

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

July 14, 2025

Present: Rebecca Wood, Chairman; Nathan Schutte, Commissioner, Tim Ridinger, Commissioner, Jennifer Hohnhorst, Clerk, Cindi Sievers, Clerk for minutes.

9:30am Chairman Wood called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes & Claims

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to accept the minutes for July 7, 2025 as presented. Commissioner Ridinger seconded. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to pay the Lincoln County accounts payable for \$23,541.26. Commissioner Ridinger seconded. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carries.

9:50am Action Items

Certification for an Assessor's Deputy Assessor who passed the certification testing.

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to approve the salary rate form as presented. Commissioner Ridinger seconded. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carries.

Assessor Anaya presented the Main Roll with the homeowner's exemption approvals. She discussed the determination for the homeowner's exemption status including some that were removed as not qualified.

Commissioner Ridinger made a motion to approve the Main Roll with the homeowner's exemptions as presented. Commissioner Schutte seconded. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carries.

9:56am Budget Work Session

Clerk Hohnhorst discussed the A & D budget for salary and deductions stating the proposed amount for FY26 and stated she compared the increase with surrounding counties. She also discussed the possibility of having a 4-day work week for the employees and extending the hours of the courthouse. The Clerk, Assessor, Sheriff, and Treasurer discussed how the extended hours would work in each office. The proposed extended hours would be M-F 8:00am to 6:00pm and the hours worked would go from 37.5 to 38 hours per week. Clerk Hohnhorst did some research and found statistically it would increase revenue by allowing customers to come in after work. The Sheriff checked and ITD has a support line for Titles & Registration and Drivers's License if any errors occur to 6:00pm. The Treasurer stated that with only one employee, the extended hours would not be feasible. The Sheriff had similar concerns. Clerk Hohnhorst said we are at 83% of the fiscal year and checked the current revenue and stated the county's revenue is at 117.64% above the projected revenue to date. The Commissioners agreed to move forward with the proposed calculated wages and the new work week. If approved, the Commissioners could review in 6 months.

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Commissioner Schutte made a motion to approve the office hours for the Clerk and Assessor from 8:00am to 6:00pm M-F beginning October 1, 2025. Chairman Wood seconded. Discussion: new hours to be evaluated in 6 months. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Schutte; yes, Commissioner Ridinger; yes, Chairman Wood; yes, motion carries.

Clerk Hohnhorst reviewed the 3rd Quarter Expense & Revenue Reports. The expenses are within budget except for Elections due to the employee change. Revenue as stated above is over and the budget will have to be opened at the end of the fiscal year.

11:00am Executive Session

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(b) Personnel. Commissioner Ridinger seconded. Roll Call Vote Commissioner Schutte, yes; Commissioner Ridinger, yes; Chairman Wood, yes. Vote unanimously in favor, meeting adjourned to Executive Session.

11:15am Chairman Wood adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting. No action taken.

Correspondence and Old Business

Chairman Wood reviewed the Treasurer's Cash Balance Report for discussion.

Commissioner Schutte discussed the email regarding the nuclear energy meeting in Jerome and its times and dates.

Chairman Wood stated there is training online for Election's Sunshine Laws for elected officials and anyone who wants to run as a candidate.

Commissioner Schutte stated that Neher Park's fishing area has been restocked with fish and welcomes people to the park to fish.

Chairman Wood stated the Century 21 funding for the Youth Center will be funded through December 2025 thanks to the Department of Education.

Clerk Hohnhorst reviewed the Code Enforcer report, and the number of citations issued.

Fire season has begun. Be advised and be careful. Clerk Hohnhorst stated 2 EMT's have been dispatched on fires.

11:30am Chairman Wood adjourned the regular meeting for lunch.

1:00pm Chairman Wood opened the regular meeting.

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to amend the agenda to add an action item for an amended Main Roll. Commissioner Ridinger seconded. Good faith reason: Another homeowner exemption has been received and approved. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carries.

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Chairman Wood made a motion to approve the amended Main Roll. Commissioner Schutte seconded. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carries.

1:06pm Chairman Wood closed the regular meeting to open the Planning & Zoning Work Session.

2:26pm Chairman Wood reconvened the regular meeting.

Assessor Anaya received another homeowner exemption and needs to have the newest amended Main Roll approved.

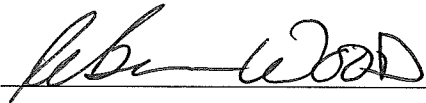
Commissioner Schutte made a motion to amend the agenda to add an action item for a second amended Main Roll. Commissioner Ridinger seconded. Good faith reason: Another homeowner exemption has been received and approved. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Ridinger made a motion to approve the amended Main Roll, adding the last homeowner exemption. Commissioner Schutte seconded. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carries.

2:30pm Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting.


Respectfully,

Cindi Sievers, Clerk for Minutes



Rebecca Wood, Chairman

Attest:



Cindi Sievers, Clerk for Minutes