

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for June 17, 2016

9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

9:00 Jeremiah Higgins, Lincoln County Assessor, to discuss the property valuation protest period

10:00 Becky Carter, Executive Director of the Colorado East Community Action Agency, to discuss TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program)

1. Approve the minutes from the June 3, 2016, meeting
2. Review the May, 2016, Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for County General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, Road and Bridge and Individual Road Districts
3. Review the May, 2016, reports from the County Assessor, County Clerk & Recorder and County Treasurer
4. Review and act on an application for charging at the Lincoln County Landfill from Edward Marolf
5. Review and act on an Agreement for Electrical Service and Membership with K.C. Electric Association for an electric service for the new wastewater lift station at the county fairgrounds
6. Review and act on a proposed renewal of an Employment Agreement with Roxana Devers to continue grant work associated with the Hugo Roundhouse restoration
7. Review and act on a letter from Meredith Burcham, CHP Benefits Manager, for suggested County Health Pool design changes for 2017
8. Review and act on a request from Sue Kelly, County Public Health Director, to expend surplus state funds in the STEPP and EPR programs
9. Review a report from Richard Johnson, Lincoln County Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator, regarding power back-up for medication storage at the Lincoln County Public Health Office
10. Review the May, 2016, reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and the County Workers' Compensation Pool
11. County Commissioners' reports
12. County Attorney's report
13. County Administrator's report
14. Old business
15. New business

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on June 17, 2016. The following attended: Chairman Greg King, Commissioners Doug Stone and Ed Schiffers, County Administrator Gary Ensign, County Attorney Stan Kimble, Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel, and Will Bublitz with the Limon Leader and Eastern Colorado Plainsman.

Chairman King called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Assessor Jeremiah Higgins met with the Board at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the property valuation protest period. Although the protest period is now over for the Assessor's office, they did receive six protests during the period and will send determinations on June 30. The deadline for real property is July 15, while July 20 is the deadline for personal property. All protests must be heard on or before August 5, and Mr. Higgins reminded the commissioners that they do have the right to make adjustments either way; in favor of the protestor or in favor of the assessor. He felt that of the six, one may possibly come before the Board. Mr. Schiffers asked if he tries to do comparables using the same circumstances and Mr. Higgins responded that they do use comparable economic areas as well as other variables. He added that often people don't realize the work they have put into their places themselves also counts toward the value of them.

After Mr. Higgins had gone, Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 3, 2016, as submitted. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

May 2016 statements of revenues and expenditures were reviewed for the various funds: County General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, and Road & Bridge; as well as the individual road districts. The Board also reviewed the May 2016 reports from the County Assessor, Clerk, and Treasurer.

A request from Edward Marolf to charge at the Lincoln County Landfill was reviewed, Mr. Ensign stating that he had spoken with landfill manager Mick Jaques to see how much trash the gentleman actually hauls in. Mr. Marolf appears to have a side business where he collects trash from county residents and uses his trailer to haul it to the landfill; approximately one load per week. Mr. Jaques felt the paperwork to allow the charge might possibly be more trouble than it was worth for such minimal loads. After determining that mainly commercial businesses, not individuals, have charge accounts at the landfill, Mr. Schiffers stated he didn't really want to set a precedent for such a practice. Mr. Stone made a motion to deny Edward Marolf's application to charge at the Lincoln County Landfill. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed an Agreement for Electrical Services and Membership with K.C. Electric Association for electric service for the new wastewater lift station at the county fairgrounds. The county will need to pay for the installation of the transformer and meter. The general manager at K.C. agreed to grant the county some leeway since the commissioners will not approve vouchers until the end of the month. The installation needs to be done next week in

order to allow time for field testing so the system will be up and running prior to the fair. Mr. Schifferns asked for a cost estimate and Mr. Ensign said it will be around \$1,400. There is already a pole that can be used so the only equipment the county will need to pay for is the transformer and meter. The fairgrounds will then be on four different meters; three of which are currently at the minimum monthly charge. The arena is on the higher class service at \$141 per month but the others are lower. Mr. Ensign felt the lift station would most likely be a higher class service as well. John Palmer is looking into what it would cost to turn the arena meter off in the wintertime and what the re-connect fees would be. Mr. Schifferns wanted to know if K.C. could put the entire facility on one service and Mr. Ensign said everything would have to be rewired. Where the company bills by the meter and whatever class of service going to the meter determines the minimum monthly fee, Mr. Ensign said he wasn't sure if it could be done.

Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the Agreement for Electrical Services and Membership with K.C. Electric Association for the wastewater lift station at the fairgrounds. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

A proposed employment agreement renewal with Roxana Devers for continuance of grant work associated with the preservation of the Hugo Union Pacific Railroad Roundhouse was reviewed and Mr. Ensign highlighted the changes, which were minimal. Ms. Devers did not ask for a higher wage and agreed to extend the agreement through December 31, 2016, in order to complete the CDOT application for Transportation Enhancement funds. Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the employment agreement with Roxana Devers and Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a letter from CHP Benefits manager Meredith Burcham for suggested County Health Pool design changes for 2017. Mr. Ensign said it was mainly the first step in the process and no action was taken.

A request from Public Health Director Sue Kelly to expend surplus state funds in the STEPP and EPR programs was reviewed. Based on their prior conversation with Human Services Director Patricia Phillips about spending money for Lincoln County rather than returning unused portions to the state for another county's use, the commissioners agreed to the approximate expenditure of \$9,000. Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the expenditures, Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

At 10:00 a.m., Becky Carter, Executive Director of the Colorado East Community Action Agency, met with the Board to discuss TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program). According to Ms. Carter, operations are running smoothly since they took over the program in January and numbers are up 25% over last year. She feels they have made distribution much more equitable for everyone in the county who needs their services, which is her goal. They are growing the program and Ms. Carter thanked the county for allowing them the use of the fairgrounds. She added that they are generally finished with distribution in about an hour so feels they can cut down the time that they are occupying the Ellis Allen building. Mr. Stone

suggested working with the Community Gardens and Ms. Carter said she would like to pursue that.

Mr. Ensign reminded the Board that the former TEFAP coordinator was restricted to the awning area at the fairgrounds for distribution purposes and had not been required to pay rental fees. However, Colorado East is using the Ellis Allen building instead of the awning and he felt it was his duty to inform the commissioners that they were not charging the normal rental fees that other county residents would pay. Ms. Carter said she is not asking for a waiver of the fees but rather an in-kind donation from the county for the hours that they use the building, which is approximately three-to-four per month. She added that outside under the awning is not nearly as sanitary, as well as less dignified for their recipients.

Mr. Schifferns said they don't usually require any additional maintenance or cleanup after they use the facility. Mr. Ensign commented that the Board would be setting a precedent if TEFAP is allowed in the building without someone paying the customary rental fee of \$100 per 24-hour period. Ms. Carter stated she was not sure they could afford \$100 each month since they are a non-profit organization and would prefer the county call it an in-kind donation. Mr. Ensign suggested that Human Services could possibly pay the rental fee using TANF funds since Ms. Phillips had stated at a prior meeting that they may have an overage. Ms. Carter said that not all of their recipients are TANF eligible and her mission is to stabilize low income families. Mr. Stone stated that it is a good program that he would hate to see come to an end and Mr. Schifferns agreed, adding that they need to find the money somewhere in order to keep the program running.

Mr. Ensign placed a call to Human Services Director Patricia Phillips who was not in, so Robert Kraxberger came to the meeting in her place. Mr. Ensign explained the situation and Mr. Kraxberger said that the figures Ms. Phillips had given the commissioners regarding TANF funds were only preliminary. They are now looking at mitigation for Child Welfare, which Ms. Phillips has been working on, so there may not be an overage after all. Mr. King wanted to know if TEFAP would even be an eligible source of TANF funds and Mr. Kraxberger said he was sure it would fit the criteria as DHS has given the funds to food banks in the past. He will let Ms. Phillips know the situation when she returns next week, and Mr. Ensign said they would need \$600 for the remainder of the year. Ms. Carter asked what would happen next year and Mr. Ensign said they would have to decide if it could be a budgeted amount. Mr. King suggested the discussion be tabled until July 6 until more information could be obtained regarding funding. Mr. Kimble asked Ms. Carter if they receive any monetary donations but she stated that they do not.

Ms. Carter and Mr. Kraxberger left and the Board reviewed a report from EPR Coordinator Richard Johnson regarding power backup for medication storage at the Public Health office. It is understood that nothing will be done until a decision is made regarding moving the annex building to the fairgrounds, and Mr. Ensign said the report is basically for informational purposes at this time.

The May 2016 reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and Workers' Compensation Pool were reviewed, and then Mr. King called for commissioner reports.

