

January 7, 2025
Rescheduled from January 6th due to weather/road conditions.

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:04 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, Vice Chair; Jason Hightower, Member; Ali Hamilton, Commissioner-Elect; David Lamb, County Clerk; and Darcy Wilson, Deputy Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance. David Lamb opened the meeting with prayer.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the following December 31, 2024, pays/special pays, totaling \$1,319,079.10: General, \$443,175.35; Rural Fire, \$125,044.49; Road and Bridge, \$750,490.11; and Elderly, \$369.15. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The amounts shown on this pay include the end of the year transfers totaling \$1,311,904.28. (There was also \$113,873.48 in Purchase Orders that do not appear on this Claims Register.)

The Vice Chair reported on AMR's activities for the past week.

The Vice Chair presented the prisoner count. There are currently 53 prisoners in-house including 43 from other jurisdictions. There is 1 Linn County prisoner farmed out to another County.

Randy Hegwald reported on the fire calls for the week and the yearly totals for 2024.

At 9:10 AM Danny McCullough arrived.

The Clerk presented the Sheriff's Monthly Fee Report. Danny McCullough moved to accept the Sheriff's Monthly Fee Report for December 2024 in the amount of \$141,851.35. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The Commission then reviewed the YTD Park Report for December 2024.

Chasity Ware reported on the airport lights. Ware then reported on the land leases that the County has in effect and the taxes that we pay on those properties. Jason Hightower moved to allow Ware to send out an RPF for the farm ground located at 9310 Thomas Road. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Ware asked for approval to have a strategy session with Red Logic concerning our website in the amount of \$500.00. The Commission agreed to allow Ware to do the strategy session with Red Logic. Ware then discussed the lack of notification about yesterday's closing due to the weather.

Amanda Snyder presented the Health Dept. information for December and discussed upcoming events.

At 9:52 AM Jason Hightower moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session until 10:30 AM to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee, to discuss employee evaluations. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:30 AM. Danny McCullough seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Commissioner-Elect attended the executive session.

At 10:30 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 10:33 AM Danny McCullough moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 30 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:03 AM. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Commissioner-Elect, and Mark Hagen attended the executive session.

At 10:44 AM the Commissioner-Elect left the executive session and Attorney Trish Voth (by phone) entered.

At 11:03 AM the executive session ended. As a result of the executive session, Danny McCullough moved to release Check #157138 in the amount of \$33,322.00 to Foulston Siefkin LLP. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-1. (Jim Johnson voted no.)

At 11:06 AM Danny McCullough moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:21 AM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Commissioner-Elect, and Mark Hagen attended the executive session.

At 11:21 AM the executive session ended. As a result of the executive session, Danny McCullough discussed the compactor contracts with the Cities moved to remove the trash service (compactor) from Pleasanton if they do not sign the agreement within 45 days. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

At 11:27 AM Danny McCullough moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee, to discuss employee evaluations. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:30 AM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Commissioner-Elect attended the executive session.

At 11:52 AM the three Department Heads (Chris Martin, Randy Hegwald, and Amanda Snyder) entered the executive session one at a time. (Shaun West was unavailable for today's meeting.)

At 11:57 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 11:59 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee, to discuss employee evaluations. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:14 PM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Commissioner-Elect, and Department Heads attended the executive session.

At 12:14 PM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 12:16 PM Jason Hightower moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee, to discuss employee evaluations. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:26 PM. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Commissioner-Elect, and Department Heads attended the executive session.

At 12:26 PM the executive session ended. As a result of the executive session, Jason Hightower moved to increase Amanda Snyder's pay from Range 13 Step B to Range 16 Step A, Randy Hegwald's pay from Range 17 Step G to Range 17 Step I, and Chris Martin's pay from Range 18 Step P to Range 18 Step Q. Danny McCullough seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

At 12:33 PM the Chair opened a Floodplain Management Public Hearing. The Chair asked for public comment, none was given. At 12:34 PM the Chair closed the Public Hearing. Danny McCullough moved to approve the Floodplain Management Resolution #2025-03 as presented. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Following is a copy of the Title Page and Signature Page of Resolution #2025-03: (A full copy of the Resolution is available in the County Clerk's Office.)

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT RESOLUTION
Pursuant to 44 CFR § 60.3 (c),
K.S.A. 12-766, and K.A.R. 5-44-1 through 5-44-7
RESOLUTION No. 2025-03

ARTICLE 1 STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION, FINDINGS OF FACT, AND PURPOSES

SECTION A. STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION

1. *Approval of Draft Resolution by Kansas Chief Engineer Prior to Adoption*

The following floodplain management regulations, as written, were approved in draft form by the Chief Engineer of the Division of Water Resources of the Kansas Department of Agriculture on November 5th, 2024.

2. *Kansas Statutory Authorization*

The Legislature of the State of Kansas has in K.S.A. 12-741 et seq. and specifically in K.S.A. 12-766, delegated the responsibility to local governmental units to adopt floodplain management regulations designed to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the public. Therefore, the Board of County Commissioners of Linn County, Kansas, ordains as follows:

SECTION B. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. *Flood Losses Resulting from Periodic Inundation*

The special flood hazard areas of Linn County, Kansas, are subject to inundation which results in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety and general welfare.

2. *General Causes of the Flood Losses*

These flood losses are caused by (1) the cumulative effect of development in any delineated floodplain causing increases in flood heights and velocities; and (2) the occupancy of flood hazard areas by uses vulnerable to floods, hazardous to others, inadequately elevated, or otherwise unprotected from flood damages.

3. *Methods Used To Analyze Flood Hazards*

The Flood Insurance Study (FIS) that is the basis of this resolution uses a standard engineering method of analyzing flood hazards, which consist of a series of interrelated steps.

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ARTICLE 9 CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

This Floodplain Management Resolution for the community of Linn County, Kansas.
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Linn County, Kansas.
This 7th day of January, 2025.

Community Approval Seal Here:

Chief Engineer Draft Approval Seal Here:

APPROVED: 1-7-25
Signature of Chief Executive Officer/Chief Elected Official: Danny McCullough
Chief Executive Officer/Chief Elected Official Name (Typed/printed): Danny McCullough Title: Commissioner/Chair

ATTEST: D. Lamb 01-07-2025
Signature of Recording Clerk: David L. Lamb Date: 01-07-2025
Recording Clerk Name (Typed/printed): David L. Lamb Title: County Clerk

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Danny McCullough moved to approve add/abate/refund orders: #2024-001 through #2024-93, except for #2024-014, 032, 037, 039, 061, 075, and 081 that were canceled. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

At 12:39 PM the Chair asked for public comment. No public comment was given. The Clerk presented Resolution #2025-01, 2025 Salary Schedule; and Resolution #2025-02, Cancel Outstanding Warrants. Jason Hightower moved to adopt Resolution #2025-01 and Resolution #2025-02 as presented. Danny McCullough seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Following are copies of Resolution #2025-01 and Resolution #2025-02:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-01	MECHANIC I	\$1,542.05	\$1,848.00
RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LINN COUNTY, KANSAS	MECHANIC II	\$1,653.09	\$1,983.51
	EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I	\$1,344.05	\$1,606.35
	EQUIPMENT OPERATOR II	\$1,439.24	\$1,848.00
	EQUIPMENT OPERATOR III	\$1,653.09	\$1,983.51
	HEALTH DEPT. SEC./ADMIN ASSISTANT	\$1,439.24	\$1,722.52
	HEALTH DEPT. LPN	\$27.45	\$33.04 per hour
	HEALTH DEPT. RN	\$23.78	\$29.37 per hour
	UNDERSHERIFF	\$2,390.81	\$2,842.11
	SHERIFF'S DEPUTY I	\$1,542.05	\$1,848.00
	SHERIFF'S DEPUTY II	\$1,653.09	\$1,983.51
SHERIFF'S DEPUTY III	\$1,773.01	\$2,129.86	
SHERIFF'S DETECTIVE	\$1,773.01	\$2,129.86	
SHERIFF'S SERGEANT	\$1,653.09	\$2,287.53	
HEAD JAILER	\$1,773.01	\$2,129.86	
JAILER I	\$1,344.05	\$1,606.35	
JAILER II	\$1,439.24	\$1,722.52	
DISPATCH SUPERVISOR	\$1,653.09	\$1,983.51	
DISPATCHER I	\$1,439.24	\$1,722.52	
DISPATCHER II	\$1,542.05	\$1,848.00	
SHERIFF OFFICE MANAGER	\$1,653.09	\$1,983.51	
SHERIFF CLERK	\$1,542.05	\$1,722.52	
TRAFFIC CONTROL ASSISTANT	\$1,542.05	\$1,722.52	
SOLID WASTE COORDINATOR	\$1,773.01	\$2,287.53	
SOLID WASTE MECHANIC I	\$1,542.05	\$1,848.00	
SOLID WASTE MECHANIC II	\$1,653.09	\$1,983.51	
SOLID WASTE EQUIP. OPERATOR I	\$1,344.05	\$1,606.35	
SOLID WASTE EQUIP. OPERATOR II	\$1,439.24	\$1,722.52	
SOLID WASTE EQUIP. OPERATOR III	\$1,653.09	\$1,983.51	
PART TIME EMPLOYEES			
HEALTH DEPT. SEC./ASSISTANT	\$19.73	\$17.49	
REG. OF BREED	\$12.05	\$14.28	
CO. ATTORNEY	\$13.73	\$16.34	
SHERIFF'S DEPUTY	\$15.70	\$21.53	
DISPATCHER	\$19.73	\$18.73	
ZONING/CONC. DEV.	\$11.30	\$13.37	
PARK	\$11.30	\$13.37	
SOLID WASTE	\$11.30	\$13.37	
CONTRACTOR OPERATOR	\$11.30	\$13.37	
SUBSTITUTE COMP. OPER	\$11.30	\$13.37	
ELECTION WORKERS	\$9.00	\$9.00	
FIRE STATION CAPTAINS & LIEUTENANTS	\$40.00 per call + \$13.33 per hour after 3 hours		
FIREFIIGHTERS	\$35.00 per call + \$11.67 per hour after 3 hours		

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LINN COUNTY, KANSAS
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-02
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LINN COUNTY, KANSAS:

That the Board of County Commissioners, being the governing body of Linn County, Kansas, hereby declared, pursuant to KSA 10-815 that all the County warrants listed below are hereby canceled and set aside upon the records of the County. Such records shall show the date of cancellation and shall recite that such warrant is unpaid but canceled by reason of this resolution.

The County Warrants to be canceled are:

10/31/2022	#146899	Morgan Northeut	\$ 9.77
PAYROLL			
11/25/2022	#79125	Daniel McCullough	\$ 64.76
11/25/2022	#79145	Nelson Blythe	\$ 21.59
11/25/2022	#79168	Kyler Parscale	\$ 86.35
11/25/2022	#79206	Joseph Oldham	\$ 13.09

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THE 6TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2025.

