

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

March 7, 2022

Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, March 7, 2022. Chairman Dennis Ray called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Darrell Oetting and Member Randy Lohmann present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as recording secretary.

Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Dale Hlad, Ladonna Reinert, Leann Bishop, Rhonda Wright, Sarah Hageman, and Dan Heina.

Correspondence: Correspondence: a request from Chris Behrens to install an additional baler at the recycling center with Behrens providing the bailer and paying to install electrical service to the bailer; cereal malt beverage license 2022-02; a letter from the Kansas Department of Commerce concerning CDBG Grant #21-PF-013, siren replacement; a letter from Randy Rathbun resigning as Barnard Rural Fire Chief; a letter from Deb Ortiz correcting the WEB fund grant amount for the Lincoln Art Center; an email from Diane Walters with an estimate to clean the nursing home ductwork; a postcard from the Federal Aviation Administration concerning an antenna tower;

Correspondence action: The board approved allowing Chris Behrens to install an additional baler at the recycling center at his expense. Randy Lohman moved to approve the Cereal Malt Beverage License (2022-03) for the Sylvan Grove Fair & Agricultural association, expiring July 31, 2022, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. Dennis Ray moved to allow the WEB fund committee corrected amount of \$2,200 as opposed to the \$2,000 to the Lincoln Art Center, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

Nursing Home/
Burn Ban: The board discussed the nursing home ductwork. The board conversed about removing the burn ban. It was determined that the burn ban should remain in effect.

Minutes Approved: Randy Lohmann moved to approve the minutes from February 28, March 1, and March 3, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

Highway Department: Director of Highway Department Dale Hlad reported on department activities. Hlad provided the cost to purchase rail cars and culverts. The board approved the purchase of six rail cars and culverts as listed. Hlad reported that the Cost Share grant applications are due March 17 and provided a listing of cost estimates from Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael, to repair the Sylvan blacktop. Dennis Ray moved to commit \$750,000 towards this project to be a combination of current funds in the Special Road Fund and WEB Fund principle for option 3, full depth reclamation with 1.5-inch hot mix overlay at the estimated cost of \$258,000 per mile, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. (\$375,000 from each fund)

Health Department: Health Nurse/Administrator Ladonna Reinert requested approval to pay Cheney Door Company to install an automatic door owner and requested approval to pay the required down payment at midmonth. Reinert presented an agreement with the Kansas Department of Health Environment to accept an additional \$7,000 for the State Formula grant award. Dennis Ray moved to approve the bid from Cheney Door for the handicapped door at the health department, the total amount is \$2,950, requesting a mid-month check in the amount of \$1,475, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Randy Lohmann moved to have Commissioner

Ray sign the State Formula 2.0 agreement, whereas the county health department will receive a \$7,000 award, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. Reinert provided the Aid to Local grant application signature page for the board's approval. Randy Lohmann moved to approve the grant application signature page for the State of Kansas Department of Health and Environment for the county health department, for the total amount of \$231,323.08, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. Reinert inquired about having a committee to help identify grant spending and requested that one commissioner serves on the committee. Commissioner Ray agreed to serve on the committee.

County Appraiser: County Appraiser Rhonda Wright reported that valuations would be mailed next week and that assessed value went up over \$1.9 million. Wright related that house values have increased due to the market sales, ag land has stayed level, and personal property has increased, including farm trucks.

Executive Session: Human Resource Officer Sarah Hageman requested an executive session to discuss employee performance. Randy Lohmann moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing employee performance in the Treasurer's department, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission room, with the commission, HR (Sarah Hageman), and County Treasurer (Leann Bishop), seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Time in: 10:10 a.m. Time out: 10:20 a.m.

Reconvene:
Salary Increase: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:20 a.m. Randy Lohmann moved to approve an increase for Mary Ann Stertz to \$18.87 per hour, to correct a clerical error and set salary based on total tenure with the county, effective February 26, 2022, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Sarah Hageman inquired if the board would like her to renew her medical card to continue driving for the transportation bus when needed. The board approved Hageman to renew the medical card.

Noxious Weed: Noxious Weed Director Dan Heina provided the annual eradication report for the board's approval. Heina requested a wage adjustment for seasonal employee Cody Flinn. The board took no action as Flinn was included in the cost of living increases granted in January. Dennis Ray moved to allow the board to sign the annual noxious weed eradication report for 2021, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

Pay Plan Approved: Human Resource Officer Sarah Hageman presented a resolution for the board's approval. Dennis Ray moved to approve Resolution 2022-11, adopting the compensation wage and salary administration plan, pay grade, and pay scale for Lincoln County employees, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

Executive Session: Hageman requested an executive session for forty-five minutes to discuss a potential lawsuit. Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for forty-five minutes for discussing a potential lawsuit against Lincoln County, 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 meeting room, with the

commission, HR (Sarah Hageman) and Forrest Rhodes, Foulston Attorneys at Law, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Time in: 10:56 a.m. Time out: 11:41 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:41 a.m. with no action taken.

WEB Funds: Clerk Harlow provided the projected income from the Lincoln County Windfarms for the county and school districts. The board discussed USD 298's funding request and whether their allocation could go towards the project.

Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m. The next meeting will be in the courthouse commission meeting room at 8:30 a.m. Monday, March 14, 2022.