

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

June 3, 2024

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, June 3, 2024. Chairman Dennis Ray called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Debora Smith and Member Ryley Hembry present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Nancy Walter, Brady Coover, Jaron Sulsar, Carl Nielsen, John Buttenhoff, Allen Schweitzer, Sue Graham, Char Chase, Leann Johnson, Mary Ann Stertz, Dale Hlad, and Shawn Esterl.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: a newsletter from the Lincoln County Conservation District; a flyer for a property tax conference; a letter from James Lang wanting the board to know the commendable actions of Sue Graham, Knotheads at Wilson Lake, during the severe weather event; and the Lincoln County Hospital budget and request for 2025 tax dollars.
- CDBG-CVR Grant: Debora Smith moved to authorize Dennis to sign the conflict-of-interest letter concerning CDBG-CVR Grant 23-CVR-007, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Engagement Letter: Debora Smith moved to sign an engagement letter with Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris Chartered, to conduct a special audit for the EMS department, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Minutes Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve the May 28, 2024, minutes as corrected and the May 31, 2024, minutes as presented, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Fence Viewers: The board discussed the fence viewing request. The board requested that County Attorney Scott Wright send a letter to Mr. Sanchez denying the request to sit as fence viewers.
- Conservation District: Nancy Walter, Brady Coover, Jaron Sulsar, Carl Nielsen, and John Buttenhoff presented the conservation district's 2025 budget request.
- Business Solid Waste: Sue Graham, Knotheads at Wilson Lake, requested that the board remove the minimum solid waste fee for the business as the business is not utilizing the dump to dispose of trash. The board related that every business must pay the minimum solid waste fee regardless of use.
- County Treasurer: County Treasurer Leann Johnson and Deputy County Treasurer Mary Ann Stertz presented the department's 2025 budget request.
- District Court: District Court Clerk Lisa Feldkamp presented the 2025 budget request.
- Highway Department: Director of Highway Department Dale Hlad presented the department's 2025 budget request. Hlad presented the bid to stripe the portion of the Westfall black top that the state would not pay for as part of the grant. Dennis Ray moved to approve the bid from Road Safe to finish the painting for Elk and 290th, in the amount of 11,086.25, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.

- LEPP: Shawn Esterl, Saline County Environmentalist, presented the 1st quarter Local Environmental Protection Program (LEPP) performance report for services provided within the county. Esterl provided an update on county activities. The group discussed the grant to offer cost-match funds to residents to replace failing wastewater systems. The board agreed to an initial application deadline of July 19, with projects awarded funding at the July 29 meeting. Another round of applications will be taken on a first-come, first-service basis until September 30 or funding is exhausted, whichever comes first. Clerk Harlow noted that the board must appoint a local leadership team to review the applications. Dennis Ray moved to appoint Nancy Walter, Shawn Esterl, and Dawn Harlow to the local leadership team for the Wastewater System Replacement Program, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Felicia Strahm requested approval to hire Baili Kerth as a full-time clerk/secretary in the Treasurer's Office. Debora Smith moved to employ Baili Kerth at Grade 13 Step 15, \$16.16 per hour, for the full-time position in the Treasurer's Office, effective June 3, 2024, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing landfill billing pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room, with the commission and County Clerk Dawn Harlow, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 10:50 a.m. Time out: 11:00 a.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:00 a.m. with no action taken.
- Purchase Approved: Dennis Ray moved to approve the copier purchase from Tri-Central for the landfill in the amount of \$1,179, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Recess/Reconvene: The chairman recessed the meeting at for lunch 11:05 a.m. The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:30 a.m.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for forty-five minutes for the purpose of conducting an appraiser interview pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room with the commission, HR Felicia Strahm, and candidate #1, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 11:35 a.m. Time out: 12:20 p.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 12:20 p.m. with no action taken.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of conducting an appraiser interview, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room with the commission, HR Felicia Strahm, and applicant #1, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 12:20 p.m. Time out: 12:30 p.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 12:30 p.m. with no action taken.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for forty-five minutes for the purpose of conducting an appraiser interview, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel

matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room, with the commission, HR Felicia Strahm, and candidate #2, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 12:35 p.m. Time out: 1:20 p.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 1:20 p.m. with no action taken.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for forty-five minutes for the purpose of conducting an appraiser interview, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room with the commission, HR Felicia Strahm, and candidate #3, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 1:25 p.m. Time out: 2:10 p.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 2:10 p.m. with no action taken.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of reviewing applicants, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room with the commission and HR Felicia Strahm, second by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 2:12 p.m. Time out: 2:22 p.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 2:22 p.m. with no action taken.

Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m. The next meeting will be in the courthouse commission meeting room at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, June 10, 2024.