ATTEST: D. Lamb David L. Lamb, County Clerk

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With nothing further on the agenda Danny McCullough moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, January 13, 2025. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Attest:

County Clerk

Commission Chair

January 13, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Danny McCullough, Chair; Jim Johnson, Vice Chair; Jason Hightower, Ali Hamilton, Commissioner-Elect; David Lamb, County Clerk; and Darcy Wilson, Deputy Clerk. Danny McCullough led the Pledge of Allegiance. David Lamb opened the meeting with prayer.

Danny McCullough moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$1,298,606.82: General, \$630,177.20; Employee Benefits, \$291,841.82; Appraiser, \$17,462.95; Rural Fire, \$63,578.83; Road and Bridge, \$172,873.75; 911 Telephone Tax, \$3,826.94; County Health Dept., \$17,552.18; Elderly, \$16,105.28; and Payroll Clearing, \$85,187.87. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Lori Simmons administered the Oath of Office for Judge Purvis.

At 9:05 AM Judge Purvis administered the Oath of Office for the following County Elected Officials: Ali Hamilton, 2nd District Commissioner; Jim Johnson, 3rd District Commissioner; David Lamb, County Clerk; Kristy Schmitz, Register of Deeds; Justin Meeks, County Attorney; and James Akes, Sheriff. County Treasurer-Elect Joannie Reed will be sworn in when her term starts in October.

Jason Hightower moved to appoint Jim Johnson as the Commission Chair for 2025 and Alison Hamilton as the Vice Chair for 2025. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson moved to reschedule the January 20th regular meeting to Tuesday, January 21st, due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Dawn Brooks, AMR, reported on their activities for the past week.

The Chair presented the prisoner count. There are currently 58 prisoners in-house including 44 from other jurisdictions. There is 1 Linn County prisoner farmed out to another County.

The Chair reported on the fire calls for the week. The Chair also reported on upcoming Stop the Bleed and CPR training classes.

Jason Hightower moved to approve add/abate/refund orders: #2024-094 through #2024-117, except for #2024-095 and 114 that were canceled. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Chasity Ware asked the Commission about the lights at the airport and stated that there is some interest in buying the airport. The Commission stated that they don't want to spend money on the lights and gave Ware permission to ask Mark Hagen some questions about selling the airport. Discussed leasing the property at 9310 Tucker Road and the taxes on the property. Discussed meeting concerning website.

Jesse Walton stated that the Road & Bridge crews have been clearing roads from the snow and ice storms. Walton also stated that he received an engineer's report on the 900 Road project and that he will report on the recommendations next week.

Shaun West stated that he has the recommendation for the swim beach prepared to submit to KDWP.

At 9:26 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee, to discuss employee evaluations. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:36 AM. Ali Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Shaun West attended the executive session.

At 9:36 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Pleasanton Mayor Mathew Young met with the Commission to discuss the compactor agreement. Young read the proposed agreement and stated that the City of Pleasanton has not received any information from the County concerning their questions about the agreement. Young stated that the bullying attempt made by the Commission last week was unprofessional and stated Pleasanton's issues with the agreement. Ali Hamilton moved to ask the Pleasanton Attorney to come in and meet with Mark Hagen to discuss the issues and draft a contract. Jim Johnson stated that last week's motion was an answer to the letter that was received from the Pleasanton Attorney. The Commission stated that they do not want to close the compactor. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

County Appraiser Lisa Kellstadt informed the Commission that she is going to request a 15-day extension to mail CVNs. The Commission agreed to the 15-day extension.

Jason Hightower stated that Sheriff Akes told him that we are not required to have the prisoner list on the website, but it has cut down on the calls they are receiving.

Jason Hightower asked if the other Commissioners would be in favor of asking Mark Hagen to be our County Counselor. The other Commissioners agreed to ask Mark Hagen about being the Counselor.

At 9:55 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:05 AM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session.

At 10:05 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

The Commission discussed re-posting the Planning & Zoning Director position. Ali Hamilton will look into additional sites to post the opening and discuss her recommendations next week. The Commission discussed a salary study for County positions. The Clerk will look for existing salary information for other Counties. Ali Hamilton stated that she would like to set up a timeline for discussing tabled agenda items. The Commission discussed the tabled items that are currently listed.

Sheriff Akes stated that he met with Enterprise about the Sheriff's vehicles. Akes stated that he will have a Zoom meeting with Enterprise on January 31st and would like to have a workshop with the Commission on February 10th. Jason Hightower volunteered to attend the Zoom meeting. The Clerk will schedule a time for the workshop on February 10th.

At 10:25 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:35 AM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Clerk, Mark Hagen, and County Attorney Justin Meeks attended the executive session.

At 10:35 AM the executive session ended. As a result of the executive session, Justin Meeks announced that Mark Hagen will be a Part-Time Assistant County Attorney at a contracted amount of \$2,500.00 per month. Jason Hightower moved to approve using Hagen as a Contracted Assistant County Attorney. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Meeks also announced that Burton Harding will also be a Part-Time Assistant County Attorney at a payroll salary of \$52,000.00 per year. Jason Hightower moved to approve hiring Harding as a Part-Time Employee Assistant County Attorney. Ali Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-1. (Jim Johnson voted no.)

At 10:40 AM the Chair asked for public comment. None was given.

The Commission discussed the KORA process and possible updates to our process and fees. The Commission also discussed the KwiKom project that was funded with ARPA money and the remaining 10% that has not been paid to KwiKom. No decisions were made at this time on the KORA or KwiKom issues.

With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Tuesday, January 21, 2025. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

County Clerk

January 21, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, Chair; Ali Hamilton, Vice Chair, Jason Hightower; Commissioner, and Darcy Wilson, Deputy Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with prayer.

Jason Hightower moved to approve the following January 21, 2025, pays/special pays, totaling \$199,615.24: General, \$133,551.11; Employee Benefit, \$93.00; Appraiser, \$558.25; Rural Fire, \$487.20; Road and Bridge, \$25,162.74; 911 Telephone Tax, \$26,731.16; County Health Dept, \$1,486.10; ARPA, \$11,307.00; and Elderly, \$239.68. Jim Johnson questioned the check to Southeast Kansas Juvenile Detention and asked for confirmation that contract was canceled, and this was final payment. Johnson asked Deputy Clerk Darcy Wilson to check into this and report back at the next meeting on January 27th, 2025. Hightower amended motion to approve Claims expect the Southeast Kansas Juvenile Detention pay. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Randy Hegwald Fire Chief reported on the fire calls for the week. Randy Hegwald's Cell Phone Number has changed 913-904-2835. CPR Class on January 22nd at the La Cygne Library from 5-8 and it is open to the public. Annual LEPC Meeting at the Courthouse Annex on January 23rd at 7pm. Alison Hamilton will represent the Commission at that meeting. January 27th is Stop the Bleed Class at the Courthouse Annex from 6pm-10pm.

Janet Kleweno announced a new hire, Lacey Ranes. Kleweno brought in the contract from Attorney Klenda Austerman for the Provision of Legal Services for Ad Valorem Property Tax Judicial Foreclosure K.A.S. 79-2801. Jason Hightower moved to accept and sign the contract. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Contract was signed by Chairman Jim Johnson.

Economic Development- Chasity Ware reported on the E-COMM Board. Ware recommended 3 Board members for District 3. Johnson asked about terms, Ware is not certain on the terms remaining or awarded and will report back next week. District 1 is also needing 1 member; Russell Pope will be running for a second term. Johnson made Motion for District 3 Board Members Kenny Otto, Janet Jackson, and Ashley Allen. Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. A grant of \$2500 was awarded through Network Kansas and it will be applied towards the Youth Economic Development Event. The Event is March 4th at the 4-H Building starting at 9am.

Alison Hamilton stated that the Airport Committee was not dissolved, she would like Ware to start that committee back meeting again. Discussion about the website took place and the best way to get information out. Hamilton brought up the number social media accounts the County has and how we can condense those down. Hamilton asked Ware to report back on the number of social media accounts the County has and to report back next week.

At 9:45 AM Jason Hightower moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss trade secrets, pursuant to the trade secrets exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4). The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:55 AM. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Chasity Ware attended the executive session.

At 9:55 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Jesse Walton reported on equipment that has been repaired, the grader in Centerville needs repair. The new Holland Tractor came in on budget with its repairs. Hamilton asked if during storms road crews focus on bus routes. Walton confirmed that paved roads and bus routes are a priority. The D6 Dozer has been repaired and came in under budget. The Dozer has had a radiator leak for a while now and the mechanics have been doing what they can to keep it repaired. The Dozer is still at the CAT dealer, and CAT gave them a quote to repair the radiator. The estimate came in at \$5500 Walton asked for \$6000 max for repairs. Johnson asked if it was something we could fix. Walton stated that per our mechanics we do not have the proper equipment. Hightower made a motion for Walton to spend \$6,000 for repairs on the CAT D6 Dozer #114. Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0

Shaun West and Jesse Walton presented a report from Kaw Valley concerning 900 Road. Discussed the letter sent by Kaw Valley with a suggested solution. West discussed Airbnb Spread Sheet. Sheri Loveland was unable to be here. Hamilton suggested that a clear vision needs to be made on what the plan is on Airbnb and then have a discussion. They all agreed.

At 10:31 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes for legal advice from Attorney Mark Hagen which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with at was attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the attorney. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:46 AM. Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. Present in the executive session The Commission, Shaun West, Jesse Walton, and Attorney Mark Hagen (by phone). The last 5 mins of executive session present were The Commission, Chasity Ware, and Attorney Mark Hagen (By Phone).

At 10:46 AM Commission returned from executive session and Jim Johnson made a motion to extend executive session 15 minutes with Shaun West. Hightower seconded the motion. The motion Passed 3-0.

At 11:01 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Public Works Director Shaun West, Tony Melini of Terracon, and Charlie Bowers of KDHE came to explain the Landfill Expansion and why the survey from Cornerstone was needed. Johnson asked why this survey was added on as a change order when the County did not ask for it. Melini explained that he wanted to confirm that it was needed before the money needed to be spent. Once a vertical expansion was confirmed the survey was needed. Hightower asked if there were any other concerns. Bowers stated that he did not have any other concerns other than what was presented in the letter. Hightower made a motion to approve Cornerstone Regional Surveying for \$3800.00. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0

Shaun West is expecting to speak with KDHE next week about the permit. West asked if all of the Commissioners could please attend. He would like to set a time when the Commission, West, and the Cities can meet with KDHE so all questions can be answered, and discussion can happen at the same time, so everyone understands, and one answer can be made, and then will be able to move forward. Hamilton confirmed that West will be contacting the Cities. He will not be contacting the Lake Communities and Centerville.

Alison Hamilton has had phone calls with complaints about dogs in the Senior Center. She inquired if the County has a policy in place. West explained that each building was different. Meals are provided at the Senior Center through East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging. Jason Hightower has a meeting with the East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging and he will get their policy on this and report back at the February 3rd Commission Meeting.

