

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

February 8, 2021

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners was held in the commission meeting room of the courthouse Monday, February 8, 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: Clayton Lyne, Chad Walter, Rhonda Wright, Caleb Holeman, Tanner Yost, Sarah Hageman, Brandon Cochran, Baldwin Fisher, Julia Mathias Manglitz, Jeff Lane (telephone), Kelly Gourley, and Derek Walter.

Correspondence: Correspondence: an email from Dale Anderson concerning a road vacation request in Beaver Township; an email from Pamela and Erik Rasmussen concerning a road vacation request in Beaver Township; a list of current board positions that will expire on February 28; a bill for Lincoln Park Manor; WEB fund recommendation for distributions; a letter from NCK CASA relating that April is Child Abuse and Prevention Month; a letter from the Kansas Department of Commerce announcing the award of CDBG grant funds for the siren project; and a letter from Tammy Rees expressing her interest in continuing on the WEB Fund board; and Commissioners' Ray and Oetting reported the names of individuals who have expressed interest in continuing service to their respective boards.

Correspondence Action: The board approved placing an advertisement for all positions expiring in the Lincoln Sentinel Republican and Lucas Sylvan News. Darrell Oetting moved to accept the WEB Fund recommendations, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. (Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, \$15,000 to purchase laptop computers, citation issuing equipment, and report software for patrol cars; Lincoln Recreation Department, \$3,200 to purchase additional baskets to expand the Disc Golf Course; and Lincoln County Commissioner, \$3,000 per year for five years to fund two additional students in the Rural Opportunity Zone tuition reimbursement program). Randy Lohmann moved to approve the February 1, 2021 minutes as corrected, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

Road Vacation Request: Chad Walter requested a portion of a road be vacated in Beaver Township. Clayton Lyne stated that he would be in agreement to a portion of the right-of-way being vacated and identified the area that should remain open. The board agreed and a map was provided to County Appraiser Rhonda Wright to create a description for the preliminary road vacation resolution.

Highway Department: Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael reported that they have completed the post-inspection for the wind farm repower project and have identified areas that need repairs. Yost provided a report from the State Kansas that identifies the top ten safety improvement project locations from a study conducted previously, noting that the State will provide recommended safety improvements for the location. After receipt of the recommendations, Yost will consult with the County to determine a project for the High-Risk Rural Road grant application. The group discussed how to proceed with future maintenance for the asphalt roads. Yost and Holeman will drive the asphalt roads and compare the current status with estimated daily travel rates to determine which road needs the most work. Yost provided a copy of a load rating guide when using rail cars as replacement structures. Interim Director of Highway Department Caleb

Executive Session: Holeman provided a follow-up on topics discussed in previous meetings: spoke with both landowners regarding the road vacation request, the adjoining neighbor disagrees with closing the road; individual involved in the December 2019 accident that damaged a bridge did not have vehicle insurance; the State no longer offers the Transportation Revolving Loan fund program; gates were purchased for the vacated road in Highland Township for \$140 each. The board forwarded a compliment received regarding a road maintained by Mr. (Gary) Frederking. Randy Lohmann moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing highway department performance, pursuant to K.S.A 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel, with highway department supervisor (Caleb Holeman) and HR Director (Sarah Hageman), to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Time in: 10:05 a.m. Time out: 10:15 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:15 a.m. with no action taken.

Emergency Management: Emergency Manager Baldwin Fisher provided a letter from Saline County requesting approval to install Lincoln County emergency services frequencies. Fisher inquired if the board knew of any fire-specific grant funds that could help the Barnard Rural Fire District replace face masks. Dennis Ray moved to approve the letter from Deputy County Administrator Hannah Stambaugh requesting the use of Lincoln County fire frequencies to be installed in their fire trucks, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

Courthouse Assessment: Julia Mathias Manglitz and Jeff Lane, TreanorHL, reviewed the findings of the 2020 courthouse assessment and answered questions. Manglitz identified studies that will need to be completed to create plans for the overall improvement and repair of the courthouse, entrances, and drainage. Manglitz suggested that the board could prepare plans for all repairs and then seek bids on a particular project first with other items listed as alternates, allowing projects to be completed as funding allows. Kelly Gourley, Lincoln County Economic Development Director, identified potential grants available, timelines, and items that need to be completed to prepare grant documents. Manglitz related that three studies needed to be completed to prepare construction plans and agreed that the firm would provide the scope of work and a list of qualified contractors. The group discussed project timing so that repairs to one area do not negatively affect repairs to another. The board agreed to move forward with the three studies needed by TreanorHL to prepare plans, noting that county funds will pay for the studies, rather than applying for grant assistance, to ensure that all items needed will be completed before fall grant applications are due. The board reviewed the contract amendment provided and the timeline previously submitted. The board related that they would like to complete the window repairs and painting as the base project, with all other items listed as alternates. Clerk Harlow will forward the information to Manglitz to review whether the contract amendment needs to be modified.

Recess/Reconvene: The chairman recessed the meeting at 12:06 p.m. for lunch until 12:30 p.m. The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 12:30 p.m.

Ambulance Service: Ambulance Service Director Derek Walter related that Dr. Cheema has agreed to continue as the medical consultant for the service. Human Resource Officer Sarah Hageman requested an executive session to discuss a status change. Randy Lohmann moved to recess into executive session for twenty-five minutes for the purpose of status change of Director of EMS, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene

in the courthouse commissioner room upon completion, with the County Commissioners, HR (Hageman), and EMS Director Walter, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Time in: 12:36 p.m. Time out: 1:01 p.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 1:01 p.m. Dennis Ray moved to Resignation Accepted: accept the resignation of Derek Walter, Director of EMS, effective the 19th of February, per his understanding and ours that he is going to stay on to fulfill his scheduling duties through the month of February, plus stay on the roster as a part-time per need basis paramedic, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. The board authorized Hageman to advertise the Director position for 30 days.

Executive Session: Hageman requested an executive session. Randy Lohmann moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing negotiations for the Director position, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(3) to discuss employer-employee negotiations whether or not in consultation with the representative or representatives of the public body or agency, to reconvene in the commissioner room of the courthouse upon conclusion, with the commission and HR Director Sarah Hageman, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. Time in: 1:07 p.m. Time out: 1:22 p.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 1:22 p.m. with no action taken.

Human Resources: Hageman requested funds to provide healthy snacks, rent, and supplies for the quarterly Lunch and Learn programs as part of the county employee wellness program. Dennis Ray moved to allow HR to utilize the employee benefits fund for her quarterly Lunch and Learn Priority Wellness program, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m. until 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 16, 2021, in the commission meeting room of the courthouse.