

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

September 12, 2022

- Call to Order:** The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, September 12, 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: Forrest Rhodes, Dale Hlad, Dustin Avey, Diane Walters, Dustin Florence, Jesse Knight, Rhonda Wright, Kerry Jackson, and Sarah Hageman.
- Recess/Reconvene:** The chairman recessed the meeting at 8:31 a.m. to attend a county-wide harassment training presented by Forrest Rhodes, Foulston Siefken, for elected officials, department heads, and county employees in the courthouse courtroom. The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 8:34 a.m. in the courthouse courtroom.
- Recess/Reconvene:** The chairman recessed the meeting to the commission meeting room at 10:00 a.m. The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:03 a.m. in the commission meeting room.
- Highway Department:** Director of Highway Department Dale Hlad provided an update on department projects and activities. Hlad provided the amount that KCAMP paid for the motor grader that caught fire. Hlad presented the contracts for OS 95 for the board's approval. Dennis Ray moved for Lincoln County to sign the agreement between the owner and contractor, Lincoln County and L&M Contractors for the Off-System 95 Bridge Replacement, and approve the owner's signature to the Notice to Proceed, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.
- Correspondence:** Correspondence: a postcard regarding the hazard mitigation plan.
- Budget Hearing:** The chairman opened the Lincoln County, Kansas, and Special District budget hearing at 10:31 a.m. to hear and answer objections to the proposed use of funds and the amount of ad valorem tax levied for the 2023 proposed budget. With no others appearing, the chairman closed the budget hearing at 11:45 a.m.
- 2023 Budget Approved:** Dennis Ray moved to approve the Lincoln County 2023 Budget as presented, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.
- Ambulance Service:** Ambulance Service Director Brandon Cochran provided an estimate to renew the 24/7 online training subscription. The board approved the renewal. Commissioner Oetting inquired why part-time staff members close to their maximum hours are taking football standby. Cochran discussed the procedure to find personnel for football standby and noted that if no one volunteers, the first out truck will cover the game. Cochran related that he is attempting to hire additional part-time employees.
- Minutes Approved:** Randy Lohmann moved to approve the September 6, 2022 minutes, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

Mid-Month Approved: Darrell Oetting moved to pay the mid-month bills of \$13,961.13, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

Bond Information: Dustin Avey, Piper Sandler, provided information on General Obligation Bonds and Revenue Bonds. General Obligation bonds are limited to 3% of assessed valuation and must be voter-approved. Revenue Bonds can be issued through the Public Building Commission, are not limited to assessed valuation, and would not require voter approval; however, the board could amend the rule to allow a petition, and the board could gather signatures on the petition to create a binding election. The county currently has three proposed projects that will need future consideration for funding: Courthouse renovations, the Sheriff's Department and Jail replacement, and either nursing home renovations or a new facility. Avey provided an estimated amortization schedule for a \$4 million, \$6 million, and \$8 million bond issue paid over twenty years to give the board an idea of yearly obligations needed if they would move forward with a bond issue for the various projects. The board made no decision on this date. Avey related that if the board would like to place a special question on the ballot, it would be important to have more detailed costs and plans available for review by the public. Avey will forward a taxpayer tax analysis that will provide an example of tax impact by property type.

Recess/Reconvene: The chairman recessed the meeting for lunch from 12:12 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 1:00 p.m.

Emergency Management: Emergency Manager Jesse Knight provided an update on the status of the floodplain map and what will happen once the map is approved. Knight related that the county will be required to adopt the floodplain map after the public review is completed. If it is not approved, the county could face financial impacts for future federal funding, not just flood-related funding. The maps are slated to be approved in November 2023. Once approved, county residents will be offered a discounted rate for flood insurance for all policies issued by November 2024. Residents seeking flood insurance after November 2024 will no longer qualify for the discounted rate. Knight related that grant funding is available to help the county create regulations and implement administration.

Landfill/Transfer Station: Landfill/Transfer Station Operator Kerry Jackson presented the resignation of Jerry Porter. Jackson reported that Porter is willing to work occasionally if needed. The department has two applicants for the position, and Jackson requested that the board consider hiring two employees. Jackson related that each could work 2-3 days per week. The 2023 budget only allows for a total of 20 hours per week for all part-time positions. Jackson provided pricing information received to replace the department's backhoe. Dennis Ray moved to change the employment status of Jerry Porter from part-time to part-time per need, rejecting his letter of resignation, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Sarah Hageman related that the estimated cost to conduct a biometric screening through Priority Wellness is \$3,770. The Health Department can complete the screening for \$12 per participant. Dennis Ray moved to opt out of the biometric screening with Priority Wellness for 2022, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing the Westfall CVA Elevator property, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(6) for the preliminary discussion of the acquisition of real property, to reconvene in the commission

meeting room, with the commission, County Clerk Dawn Harlow, and Appraiser Rhonda Wright, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Time in: 2:00 p.m. Time out: 2:15 p.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 2:15 p.m. Darrell Oetting moved to put a sealed bid in for a piece of ground, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:19 p.m. The next meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. Monday, September 19, 2022, in the courthouse commission meeting room.