Public Works Shaun West continued with his reports. West reported damage that was done in some parking lots during last winter's event. West offered a solution. He presented that the Noxious Weed UTV is fully enclosed and available during the winter as well as the Noxious Weed Dept. This gives us an opportunity for a second vehicle and man. West asked if he could get pricing for a snowplow and a salt spreader for that UTV. West said that the money is available for the equipment he would just like the Commission to decide if this was something they would like to do before they begin the pricing process because it is so time-consuming. Hightower asked what was currently being used to clear the lots. Walton said the skid steers are coming through and cleaning the parking lots and then the Dump trucks spread the salt. Walton said that road salt eats cement. There are patches in the parking lot that are chipped off because that salt has eaten away at that cement. Walton explained why the Noxious weed UTV with the snowplow and salt spreader with the cement safe salt would be very beneficial for our parking lots. Hamilton asked what the parking lot protocol was, and who was assigned to County buildings and who is responsible for maintaining those locations when a storm comes. The Commission asked West and Walton to create an operations plan and bring it to next week's meeting to review.

West discussed the storage units on the west side of the Justice Center. He is asking to keep all items that need to continue to be stored and separated into that Department Heads Unit and they will be responsible for their own lock. Throw away all items that are not of value to the County and prepare a Resolution for the items he can auction. In return Sheriff Akes will clear out the garage in the old Sheriffs building and move those items into 2 of those storage units. This will allow maintenance to store heavier items in that garage on a level surface. Sheriffs Akes will continue to store his transportation van in that garage.

West reported on the Baskerville Road project. To keep a project moving the most cost-efficient way is to purchase right of way. West said that we will need a survey completed and then a County Counselor or Attorney to make the purchase of the right of way. This needs to be done before the material can be purchased.

Hamilton asked about the time frame of the swim beach. West asked for permission to send out a letter to Wildlife and Park and asked if a commissioner would come to the initial meeting. Jason Hightower will attend that meeting with Wildlife and Parks with West once it is scheduled.

Hamilton asked Chris Martin to come to the meeting today wanting access to the P Drive & printing capabilities. Martin explained that the P Drive is secured by elected officials. Martin stated that he would have to get back to her. Martin will provide printing capabilities at next week's meeting for any of the commissioners that would like them. Hamilton would like to see an auto reply after completing a road request online. Hamilton asked Martin to update the report a road problem on the website. The Commission all agreed for Martin to do this. Commission asked Martin to delete the Airport page. Hamilton asked if she could go to Pam Cannon in GIS about questionnaire in website for groups in the county. Hamilton asked if she could add updated questionnaire on Economic Development Facebook and the website Commission agreed that was ok to do. Hamilton then asked if she could add a QR Code to the Classified Ads for employment. Hamilton then asked about updating applications and getting them posted on KAC, Indeed, County Website, County Facebook, and Linn County News.

Martin reported that Hamilton's County cell phone is ready, and phone number has been posted on the County website. Hamilton made a motion to post for County Counselor again. Johnson seconded. Motion passed 3-0

Deputy Clerk Darcy Wilson presented Stars request for their first payment for 2025, Jason Hightower will attend their board meeting on January 28th and report back to the commission to discuss at the February 3rd meeting.

At 12:58 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 1:08pm. Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Joyce Hall attended the executive session.

At 1:08 PM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Hamilton would like the Commissioners to set goals for the year. She would like to know how the cemeteries, townships, and historical buildings are funded. Johnson advised Hamilton to go to each township as they should have that information. Deputy Clerk Wilson advised Hamilton that the Clerk's office has information also. Hamilton wants a more digitized version and website information available. Hamilton wants to know if the Commission is committed to restoring the Courthouse. Johnson will reach out to Miami County for a roof referral.

With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, January 27, 2025. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

County Clerk

January 27, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, Chair; Alison Hamilton, Vice Chair; Jason Hightower, Member; David Lamb, County Clerk; and Darcy Wilson, Deputy Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance. David Lamb opened the meeting with prayer.

In the amount

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$562,104.08: General, \$205,184.42; Employee Benefits, \$165,415.84; Appraiser, \$15,974.25; Rural Fire, \$8,713.64; Road and Bridge, \$75,245.01; Special Road & Bridge, \$457.59; 911 Telephone Tax, \$108.99; County Health Dept., \$11,377.90; Elderly, \$2,834.53; and Payroll Clearing, \$76,791.91. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jason Hightower moved to approve check # to Southeast Kansas Juvenile Det Center in the amount of \$ as final payment.

Jason moved to approve add/abate/refund orders: #2024-118 through #2024-135, except for #2024-122 and 129 that were canceled. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Louis, AMR, reported on their activities for the past week.

The Chair presented the prisoner count. There are currently ?? prisoners in-house including ?? from other jurisdictions. There is 1 Linn County prisoner farmed out to another County

Randy Hegwald reported on the fire calls for the week. Yearly total 33. Stop the Bleed class has been rescheduled to February 10th at 6pm. LEPC meeting was last week.. Next meeting is scheduled for the 4th Thursday in July. Hegwald asked if there any questions about Mutal Aid Agreement. Hightower asked about Incident Command, how is that determined? Hegwald will meet with cities and come up with a new plan and report back.

Chasity Ware gave an Economic Development update on web site, and airport committee.

The Commission discussed repairs needed on the Court House and on the Gazebo. Shaun West will reach out to Randy Page to receive a plan for the Gazebo.

Jesse Walton reported on road crews. Brandom Denman has completed his CDL training. D6 Dozer is fixed and ready to go.

Shaun West explained the training the CDL training program we do here.

At 9:42 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:52 AM. Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Clerka attended the executive session.

At 9:52 AM the executive session ended. Action was taken as a result of the executive session. Walton asked for an increase for Brandon Denman

Chris Martin reported on the current copier situation in the Annex. Martin recommended the Kyocera from Modern Copy Systems. Hamilton made motion to approve the Kyocera copier in the amount of \$6,262 Hightower seconded the motion. The Motion passed 3-0

Shaun West asked if he could put the dust control and mowing out for bid. Commission discussed updates for the new website.

West discussed compactor agreements and upcoming meeting with KDHE and the Cities. West discussed repairs to compactor container and the invoice that was submitted for payment. West said that 1 container is left to repair. To purchase a new container will cost \$10,500 - \$11,000. Commission asked to see bid on that container before they make a decision. Hightower made a motion to approve the invoice.

At 10:42 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:52 AM. Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Shaun West attended the executive session.

At 10:47 West left executive session.

At 10:52 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 10:53 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:08 AM. Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session.

At 11:08 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Jason Hightower reported on Service Animals only allowed at senior centers. Commission is happy with that.

With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, February 3, 2025. ?? seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

County Clerk

February 3, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, Chair; Alison Hamilton, Vice Chair; Jason Hightower, Member; Rose Mohler, Deputy Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Johnson opened the meeting with prayer.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$64,833.81: General, \$32,204.32; Employee Benefits, \$2,723.84; Appraiser, \$1,010.49; Rural Fire, \$2,684.48; Road and Bridge, \$21,896.85; County Health Dept., \$1,709.39; Spark/Cares Act Fund, \$1,138.75 Elderly, \$1,212.82; and Sewer Dist. #1, \$252.87. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve add/abate/refund orders: #2024-127 through 2024-128. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The Chair presented the prisoner count. There are currently 60 prisoners in-house including 53 from other jurisdictions. There is 1 Linn County prisoner farmed out to another County.

Dawn Brooks, AMR, reported on their activities for the past month. Need to discuss contract for 2026. Will get contract to commissioners to review. March 3rd meeting to address contract.

Fire Randy Hegwald call totals 12 calls to 45 for the year.

Chris Martin discussed project site access at SharePoint. Group email for all employees is available. Resume upload to job opportunity section on the website. Requested copy of evaluation to review.

Amanda Snyder Health Department shared a presentation of January recap. 244 appointment/entered into client health records for 2025, Employee Biometric Screening event had 24 attend. Another Biometric Screening event is scheduled for June at the Health Fair Public Library. Several events planned: Baby Sprinkle Event, Feb 18th Mammogram bus, Wellness Wednesday February 5 and 12, KDHE Feb 20 from 1-4 Mass Sheltering emergency plans and procedures, Feb 21 WIC on wheels in Blue Mound at the Blue Moon, Community garden and nutrition nook, approved for 3 sessions at 2025 WIC Convention, working on 2025 aid to local grant application, safe sitter classes for 4th -6th graders during spring break, and Keep me Safe community event. Reminder services are not an income based and are available for every citizen of Linn County.

Sheriff Akes provided information regarding the critical incident from 1-27-25.

Enterprise meeting to go through agreement for vehicles.

Cost of Ceiling upgrade \$2200 cap for Jury room sound proofing and sound testing results February 10.

Jesse Walton, Road and Bridge Operation Director. Reported on road conditions and equipment repairs grader blades, tilt deck trailer, sign truck. Cost approval needed for sign truck repairs at Oaks, \$9582.19.

Jason Hightower motion to approve \$9582.19 for repair Jim Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Shaun West, Public Work Administrator, Copies of park lagoon permit it and Centerville has been sent out. RFP sent out for Parker Senior Center may need to be adjusted.

Planning and Zoning Director interviews scheduled.

Landfill: 953C loader needs to be replaced. Permission to look for something to replace. Money is available in equipment reserve. Bid 3 roll off trucks new is best with warranty. Get used bids and RFP on trucks.

Lake Region went well Al Doan and Johnny Taylor attended.

Maintenance: roofing items gazebo courthouse repairs. New vendors same RFP out to more contractors.

Transportation: large transportation bus engine is shoot. Repairs are all warranty work.

At 10:10 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 17 minutes for legal with Mark Hagen. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:25 AM. Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session.

At 10:25 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 10:26 the Chair asked for Public Comment.

Jan Longenecker family and landowners regarding zoning and regulation violation.

At 10:45 AM Alison Hamilton moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss legal. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0 The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:55 AM.

At 11:00 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 11:00 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for one hour for Planning and Zoning Director interviews, the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:00 PM. Jason Hightown seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session.

At 12:00 PM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes for Planning and Zoning Director interviews. For the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:15 PM. Jason Hightown seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session.

At 12:16 PM Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 5 minutes for legal with Mark Hagen. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:21 PM. Jason Hightower seconded. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session. 12:22 PM Extended for 10 more minutes. 12:32 PM.

No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 12:33 PM Sheri Loveland and Shaun West provided update on Park/AirBnB.

Discussed how cabins would need to be updated to change status to AirBnb. At this time the current AirbnB cabin will be refreshed and one more cabin will get an update on the inside to be added to the AirBnB. Decided to add one cabin at a time then check the revenue generated to proceed to adding more cabins at a later date.

Deck Systems: old boat ships need to be removed and new dock system needs to be installed. Parts needed to install \$5300, freight cost \$600 total cost \$5900. There is a volunteer, who is familiar with the brand, who will put in the new dock system. Commission would like it to be sent out for 3 bids.

