

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

May 10, 2021

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room Monday, May 10, 2021. Chairman Randy Lohmann called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Dennis Ray and Member Darrell Oetting present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as recording secretary.
- Visitors: Others present for portions of the meeting: Terri Hiitter, Kathie Crispin, Dustin Florence, Lucas Sanders, Marilyn Helmer, Kelly Gourley, Jeff Conley, Sarah Hageman, Caleb Holeman, and Baldwin Fisher.
- Correspondence: Correspondence: a resolution from Brian Katzenmeier expressing opposition to the 49-County Heritage Area; a bid to purchase or rent a water softener at Lincoln Park Manor; a bill for Lincoln Park Manor; a letter from David Gerstmann regarding the illegal levy complaint; a letter from County Attorney O'Hare, notifying Commissioner Lohman that the Attorney General's Office has accepted the training completed for the KOMA violation; a letter from County Attorney O'Hare containing two resolutions as requested; and an email from Clerk Harlow forwarding Mr. Gerstmann's notice as requested.
- Action and Discussion: The board acknowledged the receipt of correspondence from David Gerstmann and will forward the contents to the counsel hired to represent the matter. Dennis Ray provided a property ownership map for the recycling center, explaining that the county does not own a portion of the south driveway. Ray related that the property owner adjacent to the recycling center would allow the county to continue utilizing their property if the county would agree to mow the entire property. The board approved but would like an agreement in writing. Ray related that the forklift needs a new solenoid; the board approved the repair. The board approved temporarily removing the recycling center's standing classified advertisement. Commissioner Lohmann forwarded a concern about the condition of the county's bridges. The group discussed using alternative structures. The board discussed the excessive truck traffic, which is hauling milling to pile north of Sylvan Grove. Truck drivers are utilizing the county road South of Sylvan and N 120<sup>th</sup> Rd.
- Courthouse Project: Clerk Harlow inquired if the board had intended to contract with TreanorHL to obtain Historic Tax Credits for the courthouse repairs and improvements. The board affirmed that they wanted TreanorHL to assist with obtaining Historic Tax Credits. The board scheduled a budget class for Monday, May 17, and requested that department heads be invited. Clerk Harlow will conduct the course, and it will not be recorded or available remotely. Commissioner Lohmann and Commissioner Oetting will attend the Kansas County Commissioners Annual Meeting in Liberal, Kansas, June 8-10.
- Resolution 2021-10: Dennis Ray moved to approve Resolution 2021-10, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Sanctuary County Resolution as written and read earlier, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Darrell Oetting moved to approve Resolution 2021-11, opposing the proposed Kansas Nebraska Heritage Area Partnership, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.
- Law Enforcement: Sheriff Dustin Florence discussed staffing needs at the Sheriff's Department and requested permission to add another position to the department. No decision was made on this date. The

group discussed how to handle the excessive truck traffic on county roads, which are hauling materials to an in-county destination.

Road Improvement Request: Marilyn Helmer requested road improvement to the Connie Achterberg Wildlife Friendly Demonstration Farm. The board identified alternative routes to the farm.

Recess/Reconvene: The chairman recessed the meeting for ten minutes at 9:40 a.m. The chairman reconvened the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Minutes Approved: Dennis Ray moved to approve the May 3, 2021, and May 4, 2021, minutes with the correction, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried.

McReynolds Park: Economic Development Director Kelly Gourley & Jeff Conley, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks, provided information and answered questions about the community fisheries program and lease program available. If the county participates in the program, there is a grant available and the deadline to apply is June 1. Dennis Ray moved that Lincoln County enters into the Community Fisheries Assistance Program with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism and to allow the chairman of the board to sign all necessary documents relating to the Memorandum of Understanding, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. Commissioner Oetting volunteered to serve on the committee formed to develop McReynolds Park. Randy Lohmann moved to have Commissioner Oetting be involved in the committee for McReynolds Park. The motion died for lack of a second. The board approved Commissioner Oetting to serve on the committee.

Human Resources: Sarah Hageman requested approval to hire Aaron Ancell as a part-time EMT. Randy Lohmann moved to approve Aaron Ancell as a part-time EMS employee for the amount of \$12.80 per hour, seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. Hageman requested an executive session.

Executive Session: Randy Lohmann moved to recess into executive session for five minutes for the purpose of discussing employee negotiations, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission room, with the commission and HR (Sarah Hageman), seconded by Darrell Oetting. Motion carried. Voting as follows: Lohmann – Aye; Oetting – Aye; Ray – Nay. Time in: 10:46 Time out: 10:51 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:51 a.m. Hageman requested to conditionally approve Dale Hlad as the Highway Department Director at the rate of \$58,750 per year. Dennis Ray moved to hire Dale Hlad as the Highway Department Director at the amount stated upon passing all of the conditional testing, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried.

Executive Session: Randy Lohmann moved to recess into executive session for five minutes for the purpose of discussing employment for the EMS Director Applicant 3 negotiations, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, to reconvene in the courthouse commission room, with the commission and HR (Hageman), seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried. Time in: 10:56 a.m. Time out: 11:01 a.m.

Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 11:01 a.m. with no action taken.

Highway Department: Interim Director of Highway Department Caleb Holeman provided a cost from Dennis Cross to replace the side rail and tuck-point the bridge south of Lance Peterson's. Darrell Oetting moved

to accept Dennis's offer of \$7,200 to redo the bridge south of Lance Peterson's, seconded by Randy Lohmann. Motion carried. The group discussed the truck traffic on the Sylvan blacktop and N 120<sup>th</sup> Rd. Holeman related that the skid steer was delivered. The board notified Holeman that a Director was hired.

Emergency  
Management:

Emergency Manager Baldwin Fisher provided a status update on the siren project and Emergency Operations Plan. Fisher discussed the disposal of equipment obtained through the Homeland Security Council. Fisher provided his resignation effective May 21, 2021.

Noxious Weed:

Commissioner Lohmann related that Noxious Weed Director Dan Heina had provided a map of areas that have been sprayed.

Adjourn:

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:39 a.m. The next meeting will be at 8:30 a.m., May 17, 2021, in the courthouse commission meeting room.