Mr. Stone reported attending the summer CCI conference from June 6 through June 8. They opposed CCI backing Amendment 69, the ballot issue to create a Colorado healthcare system, through a roll-call vote. Passage of the amendment would cause the state to raise annual taxes by billions of dollars. He also learned at conference that Colorado has the most restrictions on oil development of any state in the nation and that oil companies don't even want to look at Colorado anymore. Many commissioners agree that the state and counties need to stop increasing regulations in that regard. There was some discussion on child care in rural Colorado and Mr. Stone got the name of someone who would be willing to come out and speak with the commissioners on the subject. The next eastern district meeting is on September 16 in Akron and the Board agreed to move the regular commissioner meeting to September 19 in order to be able to attend that meeting instead. On June 9, Mr. Stone stopped at the Karval shop and on the Tenth he attended the county employee picnic at the courthouse. He checked roads on June 11 and stopped at the shop again on June 13, reporting that areas down south had received up to an inch and a half of rain, as well as hail, on June 12. His district did some oil patching on June 14, and he attended the Colorado East Community Action Agency meeting on June 16.

Mr. Schifferns reported attending the Centennial Mental Health meeting in Holyoke on June 9, the county employee picnic on June 10, and the Arriba town board meeting on June 13. Flagler and Burlington have both reported finding nitrates in their water and residents of Arriba are concerned that it may happen there as well. A dog clinic was held in Arriba on June 15, and Mr. Schifferns reported checking roads on June 16. District 1 has been chip sealing, hauling rock, and laying gravel. Mr. King asked if Centennial Mental Health plans to request county funding again and Mr. Schifferns responded that all commissioners are saying that they do not support that idea.

Mr. King reported checking roads north of I-70 on June 8, and attending the employee picnic on June 10 and the Economic Development Corporation meeting on June 15. They discussed the child care facility in Hugo that two local residents are trying to get started, and that the Limon Child Care facility is looking at taking infants and toddlers. Mr. King reported seeing small increases in oil truck traffic lately, and that several residents have expressed their concern about the Xcel transmission line routes. Some are very angry about it and he hopes that Xcel will listen to their concerns. He also reported that the stretch of road by Lynn Fisher's place, where they applied the recycled oil treated with chemical, is holding up very well and the road crew will chipseal that area before harvest. He hopes to use the same material again elsewhere.

The Board had received a letter from an inmate in the Limon Correctional Facility thanking them for lowering the fire ban, as well as a thank you letter from the Arriba-Flagler school for the 2015 TANF grant.

Mr. Schifferns added that he had stopped at the new Bomgaars in Burlington and said he got a card from someone and passed the phone number on to Troy McCue.

Mr. Kimble addressed Mr. King's comments about Xcel, stating that it is his understanding that the company has several routes mapped out for the transmission lines, so hopefully they will work with the landowners to find the best option for everyone. As far as the commissioners are concerned, they can only tell their constituents that they are quasi-judges in the case right now and cannot offer comments or opinions until the hearing.

Mr. Kimble stated that the commissioners would need to review an agreement between the Robert C. Bledsoe Trust and Lincoln County for the purchase of the real property and improvements known as Lincoln Park. There will be another contract at a later date for the business assets. Mr. Kimble said that it will most likely be handled as a lease purchase, adding that he did not know when the title commitment would be ready. Mr. Ensign put in that Lincoln Community Hospital Administrator Kevin Stansbury was informed that he should have a survey done as well. Both items are included in the agreement. Mr. Kimble stated that the closing is set for June 30 but Hedlund Abstract needs the county's approval before starting on the title commitment.

Mr. Schifferns made a motion to approve the Agreement for the Sale and Purchase of Real Property and Improvements between the Robert C. Bledsoe Trust and Lincoln County for the purchase of the West 12.5 feet of Lot 7, All of Lots 8, 9, 10 and 11, and the East 7 feet of Lot 12; Block 14, Hills Addition, Hugo, in the amount of \$165,000. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Ensign reported that county auditor Ronny Farmer had been in the courthouse working on the 2015 audit all week and everything seemed to have gone well. Mr. Farmer did say that he should be finished with it on time. Mr. Ensign has also been monitoring the progress of the lift station at the fairgrounds and said everything is progressing according to schedule.

There was no old or new business to discuss and the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on June 29, 2016.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Greg King, Chairman