Swim Beach: Jesse Walton will shoot the grade. Shaun West will contact KCAMP regarding insurance coverage before starting the project.

At 1:10 PM Shaun West discussed snow plow for the parking lots using the Noxious Weeds UTV. There is a need for a scraper. Commercial model cost \$7800. There was discussion about using one of the public works trucks with a plow blade instead of the UTV. Shaun West will contact Johnny Taylor to see if Johnny can do the plowing when 2in of snow falls.

At 1:27 PM Jason Hightower moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 5 mins for, the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 1:32 PM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session.

At 1:33 PM the executive session ended. As a result of the executive session, Shaun West asked to hire Kent Harris as the Planning & Zoning Director at a wage of \$23.7815 per hour (Range 12, Step A). This is a salaried position. Jason Hightower moved to approve the hiring as requested. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

At 1:35 PM Alison Hamilton moved to appoint to the Planning & Zoning board Daniel Ernest to District 2 replacing Daniel Black. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

At 1:40 PM Discussion of STAR program. Jason Hightower gave an overview of the STARS meeting that he attended.

With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, February 10, 2025. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

County Clerk

February 10, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Ali Hamilton, Vice chair; Danielle Souza, County Clerk elect; and Rose Mohler, Deputy Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with prayer.

At 9:01 AM Judge Purvis swore in Danielle Souza as county clerk.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$616,969.56: General, \$237,651.61; Rural Fire, \$10,053.60; Road and Bridge, \$55,216.33; and Elderly, \$2,823.10. Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 9:03 am Jim Johnson asked for add/abate/refund orders to be totaled by Souza.

At 9:04 am Dawn Brooks addressed the commissioners with AMR's activities for the past week, totaling 24 calls and 14 transports.

The Chair presented the sheriff's report and prisoner count. There are currently 61 prisoners in-house including 54 from other jurisdictions. There is 1 Linn County prisoner farmed out to another County.

Randy Hegwald reported the fire calls: 5 calls last week, bringing the yearly total up to 50. Hegwald asked permission to hire Tom Hawbaker to Mound City fire station 910, bringing their current roster to 9 out of 15 spots. Johnson made the motion to hire upon passing pre-employment drug test, Hamilton seconded the motion, no discussion and the motion passed 2-0. Hegwald gave reminder of 3 upcoming events: February 10th-Stop the Bleed training 6pm at courthouse annex, free to attend. February 24th-severe weather training 6pm at Pleasanton Community Center. March 1st-Centerville Fire Station 930 to host chili feed to raise funds for coolers for their trucks 6pm at their fire station. Hamilton asked for events to be given to Chris Martin, IT, to be posted on the county website.

At 9:09am Sheriff James Akes provided commissioners with handout from Douglas county in regards to Johnson's prior request to look into options for farming out juveniles in custody. Akes touched on two options and pricing with Johnson County and Douglas County. Jim Johnson asked Akes to be put on the agenda next week for all three commissioners to be presented with documents from both counties. Akes shared Judge Harth is on board with sound proofing measures for court rooms and juror room.

At 9:11am Chasity Ware, economic development, presented commissioners with a bid for 1-year land lease at 9310 Thomas Rd, Pleasanton. Lease is one year to get all land leases on the same schedule. Alison Hamilton made the motion to accept the bid from Kenneth Baugh \$18,500 for 1-year land lease on 9310 Thomas Rd, Pleasanton. Johnson seconded the motion. No discussion, the motion passed 2-0. Ware asked for 5 minutes of legal counsel.

At 9:14am Jesse Walton, Roads, shared weekly update, 4 service requests created. Shared work was done on county potholes, wash boarding, culvert repairs. New hire Curtis Brown left employment on his own accord. Jim Johnson made a motion to accept resignation of Curtis Brown from public works department. Hamilton seconded the motion. No discussion motion passed 2-0.

Walton shared minor repairs were done on a few vehicles. Walton asked to put together a plan for chip and seal as well as stripping roads and is targeting warmer weather at end of April to collect bids. He asked Commissioners how they would like public notified of road closing. Commissioners instructed Walton to set up mobile digital sign as well as publish notice in newspaper and county website.

At 9:22am Kent Harris introduced himself as new planning and zoning coordinator. Harris shared his career background and shared his excitement to bring his experience to the position and be an asset to the county.

At 9:24am Shaun West, road and bridge administrator, asked for 5 minutes of executive session for nonelected personnel. Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session until 9:30 AM to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:30 AM. Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 9:30 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

West has been attending and scheduling meetings for fleet mechanics trucks. Application was received from Paris Township's Mount Carmel Cemetery for rock to be hauled and bladed, they lack the equipment. Alison Hamilton made the motion to accept the assistance application from Mount Carmel for blading and possible rock in needed. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

West shared KCAMP confirmed they would insure swimming project. He reached out to CHIPO damage repairs on gazebo, courthouse and culvert. Randy Page has been consulted to move forward with suitable materials for repairs. A hole in the clerks office of the courthouse was discussed. Both commissioners are in favor fixing the hole but Hamilton expressed concern over fixing the leaking steam pipes that created the hole first. She suggested hanging the aluminum shield she recently saw sitting uninstalled in basement. West will ask maintenance to affix the shield this week.

Hamilton wants the state's approval on floor and roof repairs before we seek funds from CHIPO to avoid back and forth delays. West wants to submit application for hole repairs immediately while we make a plan for the bigger project of roof, steeples and dry rot assessment. Commissioners asked for Randy Page to be put on the agenda to present his plan for gazebo repairs and flooring plan to fix the hole on March 3rd.

At 9:50am Alison Hamilton questioned West about whose job it is to take down Christmas lights, stating into February is too late to leave them up and requested annual date expectations for put-up and tear down. West will return next week with an update on logistics and plan for 2025 holiday season.

953C loader is down at landfill. Looking into used equipment. Johnson still has no answer to his question from last week about how many hours are put on equipment annually, thinking it may be more beneficial to lease equipment. Hamilton added that she would like to have monthly update of all equipment and vehicles usage by miles or hours. Johnson agreed. Hamilton suggested a presentation of the software used by Public Works. Commissioners asked for Chris Martin to be put on the agenda for update on Pub-works and G-works February 24th.

Roll off RFP is in SharePoint for commissioners and is ready to be published if commissioners have no concerns. Commissioners approved the publication of that bid. The swimming project was brought back up in regards to an increase in insurance cost. West will provide it when he has it. Hamilton expressed concern over long-term liabilities of potential contamination. West assured commissioners KCAMP allows fishing for consumption. Marina cabins were evaluated for renovation. The soundproofing project was discussed. West asked for approval of \$3,500 for material cost from Home Depot of acoustic panels, door sweeps and denim insulated ceiling tiles, promising a decibel measurement before and after improvements. Hamilton stated Sheriff Akes asked for \$2,200 last week, prior to considering acoustic panels and it was tabled, and she confirmed since this is a facility issue, general funds will be paying for this. Alison recalls door sweeps were approved and purchased last year. West will look for them before he orders more. Souza will report back to commissioners where in the budget this would come from. Alison Hamilton made the motion to approve materials spending \$2,200 to soundproof courtrooms and juror room. Johnson seconded the motion. No discussion and motion passed 2-0.

At 10:24am West asked if the county could give a dead end sign to Sugar Valley Lakes Association. Commissioners approved. NE entrance of Hidden Valley Lake was opened up crossing County right of way without submitting application for approval. West will return in two weeks with more information after their board meets. Warranty covered repairs to bus will be finalized this week.

Conditional use permit #25-01 for 2160 square foot clubhouse at Tanglewood Lake. Alison asked to table this until the 18th of February so she can read over the details. County counselor, Mark Hagan, approached podium to advise commissioners. He suggested to take time and table approvals of anything complex after applications are ready for approval and questions can be asked. Hamilton sought clarity about conflicts of interest in citizens approaching her about permit approvals in process. Hamilton asked how can she be informed when an application is pending.

At 10:42am Shaun West presented Conditional Use Permit (CUP) #25-01, a 2,160 square foot clubhouse. He gave legal description of the location, commonly addressed as 173 Luann Drive LaCygne KS. Currently zoned residential lake community. Notices were properly posted in official county newspaper on December 18th, 2024, Notices were sent to land owners pursuant to state law and Linn County regulation. Application is to permit applicants to operate and build a clubhouse, all nearby landowners have been notified. It is recommended that CUP #25-01 be approved. Commissioners asked for a copy of the finalized permit application. Citizen Les Warner of Tanglewood Lake addressed the commissioners. He shared the process he has complied with. Stated there will be office in this clubhouse as well. Dirt has been worked some to visualize the project. Commissioners asked for CUP #25-01 to be on the agenda for February 18th.

At 10:51 Jim Johnson moved to approve add/abate/refund orders: #2024-140 through #2024-144, for the total of \$1833.72. (revised) Hamilton seconded the motion. No discussion and the motion passed 2-0.

At 10:53 Alison Hamilton made the motion to appoint Karen Springer to Sheridan Township Treasurer and Karen German as Sheridan Township Trustee. Johnson seconded the motion. No discussion and the motion passed 2-0.

At 10:54am Alison Hamilton made the motion to change February 17th's regularly scheduled commissioners meeting to Tuesday February 18th, 2025 to accommodate President's Day holiday. Johnson seconded that motion. The motion passed 2-0.

The floor was opened for public comments. There were none.

At 10:57 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session until 12:17pm to allow 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee and 70 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:17pM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 12:17pm The executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 12:18pm Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session until 12:23pm to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. Two commissioners and Pam Canon attended to executive session.

At 12:23pm The executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 12:23pm Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session until 12:28pm to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. Two commissioners and Shaun West attended to executive session.

At 12:29pm The executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Tuesday, February 18, 2025. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

County Clerk

February 18, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Ali Hamilton, Vice chair; Jason Hightower, Commissioner; Danielle Souza, County Clerk; and Darcy Wilson, Deputy Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with prayer.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0

Alison Hamilton read AMR Report.

Randy Hegwald reported the fire calls. Jason Hightower made motion to allow Ben Williams as a youth job shadow. Jim Johnson seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Chasity Ware Reported updates for economic development.

Jesse Walton Reported Roads maintenance update.

Shaun West public works administrator addressed the commissioners with report and updates. Presented flood plain resolution amendment. Jason Hightower made motion to approve resolution 25-03. Alison Hamilton seconded motion. Motion passes 3-0. District court soundproofing material has been ordered; not on site yet.

At 9:38AM moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 30 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:08 AM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Counselor attended the executive session.

At 10:08AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Public comment opens. Dan Longnecker addressed the commissioners.

At 10:11AM moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$211,578.49: General, \$107,596.67; Rural Fire, \$723.77; Road and Bridge, \$65,562.45; and Elderly, \$1,312.60; Crime Victim Assistant Fund, \$400.00; Appraiser Fund, \$2,590.36. Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

At 10:14 Jason Hightower moved to approve add/abate/refund orders: #2024-136,2024-137 and 2024-139, for the total of \$606.32 refund. Johnson seconded the motion. No discussion and the motion passed 3-0.

