

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

January 17, 2023

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Tuesday, January 17, 2023. Chairman Dennis Ray called the meeting to order with Vice-Chairman Darrell Oetting and Member Debora Smith present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Amanda Cambrice, Sarah McCall, Marty Sneath, Lisa Simmons, Kelly Gourley, Dustin Florence, Sarah Hageman, Ladonna Reinert, and Roberta Turner.
- Post Rock Wind Farm: Pattern Energy Representatives Amanda Cambrice, Marty Sneath, and Sarah McCall discussed the expired Post Rock PILOT agreement. The group related that they have grant funding available for community programs shared between Lincoln County and Ellsworth County and provided examples of projects they have supported, including fire districts, sports teams, Christmas Angel Trees, and recently a daycare facility. The group related that they plan to continue community contributions to the county; however, they did not offer any specifics, nor did they agree to the PILOT agreement submitted by both Lincoln and Ellsworth counties.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: midmonth accounts payable; a bill for Lincoln Park Manor; an invitation to the Lincoln County Conservation District Annual meeting; and an email from David Gerstmann regarding the Hospital Board of Trustees board appointments.
- Accounts Payable Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve mid-month accounts payable in the amount of \$16,660.70, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.
- Minutes Approved: Darrell Oetting moved to accept the minutes of January 9th and January 13th, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried.
- Solid Waste: The chairman opened the public comment session for new businesses charged the solid waste disposal fee. Lisa Simmons, S&S Auto Body, related that the RV park has not had tenants for two years as there has not been any major projects that required the need for the service. Simmons noted that the solid waste from their home and the two businesses are delivered to the landfill in a trash truck when it is full. The board agreed to bill the minimum rate for S&S Auto Body and Lincoln Auto Supply; clerk staff will bill for any additional tonnage delivered to the landfill when it exceeds 4,500 pounds each year which is 1,500 pounds for each business and their household. The chairman read the following correspondence: a letter from James Frederick stating that he is retired; a letter from Kirk Schulteis stating he has a place to take debris and does not use the transfer station; a letter from Post Rock Appraisal stating that the bill should be sent to Battle Creek Enterprises; and a letter from Lonnie and Heidi Donley that Double D Jagds is not a kennel or breeding facility. Commissioner Oetting reported that David Wacker had contacted him and stated that his trash goes to the Mitchell County landfill.
- Economic Development: Economic Development Director Kelly Gourley related that the Kansas Department of Commerce has created a grant program to assist with infrastructure that is tied to local businesses. Gourley requested that the commissioners consider providing a letter of support for two applications that will be submitted and explained each of the proposed projects. Dennis Ray moved to approve a letter of support for a BASE grant application being submitted by the City

of Lincoln Center for the purpose of improving gas line infrastructure to serve the Applequist Manufacturing, Inc. facility in the city's industrial park, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Debora Smith moved to approve a letter of support for a BASE grant application being submitted by Craig Stertz for the purpose of adding a driveway off Hwy 14 to serve a future development at the southwest corner of the Hwy 18 & 14 intersection, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Voting as follows: Ray – Aye; Smith – Aye; Darrell Oetting - Abstained.

**Law Enforcement:** Sheriff Dustin Florence reported that he had accepted the resignation of James Reagan effective January 12. The open position will be advertised until filled. Florence invited the board to the retirement reception for Deputy Randy Moore on Wednesday, January 25, at the Finch Theatre from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The board requested that a meeting notice be sent that board members may attend.

**Comments:** Commissioner Ray commented that he read in the Lucas Sylvan News that the City of Sylvan Grove had denied selling water to a contractor requesting to purchase one million gallons. Ray expressed his frustration that they denied a request when the project benefits the city's constituents and could have provided revenue to the city.

**Health Department:** Health Nurse/Administrator Ladonna Reinert provided an email regarding the use of funds generated from the Health Department and the use of carry-over funds. Reinert requested an executive session to review employee evaluations. Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes to discuss employee evaluations, 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, Health Department Director Ladonna Reinert and HR Director Sarah Hageman, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 10:20 a.m. Time out: 10:35 a.m.

**Executive Session:**

**Reconvene:** The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:35 a.m. with no action taken. The board read the retirement resignation letter of Ladonna Reinert, RN/Administrator, effective March 31, 2023.

**Transportation Bus:** Transportation Bus Director Roberta Turner provided an update on the service and activities throughout the month.

**Executive Session:** Human Resource Officer Sarah Hageman requested an executive session to complete department head evaluations. Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for thirty minutes for the purpose of discussing department head evaluations, 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 Sarah Hageman, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 10:54 a.m. Time out: 10:24 a.m.

**Reconvene:** The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:24 a.m. with no action taken

**Executive Session:** Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for thirty minutes for the purpose of discussing department head evaluations, 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 Sarah Hageman, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 11:28 a.m. Time out: 11:58 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:58 a.m. with no action taken.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing employee evaluations, 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, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 12:00 p.m. Time out: 12:10 p.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 12:10 p.m. with no action taken.

Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing employee evaluations, 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 Director Sarah Hageman, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 12:12 p.m. Time out: 12:22 p.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 12:22 p.m. with no action taken.

Landfill/Transfer Station Employee Hired: Hageman requested the board approve the conditional hire of Ricky Verbeek as part-time per-need at the landfill/transfer station. Debora Smith moved to conditionally hire Rick Verbeek as a part-time landfill employee at \$13.44 per hour, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

Motion Rescinded: Debora Smith moved to rescind the previous motion to pay Kone \$999.10 for the nursing home landing doors and door operator maintenance module, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.

Hospital Board Appointment: The board discussed an email received from David Gerstmann inquiring about being reappointed to the Lincoln County Hospital Board of Trustees.

Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. Monday, January 23, 2023, in the courthouse commission meeting room.