

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for April 29, 2014

9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

9:05 Lisa Nolder, Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director, to introduce herself and give an update on her activities

1. Approve the minutes from the April 18, 2014 meeting
2. Review and approve the Discharge Monitoring Reports for the county landfill for the 1st quarter of 2014
3. Review and sign a letter supporting an application from the Rocky Mountain World Trade Center Institute to the Economic Development Administration for export training and network outreach
4. Discuss selling or donating the old handicap accessible bus to the hospital once the new one is received
5. Old business
6. New business
7. Approve payroll and expense vouchers

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on April 29, 2014. The following attended: Chairman Ted Lyons, Commissioners Greg King and Doug Stone, County Administrator Roxie Devers, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel. Will Bublitz with The Limon Leader and Eastern Colorado Plainsman and commissioner candidate Gene Vick attended until 10:30 a.m.

Commissioner Lyons called the meeting to order and asked town of Hugo mayor Patsie Smith, who was in attendance to listen to the 9:00 appointment, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Lisa Nolder then introduced herself, explaining that she is familiar with economic development as she worked as the director in Prowers County for five years. She understands that rural economic development is much different than urban development but sees potential in Lincoln County, which is one of the reasons she applied for the position. Ms. Nolder plans to search for housing in Lincoln County, but feels that the housing market is tight right now, plus she leases a home in Colorado Springs that she has another year left on; however, she does intend to live in Lincoln County eventually. She asked for the views and goals of each of the commissioners for her role, as well as economic development in general in the county, and Mr. Lyons commented that the area is limited to possibilities due to lack of water. He added that whatever Ms. Nolder does decide to work on he would like for her to keep the commissioners informed, since the county has chosen to invest a lot of taxpayer money into economic development and it is time people see some results.

Mr. Stone put in that it is a difficult situation since the county is so far from metro areas, yet people tend to shop in the cities where they can get everything they need at once rather than locally. He is concerned with small, local businesses and hopes Ms. Nolder has some ideas for them as well. He has heard that there is a shortage of workers in the fast food and hotel industries and asked if she had found that to be the case. Ms. Nolder responded that the county does have a healthy amount of commuters and she believes that workers can be drawn from other communities, which creates a Catch-22 situation because they will not live here. Mr. Stone asked if housing is a problem and Ms. Nolder said she believes it is.

Ms. Nolder said it is still a recession-area climate, but it is difficult to get accurate numbers because people aren't filing for unemployment or looking for jobs the way they did at one time. She added that they need to be cautious of allowing water-intensive industries to come to the area, but prospects like wind service and oil and gas industries are excellent opportunities. The primary goal is to capture service industries but still be mindful of local businesses.

Ms. Nolder described a business-retention program in Prowers County that she was instrumental in and explained that she would like to do the same in Lincoln County. They helped local businesses find lending resources, developed communications, and even helped with expansion of some current local establishments. She felt that the opportunities are there for the locals. Ms. Nolder went on to say that new businesses wanting to start up in the county were required to come before the commissioners in Prowers County and she felt it was a very

good practice, especially since the Board has to answer to their constituents, who often ask questions regarding economic development. She added that they do need to be careful with offering incentives because it could potentially cause hard feelings with current business owners, yet they also want to make sure that new businesses have an opportunity as well. Ms. Nolder felt that the more involved the commissioners are the better, and she said she would like to meet with them on a monthly basis to answer questions or simply observe the operations of the county. She added that she represents the county when she goes to the capitol or a statewide conference, so she wants to learn county practices.

The Board thanked Ms. Nolder for her presentation and she and Ms. Smith left.

Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 18, 2014, as submitted. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which carried.

The Board reviewed the Discharge Monitoring Reports for the county landfill for the First Quarter of 2014. Ms. Devers said she'd contacted Mick Jaques who told her there was no discharge for the quarter, and Mr. Lyons signed the reports.

Ms. Devers had received an email from Karen Gerwitz, President of the Rocky Mountain World Trade Center, requesting support of an application from the Rocky Mountain World Trade Center Institute to the Economic Development Administration for export training and network outreach. Ms. Devers had spoken with Jo Downey who told her that the company is legitimate; her only complaint was that they were soliciting support via email. Mr. King made a motion to sign a letter supporting the application, Mr. Stone seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Ms. Devers said that the nursing home pays \$700 each year for an activity trip for residents every Friday (or doctor visits if no trip is planned) but the hospital also wants to schedule doctor appointments other days of the week. Since the drivers only work part time and often have other jobs, they are not always available, but Ms. Devers spoke with hospital administrator Monica Wilkins who said that they would have their own drivers. Another issue with keeping the bus a county-owned vehicle would be the responsibility for maintenance, paying a driver, and paying for fuel, and Terry Baylie with COG suggested either giving or selling the old bus to the hospital once the new bus arrives. Mr. Lyons felt that just giving the bus to the hospital would be the best and then it would be their responsibility. Ms. Devers said that perhaps the county shop could continue to service the vehicle if the hospital would pay for their own supplies, but Mr. King said he would rather just give it to them and have it out of the county's hands. Ms. Devers said she would let Ms. Wilkins know what the Board had decided.

At the last commissioner meeting the Board had spoken with Mr. Kimble about a road policy and Mr. Lyons said that when they do adopt the official county map they will need to make sure that everyone understands that it is up to the county's discretion that unmaintained county roads will stay open.

Mr. Stone asked what the county's responsibility is regarding fence lines being cleaned out, as one resident's horses keep getting out because dirt has covered up the fence. Mr. King said he thinks it is the landowner's responsibility not that of the county, and Mr. Lyons said it would be Mr. Stone's call as the district supervisor.

The Board approved the payroll and expense vouchers for the month of April, and then Land Use Administrator John DeWitt stopped in to ask about waiving the road agreement with Limon Wind III for the purposes of hauling their transformer to the substation site, as they would like to use County Road 109 north of Genoa, which is specified as a none-use road in the agreement. Mr. DeWitt said that he'd spoken with acting road foreman Gale Lukow who told him that there is a bridge with a weight limit of 81 ton on the route they were going to use and the transformer weighs 381,000 pounds, so they would need a route with no bridges or culverts. Mr. King said he would prefer they not take that heavy of a load across the asphalt on 109 unless they are willing to pay for damages, and a call was placed to Mr. Lukow to see if he had more information.

Mr. Lukow said they will haul the transformer in on the railroad sometime in June but still need to get it north to County Road 3K, after which they can use other county roads to the substation site. When Mr. King told him he really didn't think the asphalt could withstand the weight, Mr. Lukow said that they could possibly use County Road 30 as another option, but they would still have to be on 109 for about half a mile up to the old highway. Mr. Lukow said he would contact the gentleman he spoke with and discuss it with him further, and Mr. King told him to call him on his cell phone, as they were almost finished with the commissioner meeting.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on April 30, 2014.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Ted Lyons, Chairman