At 10:15AM moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 35 minutes: 15 minutes of to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4219, Revised K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) to include 10 minutes with Shaun and 5 minutes with Chasity. The motion includes moving to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 20 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor to include the commissioners, county counselor, and 10 minutes each for Chasity Ware and then Shaun West. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:50 AM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Counselor attended the executive session.

At 10:51AM The executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 10:52AM moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee to include commissioners, Pam Canon and JasonParker. As well as moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 5 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor to include commissioners and mark Hagan. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:07 AM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

At 11:07AM The executive session ended. Jason Hightower Made a motion to accept Pam Cannon's retirement effective February 28th, 2025 and commissioners express gratitude for years of service. Alison Hamilton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Jason Hightower made motion to amend date and written record of January 3rd 2025 minutes. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

At 11:14am Alison Hamilton Motion made that adds Danielle Souza as KPERS designed agent. Jason Hightower seconded and passed 3-0.

KNRC was on agenda to present but canceled due to weather. Commissioners agree to reschedule for March 17th.

Shaun West presented CUP #25-01.

At 11:20am, Jason Hightower made the motion to approve CUP #25-01 for Tanglewood Lakes for a 2,160 Square Foot Clubhouse and accept the findings provided by planning and zoning. Alison Hamilton seconded, Motion passed 3-0.

Shaun West discussed machine hours on equipment. Discussion amongst commissioners about PubWorks. Christmas lights discussed. Alison Hamilton requested to have Christmas décor down by March 1st, 2025 and down February 1st every year moving forward.

Discussion amongst commissioners about agenda changes for meetings.

With nothing further on the agenda Jason Hightower moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, February 24, 2025. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Attest:

Commission Chair

County Clerk

February 24, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Ali Hamilton, Vice chair; Jason Hightower, Commissioner; Danielle Souza, County Clerk; and Darcy Wilson, Deputy Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with invocation.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0

Jim Johnson moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$569,524.50: General, \$217,929.26; Rural Fire, \$13,337.31; Employee benefits, \$17801.47; Appraiser Fund, \$15,536.46 Road and Bridge, \$41,318.84; Elderly, \$2,844.30; Equipment reserve fund, \$4,861.42; Special machinery fund, \$6,226.00; 911 telephone tax fund, \$4,057.11; County health dept fund, \$10,687.66; Payroll clearing fund, \$74,924.67. Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Dawn Brooks presented the AMR Report.

Fire Chief, Randy Hegwald reported the fire calls.
State Representative Rick James addressed commissioners.
Economic Development head, Chasity Ware Reported updates for economic development.

At 9:13am Chris Martin presented Pubworks costs and functionality of platform.

At 10:05am, Phone numbers were discussed with Chris Martin.

At 10:15am, Commissioners opened for public comment. Zane Conner addressed the commissioners to comment on equipment maintenance tracking for resale purposes. Public comment closed.

Road foreman, Jesse Walton Reported Roads maintenance update.
Planning and Zoning head, Kent Harris addressed commissioners with update on CUP #25-01
Shaun West public works administrator addressed the commissioners with report and updates.

At 10:23 AM Jim Johnson made to motion to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 50 minutes: 20 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County; ; 30 minutes of to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4219, Revised K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) to include 10 minutes with Shaun and Joyce and 10 minutes with Chasity and 10 minutes with Danielle and Darcy. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:13 AM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 11:14 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Public comment opens. Dan Longnecker addressed the commissioners.

At 11:16AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes: 15 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor to include the commissioners, county counselor, and Danielle and Rose. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:31 AM. Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 11:31 AM The executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Public Works head, Shaun West gave updates to commissioners. Grants were discussed to fund repairs to courthouse. Compactor agreement for all cities are agreeable. Devlin Road was discussed, KDOT will be consulted about cost share options. West got approval to seek an on-call engineer to work with the county.

At 12:10pm Alison moved to approve Resolution 25-05, sheriff surplus property to be dissolved and sold with fund going back into general fund. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

Commissioners discussed upcoming interviews for county counselor position and expectations.
At 12:16 PM With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, February 24, 2025. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Attest:

Commission Chair

County Clerk

March 3, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Ali Hamilton, Vice chair; Jason Hightower, Commissioner; Danielle Souza, County Clerk; and Darcy Wilson, Deputy Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with invocation.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0

Jim Johnson moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$238,026.47: General, \$203,733.92; Rural Fire, \$1,088.67; Appraiser Fund, \$539.60; Road and Bridge, \$27,984.46; Elderly, \$489.09; Special Road & bridge fund, \$838.58; 911 telephone tax fund, \$716.51; county health dept fund, \$342.89; Spark. Cares Act Fund, \$2,292.75. Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Dawn Brooks presented the AMR Report. Presented renewal of AMR contract. They will be back on April 14th.

At 9:18AM Fire Chief, Randy Hegwald reported the fire calls.

Economic Development head, Chasity Ware Reported updates for economic development.

At 9:30 Shaun West, Public works director, reported roads maintenance update and addressed the commissioners with report and updates for courthouse repairs, mowing bids (2 reviewed), dust control bids (3 reviewed), and equipment repairs updates.

At 9:45 the sheriff report was read by Alison Hamilton.

At 9:48 AM Jim Johnson made to motion to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 25 minutes: 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4) pursuant to the data relating to financial affairs to include Sheriff James Akes, Undersheriff Bobby Johnson, Sheriff Admin Shauna Bush, and county clerk Danielle Souza; 5 minutes to discuss the data relating to trade secrets pursuant to data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets K.S.A 75-4319 (b)(4) to include economic development head, Chasity Ware; 5 minutes for non-elected personnel matter exception K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) pursuant to an individual employee's performance to include public works director, Shaun West. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:13 AM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 10:13 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Public comment opens. No speakers, public comment closed.

At 10:16AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 55 minutes: 5 minutes to discuss the data relating to trade secrets pursuant to data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets K.S.A 75-4319 (b)(4) to include economic development head, Chasity Ware; 35 minutes for non-elected personnel matter exception K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) pursuant to an individual employee's performance to include public works director, Shaun West for five minutes and 30 minutes to include IT director Chris Martin and IT staff, Nick Graham; 15 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor to include the commissioners, the county counselor and county clerk Danielle Souza for 10 minutes and then 5 minutes to include Public works director, Shaun West. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:11 AM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 11:11 AM The executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Alison Hamilton moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 30 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:45 AM. Jim Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, Clerk, and Counselor attended the executive session.

At 11:46 AM The executive session ended. Action from commissioner executive session was presented by the county counselor, Mark Hagan. A second opinion confirmed county counselor's advice for lot split regulations revisions for sub-plat be reviewed for minor and major platting to appease the will of the general public. Planning and zoning director Kent Harris will be responsible for the revisions.

At 11:53 Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes for non-elected personnel matter exception K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) pursuant to an individual employee's performance to include public works director, Shaun West. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:03 PM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 12:04PM commissioners returned to open session and Jim Johnson moved to extend recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 5 minutes for non-elected personnel matter exception K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) pursuant to an individual employee's performance to include public works director, Shaun West. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:09 PM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 12:10 AM The executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 12:11PM With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, March 10th,

2025. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Attest:

Commission Chair

County Clerk

March 10th, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Ali Hamilton, Vice chair; Jason Hightower, Commissioner; Danielle Souza, County Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with invocation.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$568,378.85: General, \$237,025.40; employment benefit fund; \$134,462.28; Rural Fire, \$6,969.68; Employee benefits, \$17801.47; Appraiser Fund, \$16,630.92; Road and Bridge, \$68,445.81; noxious weed eradication capital outlay, \$1,245.28; county health department, \$14,232.46; Elderly, \$5,358.36; Linn county district #1 Centerville, \$ 62.79; Payroll clearing fund, \$83,945.87. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson read the sheriff's report. Jason Hightower read AMR report. Randy Hegwald, Fire Chief, presented a weekly fire and emergency management report and discussed burn ban procedures.

Amanda Snyder presented health department monthly update.

Jason Hightower made the motion to approve health department to seek grant funding with chairman's signature. Alison Hamilton seconded. The motion passes 3-0. Jim Johnson signed. Commissioners received handout of proposal for development of land for physical, mental and social health recreation area behind the health department building in Pleasanton. Hamilton stated she is in favor of investigating grant options to fund the project. Hightower suggests bringing a grant to the commissioners. Johnson confirmed this would be accessible for the whole county but expressed concern that he did not want to burden our public works with land clearing.

At 9:30AM, Chasity Ware presented economic development updates. Carrie Spoon, executive director of SEKRPC presented commissioners with handout on Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission (SEKRPC) giving an update about community development program opportunities. Safe-Streets-For-All grant was discussed.

At 9:42 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:52AM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Amanda Snyder attended the executive session with Mark Hagan, counselor, attending via phone.

At 9:51AM, commissioners returned to meeting. No action was taken in executive session. Jesse Walton presented roads department update. Request purchase of Blue mound road grater Right side door and window replacement totaling \$5,677.81. Jason Hightower made the motion to investigate insurance coverage and move forward with making the purchase. Alison Hamilton Seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

At 10:01AM Renee Slinkard, citizen, requested Devlin Road 3.5 mile Chip and Seal project with that being a major access road to emergency services. Alison Hamilton mentioned KDOT cost share program applications are open. Jason Hightower expressed concern of fixing the potential problem instead of just addressing a persistent citizen request, acknowledging people south of Parker will still have to cross railroads. Jason suggested involving Dawn with AMR and fire director Randy Hegwald to question bottleneck issues for ambulance and emergency service as well as input from Miami County. Jim Johnson suggested planning now for 2026 open application. Kevin Stokay, a citizen residing on Devlin Rd., spoke to commissioners about heavy traffic.

At 10:55 AM Jan Longnecker addressed the commissioners about zoning and lot split concerns that county codes were not followed. Shared potential negative implications of residential subdivision near agriculture ground. Planning and zoning director Kent Harris was instructed to gather recommendations from planning and zoning meeting to be held tomorrow regarding minor plats regulations, data centers, and battery storage.

At 11:26AM public comment was opened. No speakers, public comment closed. Sally Vaughn addressed the commissioners as the Stanton Township treasurer. Discussed 1.6 acre lot with historic single-room school house. Wishes to sell building and land separately to avoid raising taxes.

At 11:37 Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes for GIS administrator interviews, the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:52 AM. Jason Hightown seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session with Jason Parker. 11:52 no action was taken from executive session. Jason Hightower made the motion to Give Jason Parker interim pay at \$23.7815/ hour, 12A on the matrix, effective March 1, 2025. Jim Johnson seconded. The motion passed 3-0. Shaun West recommended to the commissioners to approve dust control bid from Scott Wood Industries. Jason Hightower made the motion to accept the bid from Scott Wood Industries of \$1.48/gallon or May 1- June 15 with Magnesium chloride for dust control. Jim Johnson Seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Shaun brought to the commissioners attention, attachments being fixed to county bridges; this will hamper the safety of the bridge and effected bridge will start failing the inspections. There was discussion and chairman instructed the bridge gates to be tabled until March 24th with legal recommendations.

