

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

February 26, 2024

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room on Monday, February 26, 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 recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Jack Crispin, Marilyn Hellmer, Kris Heinze, Kelly Gourley, Rhonda Wright, Dale Hlad, Dustin Florence, Steve McReynolds, Brandon Cochran, Tony Lamia, and Jesse Knight.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: an estimate from KONE Elevator for proposed maintenance items for the Nursing Home elevator; Hospital Board of Trustees monthly meeting packet; an email from Lorelei Dohl providing an update on the Sylvan Senior Center Building project; and two cereal malt beverage licenses.
- CMB Licenses: Debora Smith moved to approve Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses 2024-01 and 2024-02 for Knotheads at Wilson Lake, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Lincoln Ave Bridge: Lincoln County Tourism Committee Jack Crispin, Kris Heinze, Kelly Gourley, and Marilyn Hellmer discussed upcoming activities that will bring many tourists into the community from April to June of this year. The committee is working on beautifying the area and requested that the county paint the guard rails, install warning signs on all four corners of the Lincoln Ave Bridge, and close the walking bridge permanently by removing the handrails and placing a chain across both ends with closed signs. The board will visit with the Highway Department Director.
- County Appraiser: County Appraiser Rhonda Wright reported that appraisal notices will be mailed on March 15. Wright related that she will need information soon if the board wants to add any documents to the mailing.
- Board Appointments: Dennis Ray moved to approve the following three-year board appointments: Barnard Rural Fire District – John Wiebke; Beverly Rural Fire District – Greg Morrival; First Rural Fire District – Jay Core; Hunter Rural Fire District – Doug Sulsar; Sylvan Grove Rural Fire District – Brock Mueller and Jerrett Kubick (unexpired term); Repeater Board – Jarrod Heinze and Jeremy Wiebke; Hospital Board of Trustees – Omar Hair; Delia Pittard Inheritance Guideline Committee – Dayton Walter; Children’s Healthcare Endowment Fund Guideline Committee – Dayton Walter; and WEB Fund Board – Debora Ortiz, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried.
- Executive Session: Director of Highway Department Dale Hlad requested an executive session to discuss a road issue. Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing unauthorized work on roads, pursuant to K.S.A 75-4319(2)(b)(12)(b) to discuss matters relating to security measures, if the discussion of such matters at an open meeting would jeopardize such security measures, that protect: (B) transportation and sewer or wastewater treatment systems, facilities or equipment, to reconvene in the courthouse commission meeting room with the commission, Highway Department Director Dale Hlad, Sheriff Dustin Florence, and County Clerk Dawn Harlow, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion carried. Time in: 9:30 a.m. Time out: 9:40 a.m.

- Reconvene:** The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 9:40 a.m. The board requested that Hlad contact the County Attorney to draft a letter for approval at Thursday's meeting.
- Highway Department:** Hlad provided the report on the Beverly Bridge and the approaches. The group discussed the earlier request for the Lincoln Ave Bridge and walking bridge.
- Law Enforcement:** Dennis Ray requested that Sheriff Florence contact Russell County for information on a recently approved resolution to charge inmates a daily housing fee.
- Economic Development:** Economic Development Director Kelly Gourley provided an update on improvement projects at McReynolds Park. Gourley requested the board approve a grant amendment allowing an additional year to complete. Debora Smith moved to amend the grant for the Community Fisheries Assistance Program, extending the grant through March 1, 2025, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Ambulance Service:** Ambulance Service Director Brandon Cochran provided an update on department activities. Cochran related that the EMT class had started with six students from Lincoln County and that he has submitted an Education Incentive Grant application to the Kansas Board of EMS to pay for the class, in return, the students must commit to a minimum number of hours per month for a year. Cochran related that storage items have been removed from overhead storage and will be sorted, with unused equipment being placed for sale on PurpleWave.
- Recycling:** Tony Lamia, Slechta Enterprises, attended the meeting at the board's request to discuss the Sylvan recycling trailer. Slechta told the board that they had posted signs requesting that trash not be placed in the trailer, or it would be removed at the City Office and Post Office, a notice was also sent in the city utility billing. The trailer was removed late last year as they continued to find trash. The group discussed whether a recycling trailer with compartments would deter individuals from dumping trash bags. Commissioner Ray suggested that the recycling center apply for WEB funds to purchase a recycling trailer.
- Emergency Management:** Emergency Manager Jesse Knight requested that the board sign a letter allowing him to renew FCC call signs for the county. Debora Smith moved to approve authorizing Jesse Knight to renew FCC licenses for Lincoln County, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Minutes Approved:** Debora Smith moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.
- Adjourn:** The chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m. The next meeting will be in the courthouse commission meeting room at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, February 29, 2024.