

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

August 14, 2023

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, August 14, 2023. Chairman Dennis Ray called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Member Debora Smith present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Commissioner Elect Ryley Hembry, Leann Bishop, Jesse Knight, Brett Wilkinson, Tanner Yost, Dan Heina, Felicia Strahm, Scott Crenshaw, Brady Coover, Jessica Kobbeman, John Buttenhoff, Katie Good, and Jon Wright.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: bills for Lincoln Park Manor; WEB fund recommendations; estimate from Storm Sirens; and mid-month accounts payable.
- Correspondence Action: Debora Smith moved to approve the three web fund applications to Lincoln Recreation Department (\$2,000), City of Lincoln/Lincoln Pride (\$1,000), and Vesper Community Club (\$1,000), seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Debora Smith moved to approve mid-month Accounts Payable in the amount of \$16,060.25, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.
- Minutes Correction and Approval: Dennis Ray moved to correct the July 31 meeting to strike the sentence that stated that Truette McQueen was willing to serve as the floodplain administrator, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Debora Smith moved to approve the August 7 minutes, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.
- County Treasurer: County Treasurer Leann Bishop provided the 2nd quarter 2023 Treasurer Quarterly report: Interest Earned on Idle Funds - \$66,849.58. Bishop updated the board on bank reconciliations.
- Emergency Management: Emergency Manager Jesse Knight provided an update on department activities. Knight related that two electronic billboards are not working, One needs batteries, and the other was not repaired when it blew over before Knight's employment. The board inquired with Brett Wilkinson, Kirkham Michael, whether he would be willing to be the county's Floodplain Administrator. Wilkinson related that Kirkham Michael could perform the services at an hourly rate. The group discussed charging a permit fee to offset the expense.
- Noxious Weed: Noxious Weed Department Director Dan Heina discussed personal matters. Heina requested approval to work Saturdays at the landfill when needed. The board approved the request.
- USD 298: USD 298 Board members John Buttenhoff, Brady Coover, and Jessica Kobbeman, with Superintendent Scott Crenshaw, related that the district has discussed building an addition at the high school to relocate the grade school. The group proposed that the county consider the grade school as a potential multi-purpose building that would house the county jail, emergency management, EMS, economic development, and the recreation department. The board stated they would provide the proposal with other alternative locations to the firm conducting the feasibility study.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for forty-five minutes for the purpose of conducting a landfill interview, 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, commissioner elect Ryley Hembry, HR Felicia Strahm, and Candidate #4, seconded by Debora, Motion carried. Time in: 10:27 a.m. Time out: 11:12 a.m.

**Reconvene:** The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:12 a.m. Dennis Ray moved to offer employment to candidate 2, Grade 31, and allow HR to negotiate from between Step 8 and Step 10, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried.

**Human Resources:** Human Resource Officer Felicia Strahm requested approval to conditionally hire Brandi Bennett. Debora Smith moved to make a conditional offer of employment to part-time per need Register of Deeds Secretary at the rate of \$13.85 per hour, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.

**Expense Determination:** The board approved splitting the costs to chip seal and sweep the courthouse parking lot. All remaining funds in the special building fund will be used, with the remainder drawn from the capital improvement fund.

**Landfill/Transfer Station:** Landfill/Transfer Station Operator Jon Wright offered to help pack trash when Dan Heina was absent until a new employee was hired and trained. The board accepted his offer. Wright made the following suggestions for the department: a department vehicle that can be used to travel on the premises; contacting a company to clean up the metal pile; installation of a storm shelter; equipment needs; and a better explanation of the budget.

**October Training Day:** Clerk Harlow related that the motivational speaker and BeneBloc have confirmed that they can present on October 9. The board approved closing departments to the public on October 9 so employees could attend the training day. Harlow provided the cost to rent the Vesper Community Center. The board approved renting the Vesper Community Center for the employee training day.

**Adjourn:** The chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m. The next meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. Monday, August 21, 2023, in the courthouse commission meeting room.