Shaun presented commissioners with a change order form for HR to communicate changes to employment on pay matrix. He presented 2 forms to hire a part time park maintenance person as well as promote public works admin assistant a step. Commissioners are delaying a decision one week. 2543

Shaun provided commissioners an option for lease to own on a piece of equipment. Commissioners discussed benefits of lease or own. Joyce Hall, public works office admin, addressed the commissioners with displeasure that her rate of pay has not been approved as of January 21st, when initially presented.

KwikKom final grant payment was discussed. There was debate if the contracted work was completed to satisfaction. Commissioners agreed to ask Shaun to find an engineer to provide county with sampling of a dozen location While Jesse Walton investigates ditches to be returned to good condition as a result of KwikKom project. Randy Page addressed the commissioners with an update on gazebo repairs, costing around \$2,100 for materials as an estimate. Commissioners asked for an all-in budget to be approved and submitted to state for both material and labor.

At 1:00pm Jason Hightower made the motion to collect bids for demolition of the old county attorney building. Alison Hamilton Seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Sheri Loveland discussed cabins with commissioners. In addition, she discussed parts needed to configure the donated dock, totaling \$6,173. Jason Hightower made the motion to approve

that purchase pending volunteer willingness to install with the request for shipping to be reduced. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Alison Hamilton discussed IT recommendation to not use Microsoft Teams for security reasons. There was a discussion about the benefits over risks for departments and offices. Alison Hamilton made the motion to allow county device usage of Microsoft Teams. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

ARPA spending was discussed, and commissioners were seeking confirmation that funds were managed well.

Alison mentioned wanting to celebrate the one county employee that received all fives on his evaluation.

Grant funds were discussed repairs to the courthouse. State of Kansas documented Heritage Trust Fund Grant in 2009 of \$90,000 approved to Linn County. Clerk was instructed to investigate the funds and the repairs.

Chris Martin, IT director, addressed the commission making a point of clarification. He stated he would not be held responsible for problems that could potentially come from use of Teams but would work to fix potential issues. Alison Hamilton apologized for misquoting Chris.

Clerk requested commissioners to approve cereal malt beverage license #25-01. Jason Hightower made the motion.

Alison Hamilton Seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Jason Hightower made the motion for Aumentum Technologies to change clerk signature from David Lamb to Danielle Souza and allow Jim Johnson to sign the approval. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

At 1:48 PM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes; 5 minutes to discuss trade secrets, pursuant to the trade secrets exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4), concerning economic development to include all 3 commissioners and Chasity Ware. In addition, 10 minutes for to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 2:03 PM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commissioners attended the executive session.

Return at 2:03PM No action was taken from executive session. With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, March 17th, 2025. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

March 17th, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Ali Hamilton, Vice chair; Jason Hightower, Commissioner; Danielle Souza, County Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with invocation.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$127,696.08: General, \$46,839.55; Employee Benefit Fund, \$483.66 Rural Fire, \$2,162.76; Road and Bridge, \$54,877.878; Equipment Reserve Fund, \$21,249.00 county health department, \$1,710.10; Elderly, \$288.13; Law Enforcement Trust Fund, \$60.00; 911 telephone Tax Fund, \$25.01. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve add/abate/refund orders: #2024-146-148, 150-168,170-171,180-215,217-228 totaling refunds of \$36,352.04. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jason Hightower motioned to approve the agenda, Alison Hamilton seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

Dawn Brooks, AMR, gave a weekly ambulance report. She stated she has not in the past but will moving forward document response times related to Devlin Road.

Jason Hightower read the sheriff's report

Randy Hegwald, Fire Chief, presented a weekly fire and emergency management report. Requested 10 minutes executive session with HR representative, Danielle Souza.

At 9:09 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to discuss a human resources matter. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 09:19 AM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Clerk, and Randy attended the executive session. At 09:19 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken because of the executive session.

Kent Harris, director of planning and zoning, gave update on weekly work and presented declined Conditional Use Permit #25-02.

Jesse Walton, Roads maintenance, Addressed the commissioners with update on weekly summary of county wide work done and repairs made to equipment.

Jason Hightower made the motion to purchase \$5,093.25 of 15 foot culvert tube. Alison Hamilton Seconded and motion passed 3-0.

Shaun West, Director of public works, addressed the commissioners. Kansas historical has approved repairs to floor in clerks office of the courthouse. Commissioners agreed to move forward with the repairs. Dust control contract was discussed. Jim Johnson made to motion to publish the accepted bid load of \$2.14/ gallon. Jason Hightower seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson made to motion to Rescind previous motion to publish the accepted bid load of \$2.14/ gallon. Jason Hightower seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson made the motion to approve publishing the accepted bid of \$2.14/ foot. Jason Hightower seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Bids for Roll Off RFP were opened by commissioners and read aloud; five were received. Courthouse grant opportunities were discussed. KwikKom was discussed. An engineer bid was presented; the amount owed to KwikKom was compared to engineer bid. Jim and Jason have asked Shaun West to reach out to KwikKom to come present in open session to provide update proving work was done to satisfaction and overview of project completion as well as how many communities/people are positively impacted as a result of their work. Shaun will prepare a draft and send to commissioners individually before it is sent out. Devlin Road was discussed. Bigger picture of where county priorities need to be. Work session for roads was suggested and has been put on the agenda for March 31st for 45 minutes, including firm cost of stripping for 2025, per mile.

Shaun was seeking clarification of demolition of old county attorney building. Equipment lease to own and outright purchase was discussed. Commissioners asked Shaun to present with Used machine rental lease. Shaun requested 10 minutes of non-elected personnel.

At 10:22 AM, public comment was opened. Stacey Fromdahl addressed the commissioners about the recent hearing regarding Tanglewood Lake as public roads. Chuck Stevens, president of board at Tanglewood addressed same issue at 10:24 asking their plan of action for roads. Leslie Brown, board member of Tanglewood, addressed commissioners at 10:31 asking Jason Hightower to commit to a date with answers. Francie Cambell, property owner at Tanglewood addressed the commissioners at 10:36 AM. Rusty Russell addressed the commissioners at 10:39 AM asking for a timeframe for answers. Barry Mitchell addressed the commissioners at 10:40 AM. Heather Brecht addressed the commissioner's about Tanglewood roads. Les Warner addressed the commissioners asking for a resolution to resolve the issue to grant Tanglewood roads private. Lesley Long, Tanglewood resident addressed to commissioners at 10:44 AM to address Tanglewood roads. Sheriff Akes and Undersheriff Johnson addressed the crowd. The undersheriff explained private property limitations of sheriff's department. Barry Jones, Tanglewood Lake resident, addressed the commissioner at 10:56 AM. Jerry Humpert landowner of Tanglewood Lake, addressed commissioners informing them of additional cost county would incur if roads are public. Public comment closed at 11:00 AM.

At 11:00 AM Chris Martin and commissioners discussed phone systems.

At 11:21 sheriff, undersheriff, Shaun West, Ken Olsen (Enterprise Fleet management) discussed lease options for county options through Enterprise. Maintenance, fuel, telematics, up-fitting options are available. Vehicle strategies are flexible with budgets for implementation. Reducing budget and getting vehicle rotation in ideal time is priority. Types of vehicles are flexible for acquisition. Net lease available but not recommended. Suggests equity lease model for government entities. Enterprise team on site quarterly. Maintenance partnered with local business owner, Harlow Gas & Oil. Jim asked dollar amount of saving for Sheriff. Sheriff Akes shared scenario of savings.

At 12:07 PM Tracy Barton, Kansas Natural Resource Coalition (representing 1/3 of the state), following up with commissioners about benefits of membership with organization that would monitor federal government overreach. Jim Johnson asked membership cost. Tracy answered \$5,000 per year, which covers. No commitment was made but would be considered when preparing the budget.

At 12:20, Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 30 minutes for county counselor interviews a non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:50 PM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session with counselor candidate.

12:51 the open meeting resumed; no action was taken from executive session.

At 12:52, Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 30 minutes for county counselor interviews a non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 1:22 PM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission attended the executive session with counselor candidate.

1:22 PM the open meeting resumed; no action was taken from executive session.

1:22 PM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 25 minutes; 5 minutes with Chasity and commissioners to discuss trade secrets, pursuant to the trade secrets exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4), concerning economic development. And 10 minutes each with Shaun west then Danielle Souza minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 1:45 PM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

At 1:45 PM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session. County position flow charts were discussed amongst commissioners. Parks will be moved to under economic development. Lisa Kellstadt will be asked to complete GIS Admin employee evaluation.

At 2:20 PM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 2:30 PM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commissioners and the clerk attended the executive session. Jim made the motion to extend the previous session for 10 additional minutes. Jason seconded and motion passed 3-0.

At 2:40 PM the executive session ended and action was Jason Hightower motioned to approve new hire for Parks part time maintenance. Jim seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Jason Hightower motioned to approve pay raise for Joyce Hall from 10-I to 11-I on the pay matrix. Alison seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Jim shared with commissioners a document he found on the internet to share compensation of officers for a non-profit that is present in the county and seeking to expand, reading the CEO of the makes total compensation and additional benefits of over \$600,000 annual. Chasity Ware addressed the commission stating she attended a conference and was made aware that a neighboring county is hiring a lawyer to investigate this matter.

At 2:46 PM, With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, March 17th, 2025. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

County Clerk

March 24th, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Ali Hamilton, Vice chair; Jason Hightower, Commissioner; Danielle Souza, County Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with invocation.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$774,472.52: General, \$440,757.12; Employee Benefit Fund, \$144,916.76; Rural Fire, \$22,106.42; Road and Bridge, \$40,933.55; county health department, \$11,528.300; Elderly, \$3,010.20; payroll clearing fund, \$80,468.00; Appraiser fund, \$15,673.24; 911 911 telephone tax fund, \$15,078.93. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jason Hightower motioned to approve the agenda, Alison Hamilton seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

Jason Hightower read the sheriff's report.

Dawn Brooks, AMR, read their report.

Randy Hegwald, Rural fire and emergency management, present their weekly report and year to date comparison saying they are well above average for the year. March 26th, KS wildlife and parks will be in Pleasanton to present on Kansas wildlife and venomous awareness, free of charge.

Chasity Ware, economic development, addressed the commissioners to give an update. Summer youth program is open to accept applications and has been posted on social media and website. Requested 10 minutes of legal executive session.

Jesse Walton, Roads and Bridge supervisor, addressed the commissioners with weekly updates. Requested posting open position for season mowers and full time road signs. Bridge on 1700 Road approaches were discussed.

At 9:16 AM, Shaun West, Public Works director, addressed the commissioners. KwiKom was discussed.

