

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for June 29, 2016

9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

9:00 Mark Hornberger, GMS, Incorporated, Consulting Engineers, to present an update on the progress of the Lincoln County Fairgrounds wastewater improvement project

9:30 John DeWitt, Lincoln County Land Use Administrator, to discuss scheduling a meeting with Karin Wadsack, Northern Arizona University, to discuss renewable energy development

11:00 Charles Thompson, Senior Loan Specialist, U.S. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development, to present an update regarding the U.S.D.A. programs available for Lincoln County and its citizens

1. Approve the minutes from the June 17, 2016, meeting
2. Discuss the desire to adopt a resolution to support the “Raise the Bar, Protect our Constitution” ballot measure that makes it more difficult to amend the Colorado Constitution
3. Old business
4. New business
5. Approve payroll and expense vouchers

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on June 29, 2016. The following attended: Chairman Greg King, Commissioner Doug Stone, County Administrator Gary Ensign, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel. Commissioner Ed Schifferns was absent and excused until 9:40 a.m.

Chairman King called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Stone to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mark Hornberger with GMS, Incorporated, Consulting Engineers, met with the commissioners at 9:00 a.m. to give them an update on the progress of the Lincoln County Fairgrounds wastewater improvement project, which is right on, or ahead of, schedule. They did find that the groundwater conditions were worse than anticipated, which affects the subgrade, and they had to bring in approximately nine loads of gravel (roughly 575 feet) to keep the pipe from sinking. Mr. Hornberger said there will most likely be a Change Order done, which may cost the county \$6.00 to \$10.00 per foot. They are pouring concrete today in the men's restroom beneath the grandstands and setting up pumps in order to de-water the lift station. Services have been connected to the new mains, and the septic tanks for the grandstands have been partially pumped out. The tops will be crushed and they will be filled with sand in order to comply with abandoned septic regulations. Mr. Hornberger said the project is a little over fifty percent complete but the financial aspect is around twenty-five percent complete, as the more expensive items are the lift station and the electrical system.

Mr. Stone said he'd been out to the site the other day and someone had said a cable was accidentally cut. Mr. Hornberger stated that they had followed up with the local phone company and Century Link but neither would claim the cable was theirs. They assumed it was abandoned since no one ever claimed it. Mr. Ensign said he thought the cable was one that was put in years ago but never used.

Mr. Ensign also asked why, if GMS knew there was groundwater at the site when they did their core sample, it would fall back on the county to pay the possible \$6,000 for the gravel they had used. Mr. Hornberger responded that it is considered an unforeseen soil condition; something not determined when the core sample was taken. He added that the gravel will make the project much better overall as there should be no movement in the pipe now. They made sure it was on grade before they covered the pipe and the subgrade was tight underneath. Mr. Ensign wanted to know if they have contingency funds in their budget and Mr. Hornberger said he would check with Dave Frisch. He added that Mr. Frisch felt it was well worth it to make the Change Order and Mr. Ensign said he didn't disagree with the work; he just wondered who was responsible for paying for it. He also said he certainly doesn't want there to be any infiltration of the groundwater. Mr. Hornberger replied that it should be fine but if there is a problem, the contractor will have to fix it.

Before Mr. Hornberger left, Mr. Ensign wanted the commissioners to know that John Palmer has done an exceptional job of coordinating events at the fairgrounds with the work being done by GMS and Mr. Hornberger agreed.

At 9:30 a.m., Land Use Administrator John DeWitt met with the Board to discuss scheduling a meeting with Karin Wadsack, with Northern Arizona University, regarding the topic of renewable energy development. Mr. DeWitt said that Ms. Wadsack does an excellent job of providing information and answering questions on the subject and her objective is to bring all stakeholders together. She had offered to hold a question and answer session in the county for anyone interested in renewable energy. Mr. DeWitt felt it would be beneficial to land use board members, the commissioners, and members of the public as well. The Board agreed they would like to schedule something and Mr. DeWitt will contact Ms. Wadsack to set it up.

Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 17, 2016, as submitted. Mr. King seconded the motion, which carried.

The commissioners discussed adopting a resolution to support the "Raise the Bar, Protect our Constitution" ballot measure that would make it more difficult to amend the Colorado Constitution, Mr. King commenting that he is personally in favor of it. Mr. Stone agreed and Mr. King said he would like to wait until they can discuss it with Mr. Schiffers before making a decision.

There was no old business and Mr. Schiffers arrived as the group was discussing increasing janitor Susie Mosher's hours from thirty-five to forty per week. John Mohan is finding it more difficult to make time to clean the annex building, as he was afraid he might when the summer months came around. Mr. Schiffers made a motion to extend Susie Mosher's hours from thirty-five to forty per week and to adjust her pay accordingly. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

As for the "Raise the Bar" resolution just discussed, Mr. Schiffers said he agreed to support it and Mr. Ensign will draft a resolution to be adopted at the July 6 meeting.

Mr. Schiffers also requested that the words "and growing" be deleted from the June 17, 2016, meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as corrected.

The Board approved the June 2016 payroll and several expense vouchers before their 11:00 appointment arrived.

At 11:00 a.m., Charles Thompson, Senior Loan Specialist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture- Rural Development, met with the Board to present an update regarding the USDA programs available for Lincoln County and its residents. He mentioned Value-Added Producer grants, used to establish working capital accounts, feasibility studies, and business and marketing plans, and to conduct other types of studies for viable value-added business ventures. They also provide business and industry guaranteed loans, rural business grants, rural cooperative development, and renewable energy loans and grants. Mr. Thompson said he would like to return to the county and conduct training for the rural energy and value-added programs.

Mr. Schiffers wanted to know what the interest rate is and Mr. Thompson told him that the renewable energy rate is set by the lender but is generally a fairly good rate. Any rural business can apply; it does not have to be agriculture related. The only criterion is that the business has been operational for a year. Mr. Schiffers asked if USDA has a lot of money to loan and was told that the grant funds are usually gone but there is generally money left over when it comes to the loans. They have a program director that scores each project and puts it in order to receive funding, so their suggestion to communities is to get their projects together quickly so they can be considered before funds are gone. He added that some states don't spend all of their allocation, so communities with a really good project may benefit from that pot of money as well. Mr. Thompson also discussed community facilities loan guarantees for which the county, cities, and non-profits are eligible. They have done projects for hospitals, fire stations, jails, and 911 systems. Grant funds are usually used for equipment or items that have a specific life span since the reporting is quite extensive and anything with a longer life span would be reported on for that duration. Buildings and larger projects tend to be paid for with loan funds.

Mr. Ensign wanted to know how likely it would be for the county to receive funding since it basically has a pretty significant fund balance. Mr. Thompson said that the programs are generally geared toward less affluent organizations but they don't ever discourage an application. Mr. Ensign also asked if there might be any effort within the organization to alleviate all of the paperwork required to apply for funding, adding that the inspections, monthly reports, and other requirements are so burdensome that no one wants to make the effort to apply. Mr. Thompson said that if an organization has a project, he will work with them so that they don't have to do it alone.

Once Mr. Thompson had gone, the commissioners finished approving expense vouchers for the month of June.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on June 30, 2016.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

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Greg King, Chairman