

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on **Thursday, April 13, 2017**, at **6:00pm** in the courtroom. Those present were Chairman Walker T. Norman, Commissioner Virginia T. Williams, District One; Commissioner Larry Collins, District Two; Commissioner Cooper Cliatt, District Three; Commissioner H. Lamar Wade, District Four; Mr. Ben Jackson, County Attorney; Mrs. Traci Bussey, Finance Director and Ms. Sherry E. McKellar, County Clerk.

1.

**Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Norman called the meeting to order.

2.

**Invocation**

Rev. Keith Etheridge of Double Branches Baptist Church opened the meeting with prayer.

3.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Following the invocation Commissioner Wade lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board approved the minutes as presented.

5.

**Approval of Agenda**

On a motion by Commissioner Wade, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

6.

**Departmental Reports**

**A. Office of Emergency Services Department**

Director Broom presented his monthly report.

**B. Recreation Department**

Director Glaze was absent as he had activities at the Recreation Department. He had previously sent his report.

**C. Finance Department**

Director Bussey presented the Finance report and informed the Board that the February Sales Tax was down by 13%. She checked with the Department of Revenue to see why and was told that sales were down throughout the state.

**D. Public Works Department**

Director Seymour presented his monthly reports and informed the board that they are already out cutting county right-of-ways.

**E. Planning and Zoning Department**

Director Seymour presented his monthly reports.

7.

**Gerome Bolton Proclamation**

Director Broom thanked the Chairman for allowing him to honor a long time employee and volunteer. Gerome Bolton has been with the Lincoln County Emergency Services since its inception originally as the Rescue Squad. He has been an important part of helping the Lincoln County Public Safety Office become all that they are today.

Chairman Norman told Mr. Bolton he appreciated his years of service to the community. Commissioners Williams, Collins, Cliatt and Wade also thanked him for all he has done for Lincoln County. Clerk McKellar then read a Proclamation honoring Gerome Bolton and Director Broom presented him with a plaque thanking him for 27 years for dedicated service. Mr. Bolton then thanked everyone and said he was at a loss for words. This was a total surprise and such an honor. He has enjoyed meeting everyone and serving the community.

8.

**Freezer for Sheriff's Department**

On a motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of a freezer from B & J Appliance for \$5734.54 from the Jail Fee Fund.

9.

**Employee Benefits Brokerage & Consulting Service**

On a motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board voted unanimously to hire Watson & Knox, Inc. as the Broker of Record for Lincoln County Employee Benefits. Commissioner Collins stated that the County had put out an RFP for the service and received seven (7) responses. Chairman Norman thanked the committee consisting of Commissioner Collins, Director Bussey and Clerk McKellar who reviewed the proposals and narrowed it down to three (3) that were interviewed and that narrowed it down to two (2) and after much discussion decided on Watson & Knox, Inc.

10.

**Recommendations on Campgrounds**

**A. Rate Increases**

Director Seymour informed the board that during a recent Finance Committee meeting there was discussion of raising the campground rates to help off-set the cost of maintaining the parks. Current rates per day for regular sites are \$20 and primitive sites for \$18. Seniors and handicapped are \$5 off.

**B. In-House Reservations**

Director Seymour stated that during the same committee meeting it was discussed to move all county park reservations in-house to his department.

**C. Clay Hill Sewer Repairs**

Director Seymour informed the board that the sewer lines at Clay Hill had to be repaired as a field line had gotten stopped up. The cost of the repairs was \$3500 and was paid out of the emergency fund.

On a motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board voted unanimously to increase the campground rates from \$20 to \$25, bring all reservations in-house and approve the \$3500 from the emergency fund to pay for the sewer repairs at Clay Hill.

11.

**Water/Sewer Rate Increase**


On a motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Cliatt, the Board voted unanimously to accept the water rate increase to \$1.97 per thousand gallons from the City.

Director Seymour informed the Board that the County had received a letter from Mayor Brown stating that the water agreement audit of the water plant expenses required a rate increase for 2017 of \$1.97 per thousand gallons, up from \$1.89. This rate increase will not affect the county rates as the Board had previously approved a rate increase effective July 1, 2017. He will email the previous rate increase schedule that is required by USDA to each of the commissioners.

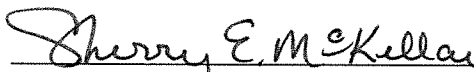
12.

**Adjourn**

On a motion by Commissioner Wade, seconded by Commissioner Williams, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.

  
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Walker T. Norman, Chairman

Attest:

  
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Sherry E. McKellar  
County Clerk