

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for December 19, 2014

9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

9:05 Vicki Duran to discuss her new position with the Eastern Colorado Services for the Developmentally Disabled

9:30 Shop Foreman Chris Monks to discuss equipment and gas purchases

10:00 Human Services Director Colette Barksdale to give her monthly report

1. Approve the minutes from the December 8, 2014 meeting
2. Review the November reports from the Assessor and the Clerk
3. Review the November reports of revenues and expenditures for County General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, Road & Bridge and the individual road districts
4. Review the Subsurface Soil Investigation conducted by Entech Engineering, Inc. at the Lincoln County Annex
5. County Commissioner reports
6. County Administrator's report
7. Old business
8. New business

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on December 19, 2014. The following attended: Chairman Ted Lyons, Commissioners Greg King and Doug Stone, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel. County Administrator Roxie Devers and County Attorney Stan Kimble were absent and excused.

Chairman Lyons called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance, after which Vicki Duran met with the Board to discuss her new position with the Eastern Colorado Services for the Developmentally Disabled. She explained that her new job title is Community Organizer or Building Coach, and her goals are to develop and organize community opportunities and person-centered plans, as well as enhance the lives of developmentally disabled persons through job opportunities and the encouragement of relationships and friendships. Her goal for the persons with disabilities themselves is to help them learn to speak up for themselves and to be supported in a variety of ways. As for community goals, she hopes to reach community members who will be willing to be active participants in the planning and development of disabled persons. Mr. Schifferns asked how many persons she felt she would be able to reach and Ms. Duran responded that her goal is to contact about twenty individuals, but she is not sure if all of them will participate. ECSDD is supported by a three-year renewable grant which requires that there are at least ten active participants. Ms. Duran added that since Lincoln County supports ECSDD, she would like to keep the commissioners updated on her progress if they are interested. Mr. King said that she could either send reports to them or meet with them quarterly if that worked for her.

After Ms. Duran left, Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 8, 2014, as submitted. Mr. King seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the November reports from the Assessor and the Clerk, and the November reports of revenues and expenditures for the County General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, and Road and Bridge funds, as well as the individual road districts.

At 9:30 a.m., Shop Foreman Chris Monks met with the Board to discuss equipment and gas purchases. CAT was cheaper by \$4 on the grader blades, so Chris asked each road foreman how many they would need and will get the blades ordered. He also shared quotes from Wagner Equipment for a 2015 CAT 12M3 Motor Grader and Honnen Equipment for a John Deere 770G Motor Grader, stating that totals after trade-in were \$93,520 and \$81,854 respectively. Both machines have a 7-year/7,000 hour warranty, but Chris added that Honnen will charge to come out for repair calls, whereas Wagner will not. Response time on repair calls is also generally much quicker with Wagner. Chris had also ordered three additional loads of fuel at \$2.26 per gallon so figured they were pretty well set for next year regarding fuel. Lastly, he had spoken to McCormick, who will be out in either late January or February to do asphalt crushing in Limon. Chris will speak with Limon town manager Dave Stone to see what the town's plans are. Mr. King asked if they had gotten any of the concrete from the old Limon school, but Chris said he didn't know.

Discussion returned to the motor graders and Mr. Schiffers asked if CAT or John Deere gave a better trade-in allowance after so many years. Chris said that CAT has always had a higher trade-in value and Mr. Lyons added that he never felt that John Deere was as good.

Mr. King said he wants to order the John Deere motor grader from Honnen Equipment, as his grader operators had tried them in Elbert County and seemed to like them. Mr. Lyons said he would stick with the CAT as they have a much better trade-in allowance, and Mr. Stone agreed that he would prefer CAT as well. Chris added that he has had no objections to how the John Deere's operate; he simply shares Mr. Lyons' opinion that the CATs are much better machines. Mr. Stone put in that service is extremely important to him and Wagner won't charge for it, plus they come out very quickly if called.

Mr. Lyons told Chris that the hospital needs a couple of loads of rotomill for their parking lot, and Chris also said they had gone to pick up the new Skidster, pick-up broom, bucket and forks for the hospital. He told them that the shop would do the service on it if they would schedule it.

Mr. Stone wanted to know when Chris would order the graders and he said he would do it whenever they wanted him to, so it was decided to go ahead and make the order since it takes quite a while to get them in.

The Board briefly reviewed a Subsurface Soil Investigation conducted by Entech Engineering, Inc. at the Lincoln County Annex, but then Human Services Director Colette Barksdale and Robert Kraxberger met with the commissioners to give the monthly report for the department before they could discuss it.

