insurance options provided at the October 18 regular meeting.
- Correspondence Action: Dennis Ray moved to allow the chairman to sign the agreement with Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris, Chartered to complete the audit for the year ended 2021, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Randy Lohmann moved to sign all of the documents presented for CDBG Grant 21-PF-013 for the storm sirens, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. (Lincoln County Code of Ethics, Applicant Disclosure/Update Report, Quarterly Progress Report, Subrecipient vs. Contractor Classification Checklist for North Central Regional Planning Commission and Storm Sirens, Inc, Authorized Signature Form, Designation of Depository, Authorization for Electronic Deposit, and Request for Payment of CDBG Funds)
- Update: Commissioner Lohmann provided an update on the Kansas Association of Counties annual meeting that he attended.
- Health Insurance: Rhonda Fernandez, Professional Insurance Consultants, reviewed the renewal rate summary with options for the employee health insurance plans, including being fully funded and self-funded.
- Road Vacation Hearing: Chairman Lohmann convened the scheduled road vacation hearing at 9:38 a.m. concerning the proposed vacation of a road located in Golden Belt Township. The chairman closed the road vacation hearing at 9:45 a.m. Darrell Oetting moved to accept Resolution No. 2021V-03 on road closure, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. (Final Resolution and Order whereby it is therefore ordered that the following described county road in Golden Belt Township shall be vacated: beginning at the NW corner of Section 15 also being the SW corner of Section 10 thence East one (1) mile to the NE corner of Section 15 also being the SE corner of Section 10 all being in Township 13 Range 9. Road right-of-way being 40 ft.)
- Resolution 2021V-03:
- Services for the Elderly: Mike Schrant, Sylvan Senior Center, inquired about funding distributions for the Council on Aging and the senior centers.
- Nursing Home: Nursing Home Administrator Diane Walters updated that Streets are now willing to bid on the sump pump installation project, still attempting to get quotes to install guttering, and the assisted living facility repairs are completed. Walters forwarded a concern from Cory Shearer

that the entire length of the assisted living facility roof is vented and should only be inches of vent for every fifteen feet of roof. Shearer also noted that the wrong insulation was installed previously.

Highway Department: Director of Highway Department Dale Hlad reported on information received at the KAC conference, which included changes with the CDL training facility requirements and that future federal bridge dollars will be distributed directly to the counties. Hlad noted that Kirkham Michael was the only firm that submitted information to perform services as the construction engineer for the pavement stripping project. The department needs to contract with a firm to complete a bridge foundation investigation for OS 95. Hlad reported that OS 112 was let and provided the preliminary bids received from Reece Construction for \$714,523 and L & M Construction for \$539,058. Hlad related that he was able to recover approximately thirty signs that had been stolen. Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael, inquired if the board is interested in applying for funds through the High Risk Rural Program major collector routes. Dennis Ray moved to allow Kirkham Michael to be the (construction) engineering firm for project 53C-5120-01 (pavement marking project), seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Voting as follows: Lohmann – Aye; Ray – Aye; Oetting – Nay.

Emergency Management: Emergency Manager Frank Lamb inquired if the board would pay for the renewal of his HazWoper40 certification and membership to the International Association of Emergency Managers. The board made no decision on this date. Lamb discussed the Community Rating System and how it could help reduce the cost of flood insurance to county residents.

Health Insurance: Rhonda Fernandez, PIC, provided updated cost if the board kept the employee cost for insurance at the current level. The group discussed the pros and cons of not sharing the cost increase, including a higher employee contribution in future years. Employees who participate in the wellness program will receive a \$20 reduction per month in their health insurance premium. Dennis Ray moved to enter into an agreement with BCBS of Kansas self-funding Option A and HDHP, with a 90% (employer)-10% (employee) match at the county expected rates, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. The board approved including Vision and Dental in the approval motion.

County Treasurer: County Treasurer Leann Bishop provided the following 3rd quarter 2021 Treasurer Quarterly reports: Treasurers Special Vehicle Fund Balance – \$14,898.06; and Interest Earned on Idle Funds - \$5,708.56.

Health Department: Health Nurse/Administrator Ladonna Reinert provided an update on COVID-19 cases. Reinert discussed the impact on the health department and her staff, noting that part-time RN Lisa White has resigned effective October 29, which will add additional needs. Reinert requested consideration for a full-time RN to help with the workload, as it does not appear that the amount of work will decrease. Dennis Ray moved to allow the Health Department/HR to create a full-time position for a full-time RN in the health department, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Reinert inquired if ARPA funds could be utilized to help with the benefits package for the new full-time position.

Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Sarah Hageman provided the job grades for all positions, pay ranges for job grades, and a listing of employees deemed underpenetrated on the pay scale and the rate of pay needed to bring them onto the pay scales. Dennis Ray moved to adjust the wage for

- Salary Increases: the following people effective September 26 through December 31 (to the following hourly rates): Frank Lamb \$20.15; Jerry Porter \$12.10; Dustin Florence \$29.26; Cody Flinn \$12.94; Roberta Turner \$13.60; Sarah Hageman \$20.77; Todd Hamby \$13.14; Jennifer O’Hare \$39.63; Ladonna Reinert \$27.71; Rhonda Wright \$25.19; Dan Heina \$18.92; Randy Moore \$18.92; Kerry Jackson \$17.60; Teri Hiitter \$15.93; Mary Ann Stertz \$15.29; Richard Ancell \$15.13; Marc Lovin \$15.13; Damon Vonada \$15.13; Ben Kratky \$13.44; and Brittnei Harlow \$12.66, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Hageman provided a copy of a sample merit-based pay plan and a performance-based pay plan.
- Resolution 2021-23: Randy Lohmann moved to approve Resolution 2021-23, adjustment of solid waste collection fees, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.
- Minutes Approved: Darrell Oetting moved to accept the minutes of October 18, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.
- Meeting Time Set: The chairman set the meeting time at 10:30 a.m. for the Friday, October 31 end-of-month meeting.
- Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m. The next meeting will be in the courthouse commission meeting room at 10:30 a.m. Friday, October 31, 2021.