

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

March 1, 2021

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room, Monday, March 1, 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: Rhonda Wright, Art Howell, Roberta Turner, Kerry Jackson, Dennis Kemnitz (via telephone), Caleb Holeman, Ladonna Reinert, and Diane Walters.
- Minutes Approved: Darrell Oetting moved to accept the minutes of February 22, 2021, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Randy Lohmann moved to approve the February 26, 2021 minutes, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.
- Discussion: Commissioner Ray provided an update on the Council on Aging meeting that he attended last week. The board discussed the county's nepotism policy and identified some pros and cons and the effect on the ability to hire and retain qualified staff.
- Road Vacation Hearing: Chairman Lohmann convened the scheduled road vacation hearing at 9:00 a.m. concerning the proposed vacation of a road located in Beaver Township. The chairman closed the road vacation hearing at 9:10 a.m. Randy Lohmann moved to approve Final Resolution and Order Resolution
- Resolution 2021V-02: No. 2021V-02, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. (whereby it is therefore ordered that the following described county roads be vacated: Beginning at the Southeast corner of the Northeast quarter of the Northeast quarter (NE1/4 NE1/4) also being the Northeast corner of the Southeast quarter of the Northeast quarter (SE1/4 NE1/4) all being in Section Thirty (30), Township Eleven (11), Range Seven (7) thence West 540 feet, also known as E Nemaha Ln. Right away is forty (40) ft.)
- Appraiser: County Appraiser Rhonda Wright reported that valuation notices are being mailed this date. Wright answered questions regarding the appeals process and her contract, set to expire June 30, 2021.
- Convention of States: Art Howell requested that the board support the Convention of States Article 5. The board took no action this date. Board members supporting the movement expressed their participation as an individual and not in their official capacity.
- Transportation Bus: Transportation Bus Driver Roberta Turner provided an update on department activities. Turner is currently working on an Emergency Plan for the service.
- Landfill/Transfer Station: Landfill/Transfer Station Operator Kerry Jackson reported that he had received the new trailer. The company will not give the trade-in allowance previously quoted after inspecting the old trailer. Jackson stated that the new trailer would need modifications to the hose connection location and the tow hooks installed. The board suggested that Jackson contact the manufacture to ensure that the changes will not void the trailer's warranty. Dennis Ray moved to authorize the clerk and treasurer offices to make a mid-month payment to Wilkens Industries for the new transfer trailer in the amount of \$68,730, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

Board Appointments: Dennis Ray moved to approve the following board appointments expiring on February 28, 2024: Barnard Rural Fire District – Charles John Wiebke; Beverly Rural Fire District - Greg Morrical; First Rural Fire District - Jay Core; Hunter Rural Fire District - Doug Sulsar; Sylvan Grove Rural Fire District - Brock Mueller; Lincoln County Repeater Board - Jay Core, John Alquist, and Jeremy Wiebke; Crime Victims Restitution Board - Aliesa Woods; Delia Pittard Inheritance Guideline Committee - Dayton Walter; Children's Healthcare Endowment Fund Guideline Committee - Dayton Walter; Windpower Economic Benefit Fund Board - Tammy Rees, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

Disposal of Tax Sale Properties: Clerk Harlow inquired how the board would like to proceed with the disposal of the structures located on the three no-sale tax properties. Dennis Kemnitz asked about the board's intentions regarding the old bar building located on E Lincoln Ave. The board made no decision.

Highway Department: Interim Director of Highway Department Caleb Holeman updated the board on highway department projects. Holeman related that there was a break-in at the Vesper shop, and a chainsaw was stolen. Holeman reported that Tanner Yost would be at the March 8 meeting to discuss the asphalt roads. Commissioner Ray stated that a landowner had inquired about the county's interest in selling a parcel of land by Juniata and asked Holeman to research how often the highway department utilizes the land. Commissioner Oetting reported that the Green Valley road needs to be maintained.

Special Meeting: The chairman called a special meeting Thursday, March 4, at 2:00 p.m. to attend KOMA training.

Health Department: Health Nurse/Administrator Ladonna Reinert reported the department will receive a \$112,000 grant for COVID-related activities and requested the board's input in creating a budget. The grant will reimburse the department for overtime, bonuses, hiring clerical help but not vaccinators, an electronic medical records system, and potentially a mobile trailer. Reinert requested that the board find alternate storage for emergency management items as her storage building is full, and she cannot easily access her items.

Nursing Home: Diane Walters, Lincoln Park Manor Administrator, addressed the board's concerns regarding the damage to the building caused by frozen water lines. Walters related that staff was utilizing the rooms and that heat was on in that portion of the building. Walters identified the type of damage by room. Walters stated that the adjuster had been to the facility to access damages. Clerk Harlow and Walters will contact the adjuster to determine a scope of work for the repairs.

County Clerk: Clerk Dawn Harlow reported that she is in the process of setting up demonstrations with the three vendors whose election equipment has been certified by the State of Kansas. The public is invited to attend all three demonstrations on March 9, March 16, and March 30. The demonstrations will be held at the Finch Theatre at 1:30 p.m.

Adjourn: Dennis Ray moved to adjourn at 12:17 p.m., seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. The next meeting will be 8:30 a.m. Monday, March 8, 2021, in the courthouse commission meeting room.