Communication between Shaun and KwikKom; Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was recommended by them. Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission(SEKRPC) was consulted about partnering with an engineering grant that would allow the county to build the plan that would be used to apply for a 40/60 grant of the following year. Both SEKRPC and Shaun are tracking the application process for this grant. 2009 grant spending is unable to be located. Renaming the old judicial center was discussed, currently housing appraisers and GIS mapping. Fuel and demo bids went out for the old county attorney building.

At 9:46 AM Jason made the motion to alter mowing contract to include all needed properties to be serviced and for Chairman Johnson to sign. Alison seconded, motion passed 3-0.

Road Complaints were received, four from Tanglewood. Commissioners have advised Shaun to track Tanglewood reports. Jason attended their meeting over the weekend to collect information and field questions. Bids for loader are in the works and will be present for commissioners soon. Bids for Roll-offs are beings reviewed.

City Compactor agreements for trash compactors were reviewed. Requested 5 minutes non-elected personnel.

Commissioners asked for all-in budget from Randy page for gazebo repairs by next week.

At 10:03 Jim Johnson made the motion to move to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 40 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The Commission and Counselor attended the executive session, along with 10 minutes to include Chasity Ware; in addition 5 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:48 AM. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. Alison stated her desire to stick to agenda and address public comment at 10AM, as agenda states. The motion passed 2-1.

At 10:48 AM, the executive session ended and action from executive session was Alison made the motion to open Request for Proposals for website development. Jason seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0. Alison Hamilton motioned to hire Jenny Cummings at 8A (17.9905/hour) on pay matrix to fill the open position of public works office administrator assistant. Jason Hightower seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Public comment opened. Jim Hindershot of Tanglewood addressed the commissioners. Jan Longnecker addressed the commissioners in regards to Sunny Meadows. Public comment closed.

At 10:56, Bridge gates were addressed by commissioners and Shaun West. When mentioned on bridge inspections, they create liability. The particular incident has been addressed and Shaun is working to correct the larger problem.

Trash compactor contracts were discussed. Commissioners made sure to be clear locatin of compactor is up to the city and the city maintain their own fence and gates. At 11:06 AM, Jason Hightower made the motion to accept and sign trash compactor agreement with cities of Blue Mound, Parker, Prescott, Pleasanton, Mound City and LaCygne. Jim Johnson seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

At 11:10 Commissioners motioned end the open meeting and to alter agenda to change the marina workshop to noon, not 1pm. No action will be taken during workshop meetings; public is invited and clerk will be in attendance. Jason seconded and the motion passed, 3-0.

At 2:46 PM, With nothing further on the agenda Jim Johnson moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, March 17th, 2025. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

County Clerk

March 31, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Ali Hamilton, Vice chair; Jason Hightower, Commissioner; Rose Mohler, Deputy County Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with invocation.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$131,182.66: General, \$79,050.89; Rural Fire, \$3,147.29; Road and Bridge, \$45,464.93; county health department, \$976.83; Elderly, \$378.97; SPARK/CARES Act Fund \$2163.75. To include the KORA request of \$12,900.53. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson moved to approve add/abate/refund orders: 2024-229 & 230 totaling refunds of \$163.34. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jason Hightower motioned to approve the agenda; Alison Hamilton had a change to the agenda. A meeting at 10:00 am with Jacklyn Paletta. Jim Johnson seconded, and the motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson read the Sheriff's report. Dawn Brooks, AMR read their report. Alison Hamilton reported the fire calls.

Jason Parker, GIS Mapping, Online user accounts for Commissioners, 911 data steward certification, organizing data 20 years data, and created surveys for Economic Development. Requested 5 minutes executive session for non-elected personnel.

At 9:13 AM Jim Johnson moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:18 AM. Alison Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The 3 Commission and Jason Parker attended the executive session.

At 9:18 AM, the executive session ended and action from the executive session-Carol Klopfenstein will be retiring this year and Jason Parker would like to open the position for hire before Carol retires. Alison Hamilton made the motion to open GIS Technician level 1 position until filled. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Jesse Walton, Roads and Bridge supervisor, addressed the commissioners with weekly updates. Requested posting open position for season mowers and full-time road signs. Bridge on 1700 Road approaches were discussed.

Tod Moeller spoke on 1700 road bridges with minor problems. Jesse will look to see which one needs attention from the bridge inspection.

Shaun West four bus stop signs for Tanglewood gate 2 & 3 needed can use resolution not traffic studies to get signs ordered. Commission to order signs with resolution.

Tod Moeller Reported on bridge approach repairs and erosion issues. Would like an engineer to evaluate area before fixing on Iliff Road. Tod to continue to do the sealing of the roads.

Alison Hamilton all bridges that need work and timeline for repair. 2025 plan for repairs will bring to commissioners. Jason Hightower motioned to approve 1077 Rd and 900 Rd patching repairs totaling \$12,100. Jim Johnson second. passed 3-0.

At 9:47 AM Jim moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:02 AM. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission will meet for 5 minutes then the deputy Clerk and Counselor to hire will join for final 10 minutes of the executive session.

At 10:02 AM the open session resumed with Jason motioning to hire Jacklyn Paletta as county counselor on as-needed basis at a rate of \$200 per hour with contract to be approved next week. Alison seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Public comment opened. Michael Waldon, director of Southeast Kansas juvenile detention center located in Girard, addressed commissioners plan in place needed. Cost change to 3 times the daily rate \$175 because Linn County is out of contract, which means no bed will be guaranteed in event of emergency placement.

Rob Kelsy, Tanglewood board member, seeking commissioners to decide if roads will be public or private. Jason suggested county legal counsel should reach out to Tanglewood legal counsel. The matter will be on the agenda on April 14th.

Shaun West public works administrator addressed the commissioners. Sealed bids for on call engineering were opened and read (five were received). 2017 grants to complete with Clerk's office. working with new grant cost by end of April to develop the plan.

Original courthouse roof repair RFP received no bids from 1st round insurance agent contact information for contractor. Commissioners instructed Shaun to reopen RFP and all suggested contractors will be informed; RFP to close April 18th and be reviewed on April 21st.

2026 High risk rural roads June or July to get accomplish this year. Incoming county counselor, Jacklyn Paletta, will be consulted next Monday.

Track Loader for landfill was discussed, purchasing and leasing options were discussed. Current machine has in used for 10 years and inoperable, with overheating, track is played out, no guards, and hydraulic problems. Jim expressed he is not sold on buying new loader and feels repairs to current machine will suffice. Jason shared we have turned down all request at this point, supports a purchase over leasing. Alison requested timeline for replacement needs clear picture of county needs. Alison asked to review reserve equipment budget where the funding comes from. Repair list on equipment in pub works.

At 10:50 AM recommendation of roll off truck discussed where tariff impacting purchasing equipment. After Tariff calms down put out for bid again to secure better pricing. ARPA funds plan to do 2 trucks quote now only for 1. County lead mechanic, Jack, has worked on trucks. There was discussion of special license Class A driver to operate

standard transmission of certain vehicles, requiring additional training and testing. Discussion and roll off truck purchase was tabled until tariff's calm down. All received bids for roll off truck will be rejected.

Johnny Taylor, noxious weed director, presented cost share annual management plan review. Jason Hightower makes the motion to accept noxious weeds management plan. Alison Hamilton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson Made a motion to approve resolution 2025-06 for noxious week cost share cap of \$30,000. Jason Hightower seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Jason made the motion to recess open session for 4 minutes, to resume at 11:31 AM.

Shaun West informed commissioners that gazebo repairs minus the roofing will come to \$5092 with labor and parts gazebo Randy Page details next week.

Ken Olsen, Fleet Management, returned to discuss contract opportunities with Enterprise fleet management. Options for 16-29 vehicles were presented to commissioners. Discussion included county's previous spending to identify if this would ultimately save funds and reduce budget. It was recommended that commissioners make a decision soon to take advantage of the 2025 models available for lease. Enterprise fleet contract will be reviewed by county counselor next week.

At 12:09 PM Randy Hegwald, fire and emergency management, addressed commissioners to inform them of a piece of equipment out for repair.

At 12:12 PM Blake Johnson of Spearmint Energy presented a battery energy storage opportunity for the northeast corner of the county. They are a privately owned US corporation headquartered in Miami, Florida. Lithium-Ion battery cell storage to house surplus power when demand is low and supply is high. Preposed project within Linn County would benefit local tax revenue (not currently qualifying for 10-year tax abatement but on senate floor) contributing \$20 million dollars from property taxes paid in the first 10 years, with \$52 million over a 30 year life of project. Chairman Johnson inquired about special equipment to combat a battery fire; it was stated that in the event of a battery fire, there is currently no special equipment but typically burn themselves out. There is 24/7 monitoring. However, prior to approval and during life of project, a team would work closely with rural fire and emergency management to create a plan. Jim inquire about potential of soil contamination and hazards associated with fire. Toxic gases that will dissipate in atmosphere and no soil contamination has been documented. Field studies have already started. Their Plan is to continue outreach and engagement with county department heads and community. Projected construction is year 2028. Negotiations would be considered during a pilot program if requested. Blake asked for open to communication and constructive feedback from commissioners. Alison reiterated this was opposed by public a year ago but stated current regulations would not interfere with conditional use permit for their project.

At 12:40 PM With nothing further on the agenda Jason moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, April 7th, 2025. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Attest:

County Clerk

Commission Chair

April 7, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Ali Hamilton, Vice chair; Jacklyn Paletta, county counselor; Danielle Souza, County Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with invocation.

Jim moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Jim moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$541,982.76: General, \$253,795.56; Rural Fire, \$15,340.00; Road and Bridge, \$47,137.76; county health department, \$15,470.07; Elderly, \$4,302.03; payroll clearing, \$71,170.06; sewer district #1, \$62.87; \$appraiser fund, \$17,066.02. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Jim motioned to approve the agenda with a change to remove public works work session and add it to next week; Alison seconded, and the motion passed 2-0.

Alison read the Sheriff's report. Dawn Brooks, AMR read their report. Randy Hegwald reported the fire calls. Amanda presented her monthly update for the health department. Jesse Walton presented road and bridge weekly update.

At 9:25 AM Jim moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319, to discuss hiring and job description. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:35AM. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, Counselor, and Jesse attended the executive session.

At 9:35 AM, open meeting resumed with action from executive session. Jesse requested to hire for an open position. Alison made the motion to hire Joseph Maxwell as an equipment operator without a CDL at 7C, \$17.039 per hour. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0. Alison made the motion to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to discuss job descriptions. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9: 40 AM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, Clerk, Counselor, and Jesse attended the executive session.

At 9:40 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Shaun West addressed the commissioners, requesting an executive session. At 9:43 AM Alison moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:49 AM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Clerk, Counselor, and Shaun attended the executive session.

At 9:49 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session. Alison made the motion to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to discuss return to work. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9: 55 AM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, Clerk, Counselor, and Jesse and Shaun attended the executive session. At 9:56 the open meeting resumed with no action taken. Alison made the motion to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for an additional 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to discuss return to work. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:06 AM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, Clerk, Counselor, and Jesse and Shaun attended the executive session.

