

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

June 17, 2024

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room on Monday, June 17, 2024. Chairman Dennis Ray called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Debora Smith and Member Ryley Hembry present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as the recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Roberta Turner, Rhonda Wright, Jesse Knight, Felicia Strahm, Diane Walters, Kelly Gourley, Dustin Florence, and Scott Wright.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: tax abatement; mid-month accounts payable; letter to Citizens State Bank approving changes to the safety deposit boxes; and a registration form for the courthouse elevator.
- Correspondence Action: Debora Smith moved to sign a letter to close safety deposit box #5006 and to change the signature authorization for safety deposit box #5007, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Dennis Ray moved to approve mid-month accounts payable in the amount of \$20,772.69, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Debora Smith moved to approve tax abatement 2023-36, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Minutes Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2024 meeting, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Transportation Bus: Transportation Bus Driver Roberta Turner requested approval to hire a part-time employee to include in her 2025 budget. The board related that she could advertise an additional part-time per-need driver; however, the hours worked must fall within the budgeted payroll line item. Turner provided an update on department activities.
- Appraiser: County Appraiser Rhonda Wright presented a partial 2025 budget request for the department.
- Emergency Management/FPA: Emergency Manager Jesse Knight presented the department and floodplain management 2025 budget requests.
- Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Felicia Strahm presented the department's 2025 budget request.
- Nursing Home: Diane Walters provided an update on nursing home activities and repairs.
- Economic Development: Economic Development Director Kelly Gourley presented the organization's 2025 budget request.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing appraiser applications, 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 Felicia Strahm, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Time in: 10:31 a.m. Time out: 10:46 a.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:46 a.m. with no action taken.

- Clerk: Clerk Harlow presented the June certified value and RNR rate. Clerk Harlow presented the department and election fund 2025 budget requests.
- Sheriff: Sheriff Dustin Florence presented the department and emergency communications 2025 budget requests. Florence related that he had received a bid to replace the ceiling in the deputy's office that had partially fallen. The group discussed specific needs if the sheriff's department and jail would be replaced and how to move forward.
- ROZ Grant Approval: Debora Smith moved to accept the Kansas Department of Commerce Office of Rural Prosperity Rural Opportunity Zone marketing grant for \$5,000, authorize that the agreement be electronically signed, and appoint economic development to come up with a plan on how to spend the marketing funds, seconded Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Attorney:  
Executive Session: County Attorney Scott Wright presented the department's 2025 budget request. The board addressed complaints received regarding office and working hours. Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for five minutes for the purpose of discussing potential liability pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(2) for consultation with an attorney for the public body or agency which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room with the commission and County Attorney Scott Wright, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 11:54 a.m. Time out: 11:59 a.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:59 a.m. with no action taken.
- General Fund: The board reviewed the County General 2025 budget request allocations.
- Executive Session: Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for five minutes for the purpose of discussing appraiser applicants, 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 Felicia Strahm, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 12:35 p.m. Time out: 12:40 p.m.
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 12:40 p.m. with no action taken.
- General Discussion: The board discussed concerns expressed by members of the public on road signs and county roads. The board modified the appraiser's office, emergency management, floodplain administration, and county general 2025 budget requests.
- Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:54 p.m. The next meeting will be held in the courthouse commission meeting room at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, June 24, 2025.