

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

March 8, 2010

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners was held in the commission meeting room of the courthouse Monday, March 8, 2010. Chairman Al Joe Wallace called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Terry Finch and Member Steve Errebo. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance.

Visitors:

Others present for portions of the meeting: Ladonna Reinert, Wes O'Bannon, Larry Dohe, Larry Meitler and Michel O'Hare.

Health Department:

Health Nurse/Administrator Ladonna Reinert presented a draft copy personal cell phone usage policy for the board to review. Reinert provided cost estimates to purchase a vaccine refrigerator. After reviewing three estimates, the board approved the purchase of a Sanyo vaccine refrigerator in the amount of \$2,523.00.

Farmway Storage #1
Tax Exemption
Application:

Chairman Wallace reviewed the regulatory requirements for a business to receive a constitutional tax abatement, the steps completed by Farmway Storage #1 LLC, and the County's responsibilities with the following attendees present: Wes O'Bannon, Farmway COOP Inc and Larry Dohe. Steve Errebo moved to grant Farmway Storage #1 LLC, a seventy percent (70%) tax exemption for a period of seven (7) years, seconded by Al Joe Wallace. The following are comments expressed by each commissioner during the discussion phase of the motion: Commissioner Errebo stated that neither he nor his family are members of the Storage LLC, that he is a former member of the Farmway COOP's board of directors, that denying the tax exemption sends a bad message to businesses, and that it goes against the recommendation of the economic development group and the City Mayor; Commissioner Finch stated that the 70% is close enough to the amount that they could receive utilizing neighborhood revitalization and that he would rather them apply for neighborhood revitalization, as the City, County and School Districts already had agreements in place for that program, that he was concerned about the number of jobs created, that he believes that tax exemptions are a good thing but that there should be more jobs created in order to qualify for the exemptions; Commissioner Wallace stated that Farmway did not meet the guidelines set forth by the statute, specifically that the cost benefit to Lincoln County was not at the acceptable rate of 1.30, that there did not seem to be strong support from the local school district, and that he is hesitant to grant any substantial exemption, as its important to have everyone paying taxes, and that the State has given too many tax exemptions, which is being reflected in the State's current revenue trouble. The chairman called for a roll call vote: Wallace-No; Finch-No; Errebo-Yes. Motion failed on a one-to-two vote.

Farmway Storage #1
LLC tax exemption
Approved:

Al Joe Wallace moved to grant Farmway Storage #1 LLC, a fifty percent (50%) tax exemption for five (5) years, seconded by Terry Finch. After discussion, the chairman called for a roll call vote: Wallace-Yes; Finch-No; Errebo-Yes. Motion carried. The chairman requested that the Clerk prepare a resolution for adoption of the tax exemption at the March 15 commission meeting.

Recess: The chairman recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:05 p.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 1:00 p.m.

Highway Department: Road Supervisor Larry Meitler with Assistant Road Supervisor Michel O'Hare reported on highway department projects. Meitler discussed a road concern in Battle Creek Township. Commissioner Errebo forwarded requests received from his district. O'Hare related that John Cashatt has viewed the failed bridge in Colorado Township and has suggested the installation of two culverts to replace the structure, which O'Hare priced at \$4,700.00. O'Hare detailed the field check meeting held with KDOT staff regarding two county line bridges located in Madison Township. O'Hare provided cost comparisons to purchase additional road right-of-way for bridge replacement project. The board approved an initial offer price.

Minutes Approved: Terry Finch moved to approve and adopt the minutes of the March 1, 2010 regular meeting as presented, seconded by Steve Errebo. Motion carried.

Adjourn: With no further business to come before the board the chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Monday, March 15, 2010 in the commission meeting room of the courthouse.