

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

January 13, 2020

- Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners was held in the commission meeting room of the courthouse Monday, January 13, 2020. Chairman Alexis Pflugh called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Randy Lohmann and Member James Gabelmann present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as recording secretary.
- Visitors:** Others present for portions of the meeting: Cynthia Nelson, Norman Mannell, Sharon Dohe, Tanner Yost, Brendan Mackay, Caleb Holeman, Mona Gerstmann, Sharon Condit, Jeremy Price, Ethan Kraus, Jeff Pimer, Howard Wehrman, Jim Webber, Bill Houston, Robert Crangle, Allan Serrien, Rodney Borberg, Jeanne Goche, and Leann Bishop.
- Board Organization:** Pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 19-219, the chairman called for the organization of the board for the ensuing year. Alexis Pflugh moved to nominate Randy Lohmann as the Chairman for 2020, seconded by Jim Gabelmann. Motion carried. Alexis Pflugh moved to nominate James Gabelmann as Vice-Chairman for 2020, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.
- Post Rock Rural Water:** Sharon Condit, Post Rock Rural Water District provided a copy of the permanent easement within the Wilson Lake Estates which does not require Post Rock Rural Water District to obtain a utility permit when installing service within Wilson Lake Estates. Condit related that the company will be adding new service to Lot 35. The board requested that Post Rock notify the Highway Department whenever the company is working within road right-of-way.
- Longevity:** The board reviewed the longevity payroll run. James Gabelmann moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$15,324.00, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Voting as follows: Lohmann – Aye; Gabelmann – Aye; Pflugh – Nay.
- Correspondence:** Correspondence: letter from Joan Schwindt regarding ambulance service billing; bill from Saline County for managing the 2020 Local Environmental Planning Program (LEPP); bills for Lincoln Park Manor; correspondence from the Hospital Board of Trustees member regarding Hospital Trustees correspondence from January 6, 2020;
- Smoky Hills Wind Farm Repower Project:** Enel representatives Jeremy Price, Ethan Kraus and Jeff Pimer updated the board on the repower project for the Smoky Hills Wind Farm. Enel will need the board to commit to a new Road Maintenance Agreement for the repower project as well as determine whether the current letter of credit would suffice rather than depositing money into an escrow account. A proposed Road Maintenance Agreement has been presented to the County Attorney with suggestions for modifications from Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael and from Enel. Discussion ensued on procedural policies regarding use of right-of-way, moving permits, and payment for costs incurred by the county.
- Highway Department:** Director of Highway Department Brendan Mackay and Office Manager Caleb Holeman reported on the following: as a follow-up to a request last week for guardrails near 130th and Lark, the bank has collapsed and placement of guard rail would only be for looks and would not stop anyone; Jarrod Heinze has taken down an old limestone and red rock structure and is willing to donate stones to the County if we haul away, the board approved; N 150th Rd closure, Southern Star has tentatively approved the county road going on top of their line however they require a layout drawing be submitted, at which time they will present an agreement for approval by the

by the board, Tanner Yost will complete the layout drawing; discussed bidding fuel and lubricants for the upcoming year; presented an agreement from Russell County for road maintenance; and will ask Yost to look at Rahmeier drainage concern. The board forwarded requests and inquired about the following: additional material requests on new gravel near Chris Meyer's feed lot; obtaining pricing to mark the Sylvan black top; Brock Mueller culvert request, completed; status of the Schneider culvert that was removed in the road, issue is with county attorney and estimated cost to replace with individual's attorney, culvert has not been replaced yet; and culvert near new house in Wilson Lake Estates, Kenny Branda has installed a culvert for the horseshoe driveway. Mackay presented a list of equipment and provided costs to replace two dump trailers. Mackay reported that Sheldon Frederking has completed his first year of service. Alexis Pflugh moved to approve a twenty-five cent per hour salary increase for the completion of the first year of service for Sheldon Frederking, effective December 26, 2019, seconded by James Gabelmann. Motion carried. Mackay presented proposed pay rates.

- Hospital: Lincoln County Hospital Board of Trustees Chairman Bill Houston introduced the Hospital's new Interim Administrator Jeanne Goche. Goche related that she specializes in improving claims revenue and that she is currently assessing the financial situation at the hospital, that the facility is savable with changes in operation; however the next couple of months might be a struggle and that the facility could potentially need some assistance from the County.
- Minutes Approved: James Gabelmann moved to approve the January 6, 2020 minutes as corrected, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.
- Board Appointment: Alexis Pflugh moved to reappoint Lorelei Dohl to the Lincoln County Hospital Board of Trustees, seconded by James Gabelmann. Motion carried. (filling the vacant position identified by correspondence from the Lincoln County Hospital Board of Trustees received at the January 6 meeting)
- Recess: The chairman recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:43 p.m. until 1:30 p.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 1:30 p.m. with Hanna Townley acting as recording secretary.
- Handbook Review: The board reviewed the Lincoln County Employee Rules and Regulations. Commissioner Gabelmann presented a draft copy that contains changes presented by the department heads and himself. The board discussed each section of the handbook. Mackay inquired about modifying staff schedules during the weeks with holidays to alleviate employee's having to utilize leave time. The board took no formal action but did not indicate an issue with the request. The board discussed which departments should be allowed to take vehicles home. It was the consensus of the board that only law enforcement officers would be provided a vehicle to take home.
- Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:53 pm until 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 21, 2020 in the commission meeting room of the courthouse.