At 10:06 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

At 10:06 AM public comment was opened. Jan Longnecker, citizen, addressed commissioners regarding Sunshine Meadows and KORA requests. Jim Hindershot, citizen, addressed the commissioners regarding Tanglewood roads. Darin Wilson, Citizen, addressed the commissioners requesting a list of registered voters in the county. Public comment was closed.

At 10:17 AM Alison made the motion to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:32 AM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, counselor, clerk, sheriff and undersheriff attended the executive session.

At 10:33 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Roadway safety action plan was presented to commissioners.

At 10:54 AM, Alison Hamilton made the motion to recess until 11:00 AM. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

At 11:00 AM, Jim made the motion to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to discuss job descriptions. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:15 AM. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, Counselor, and Lisa Kellstadt attended the executive session.

At 11:18 AM open meeting resumed. Action from executive session was Alison made a motion to put out open positions to hire for two new appraisal positions. Jim seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Shaun West, public works director addressed the commissioners. Written gazebo repairs quote from Randy Page was given. Alison stated she is in favor of gazebo but questions the total cost of repairs. Topic will be tabled until Monday, April 14th. Shaun provided RFP results for on-call engineering. Shaun recommended commissioners accept bid from Pfeffercorn. Miami County communicated with Shaun that they could not guarantee the Devlin Road could be completed on their side of the county line. Dock removal is scheduled for this week at Linn County Park and Marina. Boiler at the courthouse needs repaired. Update on the courthouse roof was provided. Alison asked about projects to

be completed and concerns in the building that currently houses the Appraisers. Senior centers around the county were discussed.

At 12:04 PM Kent Harris addressed the commissioners with dump fee waivers.

At 12:11 PM Alison made the motion to approve CD25002 dump fees waiver at 100%. Jim Seconded the motion.

Motion passed 2-0. Alison made the motion to approve CD25003 dump fees waiver at 50%. Jim Seconded the motion.

Motion passed 2-0. Alison made the motion to approve CD25004 dump fees waiver at 50%. Jim Seconded the motion.

Motion passed 2-0.

At 12:13 PM Sheriff James Akes provided agreement for youth intake from Douglas County to the commissioners and counselor.

Shaun West returned to commissioners to discuss CD25001; it was incorrectly marked and need approved, as it was not approved previous but has been signed off on. Landfill estimate on capacity was discussed. It was confirmed that Linn County landfill is for Linn County residence. Alison made the motion to approve CD25001 dump fees waiver at 100%. Jim Seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

At 12:24 PM Alison made the motion to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:39 PM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission and Counselor attended the executive session.

At 12:40 PM Commissioners open meeting resumed with action from executive session. Alison moved to approve on-call engineers CFS Engineers out of Topeka Kansas to fulfill the term left for the county. Jim Johnson seconded. Motion passed 2-0. At 12:41 PM Alison moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss job descriptions pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:56 PM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission and counselor attended the executive session.

At 12:57 PM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session. Jim moved to Extend recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss job descriptions pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 1:27 PM. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission and counselor attended the executive session.

At 1:28 PM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session. Jim moved to Extend recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss job descriptions pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 1:43 PM. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, clerk and counselor attended the executive session.

The open meeting resumed at 1:43 PM with action from executive session. Alison made the motion to terminate Shaun West, public works director, effective immediately. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

At 1:43 PM Alison moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 1:54 PM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, clerk, counselor and Jesse Walton attended the executive session.

The open meeting resumed at 1:54 PM with action from executive session; Alison made the motion to move Jesse Walton into public works interim director effective immediately. Jim Seconded. Motion passed 2-0. Alison made a motion to open the Public Works administrator position for hire until the position is filled on Indeed, newspaper and more. Jim Seconded. Motion passed 2-0. Alison made the motion to move the parks and marina department from originally public works to under economic development, Direct Chasity Ware, effective immediately. Jim seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

At 1:56 PM Alison moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss job descriptions pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 2:06 PM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission and counselor attended the executive session.

At 2:06 PM the executive session ended. Alison made the motion to move GIS/mapping under the appraiser's department for evaluations and other supervisory roles. Jim Seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0. Alison made a motion to approve the contract with new county counselor, Jacklyn Paletta, as written. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0. Chairman signed the contract.

Alison made a motion to adopt resolution 2025-7 regarding traffic signs in Linn County, at Gorman and 200 Rd. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

Alison made a motion to adopt resolution 2025-8 regarding traffic signs in Linn County, at bus stop near Tanglewood Gate 3. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

Alison made a motion to adopt resolution 2025-9 regarding traffic signs in Linn County, at bus stop near Tanglewood Gate 2. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0.

At 2:08 PM, PM with nothing further on the agenda Jim moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, April 14th, 2025.

Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

County Clerk

April 14, 2025

The Board of Linn County Commission met in regular session at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Linn County Courthouse Annex, Mound City, Kansas. Present were Jim Johnson, chairman; Alison Hamilton, Vice chair; Jacklyn Paletta, county counselor; Danielle Souza, County Clerk. Jim Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with invocation.

Jim moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim moved to approve the following pays/special pays, totaling \$170,604.33: General, \$36,691.80; Rural Fire, \$9,735.86; Road and Bridge, \$71,084.90; county health department, \$2,144.58; Elderly, \$46,345.45; Employee Benefit Fund, \$93.00; sewer district #1, \$1,024.00; 911 telephone tax fund, \$1,894.73. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Jim Johnson made the motion to approve Add/ABATES totaling a refund of \$666.56 for orders 2024-231,233, and 234. Jason seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Posted agenda was altered with feedback provided from Jacklyn, Danielle and Jason. Jason motioned to approve the agenda with changes to accommodate all suggestions, including 15 minutes for the code of ethical conduct directly ahead of the department heads. Motion dies for lack of second. Alison made the motion to approve the agenda with changes to accommodate all suggestions, excluding 15 minutes for the code of ethics requested by Jason. Jim seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Jason Hightower read the Sheriff's report. Dawn Brooks, AMR read their report. Randy Hegwald reported the fire calls. Jason Parker, GIS interim, addressed the commission with an update and requested a 5 minute executive session. At 9:12 AM Alison motioned to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:17 AM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Jason Parker attended the executive session.

At 9:20 AM the executive session ended. Action was taken as a result of the executive session but will be addressed briefly.

Jesse Walton presented road and bridge weekly update. Assistance application for Lake Chaparral received to mow the dam. After a brief discussion, permission was temporarily denied for assistance. But encouraged to bring more info to the commission for further consideration as a winter project. Equipment repairs for 953 Track Loader at the landfill, totaling nearly \$30,000 was requested. Jason made the motion to allow up to \$30,000 for loader parts to be purchased and repairs made by in-house mechanic. Jim Seconded. Motion passed 2-1. Oil bids were received, opened and reviewed by commissioners for paving season (three bids were received).

At 9:39 AM Jim moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319, to discuss job description. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 9:50. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Counselor, and Jesse attended the executive session.

At 9:50 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Jim moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss job descriptions pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, clerk, counselor and Jesse attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:00 AM.

At 10:00 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session. Jim moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss job descriptions pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, clerk, counselor, Jesse and Joyce (public works administrative office manager) attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:11 AM.

At 10:11 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session. Jim moved to Extend recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss job descriptions pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:22 AM. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, clerk, Jesse, Joyce and counselor attended the executive session.

At 10:22 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session. Jim moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss legal matters pursuant to client attorney privilege exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, counselor and Jesse attended the executive session. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:32 AM.

At 10:32 AM Executive session ended. Jason made the motion to approve Jesse Walton to sign any Permits for planning and zoning. Alison seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Public comment opened at 10:34 AM. Sharon, a tenant at Linn County Park, shared thoughts about bullying, and asked for situations to be handled constructively. Jason Hightower, commissioner, addressed the commission criticizing leadership and lack of best practices being executed by the commission.

Public comment closed at 10:42 AM

Jason Parker returned to the podium to request an employee change. Alison made the motion to approved personnel change form for Jessica Brown to be transferred from appraiser 1 to GIS tech 1, at a new pay rate of \$20.12 Effective May 5, 2025. Jim Seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

At 10:45 AM Alison moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes for legal advice on contracts from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 10:57 AM. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. The Commission, Counselor, sheriff and undersheriff attended the executive session.

At 11:06 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

KORA inquiry fee was discussed. County counselor informed commission that the discretion of fees falls squarely on the county's public information officer, which is the county clerk. Counselor advised the commission to continue to

allow clerk to handle fees as her office sees fit. Undersheriff Bobby Johnson addressed the commission to share how the sheriff's office handles open records request, noting that sheriff's department charges at a loss for the service provided. Jan Longnecker addressed the commissioner to reiterate his request and was reminded that Jesse Walton will be handling planning and zoning department.

At 11:17 AM Jim moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 20 minutes to conduct an interview with non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to protect the privacy of the employee. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:38AM. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Clerk, and Interviewee attended the executive session.

At 11:17 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

The gazebo repairs were discussed. County counselor stated the county's RFP process is for projects larger than \$25,000 and smaller projects can collect bids via phone or otherwise. The gazebo discussion was tabled.

Jesse will be updated with insurance information to reach out to potential bidders and reopen the RFP for courthouse roof repairs.

At 11:48 AM Jim moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss individual employees' performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319, to discuss job description. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 11:58 AM. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission, Counselor, clerk, and Chasity attended the executive session.

At 11:58 AM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Jim moved to recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 10 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:09 AM. Alison seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Counselor attended the executive session.

No action was taken as a result of the executive session. Alison moved to extend prior recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 30 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 12:40 PM. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Counselor attended the executive session.

At 12:40 PM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session. Jim moved to extend prior recess from the Board of Commission meeting into executive session for 20 minutes for legal advice from the County Counselor which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, pursuant to the consultation with attorney exception listed in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2), concerning obtaining legal advice from the County Counselor. The open meeting will resume in the Commission Room at 1:00 PM. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Commission and Counselor attended the executive session.

At 1:01 PM the executive session ended. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

Danielle informed the commissioner's that planning and zoning director, Kent Harris, tendered a letter of resignation to the clerk after the commissioner's meeting on April 7, 2025. Jason made the motion to accept the resignation of Kent and post the position as open for hire. Jim seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Jason will return next week with recommendations for filling the vacant planning and zoning committee.

Jim shared that he will be attending a meeting in Iola with surrounding counties commissioners to discuss the funds provided to Southeast Kansas community mental health On Thursday evening.

Alison shared she will be attending a KDOT meeting Thursday morning.

Jacklyn shared she will not be physically present for the next three meetings.

At 1:03 PM, PM with nothing further on the agenda Jim moved to adjourn until 9:00 AM Monday, April 21st, 2025.

Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Commission Chair

Attest:

County Clerk