

COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

December 4, 2023

- Call to Order: The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting room on Monday, December 4, 2023. 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: Joe Biggs, Dan Heina, Felicia Strahm, Elizabeth Sheldon, Dustin Florence, and Jesse Knight.
- Landfill/Transfer Station: Commissioner Ray reported that the county received the winning bid for a used 2013 backhoe on PurpleWave for the transfer station, and the Bank of Tescott is working on the lease-purchase agreement.
- Abatements Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve tax abatements 2023-01 through 2023-07 for the total amount of \$3,043.50, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Landfill/Transfer Station Lease-Purchase Agreement: Joe Biggs, Bank of Tescott, presented a lease-purchase agreement for the board's approval. Debora Smith moved to enter into a lease-purchase agreement with the Bank of Tescott to purchase a 2013 Case 580N backhoe in the amount of \$60,000, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Noxious Weed: The board discussed the types of vehicles and price ranges they would agree to purchase with Noxious Weed Director Dan Heina.
- Health Department: Health Nurse/Administrator Elizabeth Sheldon, with Human Resource Officer Felicia Strahm, presented the updated job description for the RN position. The board requested additions to the job description. Sheldon reported that the state inspected the VCF (vaccinations for children with no insurance) program and that the department had no deficiencies identified. Sheldon updated the board on upcoming activities.
- Law Enforcement: Sheriff Dustin Florence provided the cost to purchase and/or lease a new copier. Florence discussed bills submitted by lab techs from the hospital for conducting lab draws for DUI cases. Florence related that the feasibility study has been completed and will forward the report to the board for review before a formal presentation. Florence noted that the Kansas Sheriff's Association has selected Lincoln County to sponsor the attendance at the national conference in Oklahoma. The sponsorship will reimburse Lincoln County for the registration fee and lodging expenses for Undersheriff Luke Sanders. Florence announced that the department will conduct a Pack the Pickup food drive at the November 12 Lincoln vs. Sylan-Lucas basketball games.
- Human Resources: Human Resource Officer Strahm presented the updated RN job description. Dennis Ray moved to approve the job description for Registered Nurse in the Health Department, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried.
- Highway Department: Director of Highway Department Dale Hlad presented a project agreement for the board's approval. Dennis Ray moved to approve the agreement for the local bridge improvement program between KDOT and Lincoln County for OS 107, seconded by Debora Smith. Motion

carried. Hlad provided an update on department projects and cost estimates to purchase two 2015 pickups with utility beds. Debora Smith moved to approve the two 2015 three-quarter ton Ford trucks from Midway Motors for the total price of \$62,980 to be paid with midmonth, seconded by Ryley Hembry. Motion carried. Commissioner Hembry inquired about the status of N 130<sup>th</sup> Rd between Union Dr and Wheat Dr. Commissioner Ray discussed purchasing rock.

- Human Resources: Commissioner Ray discussed department heads not reporting their absences as required and asked Strahm to contact Attorney Assist to determine whether the board can discipline for failure to notify. Human Resource Officer Felicia Strahm requested an executive session. Dennis Ray moved to recess into executive session for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing employee benefits and part-time hours, 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: 10:13 a.m. Time out: 10:23 a.m.
- Executive Session:
- Reconvene: The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:23 a.m. with no action taken.
- Human Resources: Strahm identified department heads for whom the board needs to conduct employee evaluations. Strahm provided the Timeclock policy for the board to review and discussed items in the handbook that need to be changed or clarified.
- Minutes Approved: Debora Smith moved to approve the minutes for the November 27th and November 30th meetings, seconded by Dennis Ray. Motion carried.
- Pattern Energy PILOT Agreement: The board discussed the intentions of the requested changes to the Post Rock Wind Farm (Pattern Energy) PILOT agreement currently being negotiated. As mentioned with Pattern earlier this year, board members expressed their idea to utilize funding from the new PILOT agreement towards future county infrastructure improvement projects. To achieve this goal, a new fund would need to be created and identified in the PILOT agreement. PILOT payments deposited into the new fund would be placed in interest-bearing accounts with all interest accruing into the new fund.
- Board Meetings: Commissioner Smith gave an update on the Hospital Board of Trustees and the Juvenile Detention Facility meetings recently attended.
- Adjourn: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m. The next meeting is at 8:30 a.m. Monday, December 11, 2023, in the courthouse commission meeting room.