

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

April 13, 2009

- Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners was held in the commission meeting room of the courthouse Monday, April 13, 2009. Chairman Steve Errebo called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Al Joe Wallace and Member Terry Finch present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Russ Black, Steve Nelson, Sara Crangle, Wendy Gronau, Ladonna Reinert, Michel O'Hare, Larry Meitler, Les Richards, Rodney Job, Jennifer O'Hare, Jo Hachmeister, Debora Zachgo and Stanley Walker.
- Burn Ban Inquiry: Sheriff Russ Black inquired about whether the board would remove the burn ban.
- Resolution 2009-12: Al Joe Wallace moved to approve and adopt Resolution 2009-12, rescinding State of Disaster Emergency Proclamation Resolution 2009-11, seconded by Terry Finch. Motion carried.
- Sylvan Grove CDBG Grant Project 08-PF-617: Sara Crangle, North Central Regional Planning Commission, reviewed the Sylvan Grove Rural Fire District CDBG Grant Project 08-PF-617 fire station project. Crangle presented an Applicant Disclosure/Update Report for the board to review and approve. Terry Finch moved to authorize the chairman to sign the Applicant Disclosure/Update Report for Sylvan Grove Rural Fire District CDBG Grant Project 08-PF-617, seconded by Al Joe Wallace. Motion carried. Crangle related that letters that were previously provided to landowners who were granting right-of-way easements to the project site were insufficient to CDBG standards and presented new letters, which meet CDBG standards, for former board Chairman Terry Finch to sign. The board approved Finch signing the letters to landowners.
- Correspondence Inquiry: Steve Nelson discussed correspondence received from the Board concerning maintenance of a county road. Nelson provided information on the circumstances surrounding the incident. Nelson requested road and culvert repair and maintenance to several roads within Franklin Township.
- Health Department: Health Nurse/Administrator Ladonna Reinert requested, and the board signed, that they will perform roles and responsibilities pursuant to Strategic National Stockpile planning elements indicated in the Local All-Hazards Plan and Emergency Operations Plan Biological Incident Annex. Reinert reported on State audits completed for health department programs. Reinert discussed the current status of the daycare licensing program offered through Cloud County Health Department.
- Highway Department: Road Supervisor Larry Meitler reported that the deck has been poured and side rails should be poured this week on Bridge Replacement Project 053C-4259-01, East Elkhorn Creek Bridge. Meitler related that he had meet with engineers, who are drawing up plans to install fiber optic telephone lines within Wilson Lake Estates, and forwarded their request to bury the telephone line on the edge of county roads.

Commissioners expressed their concerns with the request and related that they would not approve the request at this time. Assistant Road Supervisor Michel O'Hare discussed gravel pits, equipment and various county roads.

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.

Emergency Manager: Emergency Manager Rodney Job provided an update on the several fires that started in the county between April 3 and April 9. The group discussed whether any of the fires had occurred due to blatant violation to the county's control burn regulations, and it was determined that the only violation could be that there was an inadequate fire break, which is defined in the regulations as 'adequate fire break' and is left to interpretation by the person setting the control burn. After discussion, the board agreed that no one would be billed for violating the control burn regulations.

County Attorney: County Attorney Jennifer O'Hare discussed the control burn regulations and offered her support for the District Court's concern over courthouse security.

Clerk of the District Court: Jo Hachmeister, Clerk of the District Court, discussed her concern about courthouse security and requested that the board consider approving the installation of a panic button in the District Court. Hachmeister described several events that have occurred, which made court staff uncomfortable, and noted several precautionary measures that have been taken in the past when the court anticipates problems. The board authorized Emergency Manager Rodney Job to work with Hachmeister to ascertain if grant funding would be available to purchase and install a security system. Discussion was held on how to make the District Court Clerk's Office more secure, one suggestion was extending the counter, to discourage the public from entering Court staff work areas.

Road Maintenance: Hachmeister requested road maintenance in Franklin Township.

Emergency Management: Emergency Manager Job presented a shared-user agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation, allowing Lincoln County emergency services access to the State's 800 MHz P25 digital radio system frequency. Job related that by approving the agreement, County emergency services, with the appropriate equipment, will be able to communicate directly with State agencies when there is an emergency.

Executive Session: Ambulance Director Wendy Gronau requested an executive session to discuss personnel. Al Joe Wallace moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes from 2:11 p.m. – 2:21 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of non-elected personnel with Ambulance Director Gronau present, seconded by Terry Finch. Motion carried.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 2:21 p.m.

Executive Session: Terry Finch moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes from 2:24 p.m. – 2:34 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of non-elected personnel with Ambulance Service Director Gronau and County Clerk Harlow present, seconded by Al Joe Wallace. Motion carried.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 2:34 p.m.

Ambulance Service: Ambulance Service Director Gronau discussed a bill that she presented for reimbursement to a Lincoln County citizen who had purchased water, Gatorade and food for firemen who responded the April 3 fire. After discussion the board approved reimbursing the citizen for the water and Gatorade.

Water Purchases for Fire Events: Due to the complexity of trying to determine which fire department should be charged for water purchases, the board approved all purchases of water and ice between April 3 and April 9 to be paid from the County General Fund. The board also approved Emergency Manager Job to purchase water to have on hand, for future emergencies, purchase to be made from the County General Fund.

Extended Illness Leave Approved: Al Joe Wallace moved to grant an exception to the Extended Illness Leave Policy and allow Wendy Gronau to utilize six hours of extended illness leave time, due to extenuating circumstances, seconded by Terry Finch. Motion carried.

Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Debora Zachgo presented the Lincoln County Transportation Employee Assistance Program policy update for the board to review and approve.

Nursing Home Generator: Economic Development Director Stanley Walker provided detailed information on a used generator being sold by Federal Surplus Property in Topeka. After reviewing the information and pictures provided by Walker, the board determined that this particular unit would not be feasible as a backup power supply for the nursing home.

Shared-User Agreement Approved: Al Joe Wallace moved to approve entering into a Communication System Infrastructure Radio Shared-User for Talkgroups Agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation, seconded by Terry Finch. Motion carried.

EAP Policy Approved: Terry Finch moved to approve the Lincoln County Transportation Employee Assistance Program (EAP) policy for the transportation bus as presented, seconded by Al Joe Wallace. Motion carried.

Minutes Approved: Al Joe Wallace moved to approve and adopt the minutes April 6, 2009 regular meeting, April 8, 2009 special meeting and April 8, 2009 emergency special meeting as presented, seconded by Terry Finch. Motion carried.

Adjourn: With no further business to come before the board the chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Monday, April 20, 2009 in the commission meeting room of the courthouse.