Ms. Barksdale provided the December C-Stat report and C-Stat Dashboard report, stating that she did not have employee time sheets or other financial reports for the commissioners to approve or review at this time. She explained that they are currently implementing the new Child Welfare Hotline and have had Frontier Telephone out to do much of the phone line work. Child Welfare employees will be available in the office from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and will also have new, cheap flip cell phones that they will use to answer the hotline calls. She had to get each supervisor a Netbook and printer, in addition to their iPads, because each of the six supervisors will be required to access forms that will not print from their iPads. If there is a complaint about the way they handle one of the calls, the state will confiscate the Netbook and cell phone until the case is resolved. Ms. Barksdale said the total cost for the materials so far was \$2,600, but they were given \$5,000 so they are well under budget at this time. However, they will still need to pay for the services performed by Frontier Telephone, as they also had to add two new phone lines, strictly for the incoming calls. They are not outgoing lines and the calls will not go through the answering system, but must be answered. Ms. Barksdale shared the new local number that an individual can use to report abuse and neglect in Lincoln County.

Ms. Barksdale explained the Merit System Certification which the commissioners approve each year. From 1996 until 2000, Lincoln County had to submit a plan to the state of how the transfer from the state merit system to the county merit system would be handled. It is a federal requirement that the plan be followed since the department receives federal funds. Due to that fact, the department is not an at-will department, even though the county is an at-will employer, meaning that Human Services employees cannot be fired without first being allowed time to complete corrective measures for their deficiencies.

Ms. Barksdale went on to say that each year the county must certify that they will operate under specific criteria, but there is one area that she feels has been overlooked. If a federal auditor were ever to come out, she is concerned that they may not like the fact that a periodic wage survey has not been done every five years, as the plan says it must be. The county does get a salary comparison from Phillips County, but it may not suffice in the eyes of a federal auditor. She said that it is up to the Board to decide if they want to do one, cautioning that if there were ever a Fair Labor Standards audit, they most likely wouldn't pass. She added that she feels wages are very comparable to other categories in the community so does not feel that it is a problem and recommended that the Board go ahead and sign the certification form.

Mr. King made a motion to sign the CDHS Certification of Compliance County Merit System form for 2015. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Lastly, Ms. Barksdale asked that the Board approve the Grandparenting grant in the amount of \$6,670 for 2015. Mr. King made a motion to sign the Grandparenting Grant for Human Services, not to exceed \$6,670, for 2015. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Assessor's office employee Christi Hollenbaugh brought in the 2015 Certifications of Levies and Refunds and Mr. Lyons signed the documents.

Discussion turned to the Subsurface Soil Investigation conducted by Entech Engineering at the county annex; Mr. Lyons commenting that it looked as though moving the building to the fairgrounds will be the best option. He added that they will need a soil sample there as well, but since they may also need one for the lift station, they may want to coordinate that effort.

Mr. Stone reported checking roads on December 10 since there has been so much damage from oil truck traffic on several of them. On the Eleventh, he attended the Colorado East Community Action Agency meeting in Limon, and on the Fifteenth, he stopped by the county shop and checked roads that tumbleweeds were becoming a problem on again. He received a call from Terry Grokett about County Road 63 south of Highway 94 which had also been damaged by oil truck traffic. Mr. Stone said they try to keep on top of it by grading but until moisture is received, there is not much they can do. He also placed a couple of calls to Tricia Hale with NextEra about the building at the fairgrounds but has not heard back from her yet.

Mr. King reported stopping by the Genoa shop on December 10, and also noticed that a couple bridge railings in his district needed some attention. They also had a farewell party for Gale Lukow. On December 15, he checked roads around Arriba and then reported that he had received a call from Senator Michael Bennett's office approving the request for a piece of the *USS Arizona* at the Hugo Joe Will VFW Post. The naval historian will pick out an appropriate artifact, but the VFW will have to raise the funds to bring it to Lincoln County.

Mr. Lyons reported touring District One with Mr. Schifferns on December 10, and receiving a phone call on December 15 from Linda Orrell regarding her displeasure with Lisa Nolder and the Lincoln County Economic Development Board. The other commissioners added that they had received a call from Ms. Orrell as well.

There was no old business but a letter from Prairie Development Corporation regarding 2015 appointments to the board had been received and the commissioner reviewed it. Both Lincoln County appointees, Robert Safranek and Steve Burgess, are willing to serve again.

The Board agreed that they would meet only on December 30, rather than both December 30 and December 31, and then reviewed a survey from CCI regarding funding to hire 130 new child welfare caseworkers. Mr. King said that since the survey response is not due until January 12, 2015, he would prefer to wait and discuss it with Ms. Barksdale on December 30.

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

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Ted Lyons, Chairman