

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

9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

9:00 Andy Lorensen, County Coroner, to discuss matters relating to the 2016 Coroner's Office budget

1. Approve the minutes from the September 19, 2016, meeting
2. Review the Monthly Management Report from the First National Bank Omaha
3. Discuss pending vacancy in the Lincoln County Office of Emergency Management
4. Old business
5. New business
6. Approve payroll and expense vouchers

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

Chairman King called the meeting to order and asked Andy Lorensen County Coroner to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Lorensen proposed to the Board the purchase of a new coroner's vehicle from Dellenbach Motors in Fort Collins. He informed the Board that although there isn't money for it in his budget this year, there is money in this year's capital projects budget. He called Dellenbach and they found a 2016 Chevy pickup that they would discount from \$41,500 to \$29,000 for the county and so with lighting and a new topper the total would be about \$34,600.

Mr. King asked if it had four wheel drive, and Mr. Lorensen responded that it did and also that there was enough room for more than two people, and also still have room to put stuff in the cab and not in the back in the cold. Mr. King also asked him how many miles a year Mr. Lorensen puts on the coroner vehicle, to which Mr. Lorensen responded anywhere from 3,000 to 10,000 approximately.

Mr. Lorensen also proposed that if the county could purchase the new vehicle that they would also keep the old vehicle here in Hugo as a backup. Mr. Schifferns asked why would they need a backup and Mr. Lorensen stated that in case there was an accident or something happened to the new one. Mr. Lorensen told the Board that from November to April he gets calls out in bad weather, and they really need 4-wheel drive vehicle because the current pickup is only two wheel drive and when there is weather like that he has had to have Limon ambulance to go out because he knew the current pickup wouldn't make it.

Mr. Stone asked if Mr. Lorensen had checked prices anywhere else, and Mr. Lorensen stated that Dellenbach got the state bid so he had not. Mr. King asked him if he had priced any that were older or had more miles on it like around 40,000. Mr. Lorensen told the Board that he gave his request to the lady at Dellenbach and this is the only vehicle that she quoted him. Mr. Schifferns stated that he was with Mr. King and Mr. Stone that he thinks he needed to price a couple more vehicles maybe even a few years older. Mr. Lorensen stated that he had done some checking and even a couple years older they are still around \$20,000 versus this one that is a 2016 and if the county did go with an older vehicle, Mr. Lorensen said he would be back here in 6-8 years asking for another vehicle to replace this one he is asking to get now.

Mr. Schifferns said that he didn't like the large engine size in this 2016 model and it looks like the rear end gears are too low. Mr. King told Mr. Lorensen that he wants him to get more quotes including from local dealerships such as Limon Auto Solutions or Transwest Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram. Mr. Lorensen stated he will do some checking but he didn't think that they would be able to beat Dellenbach since they got the state bid. Mr. King asked Mr. Lorensen if

he could do some more checking and get back to us tomorrow at the next meeting; Mr. Lorensen said he could but he asked the Board what they would like him to look for exactly. Mr. Stone stated he thought that a half ton pickup would be more than enough rather than this three-quarter ton pickup that Dellenbach originally found for him. Mr. Lorensen stated that is what he had asked her for originally, and that the half ton should work fine. Mr. Schifferns said to call them back and see if they have anything else. Mr. King stated that the Board does not have a problem replacing the current coroner's vehicle, but they would like to see other options and get some bids. Mr. Lorensen agreed and scheduled to meet with the Board the following day, September 30, 2016, at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Lorensen also informed the Board that the coroner's budget for this year would be over spent in the professional services line item, but it is not really something they can control, since they can't control how many autopsies and toxicology lab requests they will have to do in a year. Mr. King asked Mr. Ensign what the Board needed to do and Mr. Ensign stated that the coroner can overspend in his budget since its part of the general fund, as long as the overall general fund budget doesn't overspend. Mr. Lorensen said he will do his very best to not overspend the line items that he has control over, but the professional services line item he has no control over. Mr. Ensign told Mr. Lorensen to make sure and increase those line items for the 2017 budget, to which Mr. Lorensen agreed.

Next, Mr. Lorensen said he is having trouble with the internet, which is a big problem if he has to do death certificates because he only has 48 hours to do it after he gets them. He was wondering if there was a way to share a hard wired connection with the Clerk's office so that he doesn't have to pay \$40.00 a month for internet just for his one computer and the public Wi-Fi doesn't always work with his computer. Mr. King asked him if he has talked about this with Ms. Lengel, and Mr. Lorensen said he hadn't yet, he just wanted to see if hard wiring was even possible. The Board agreed that hard wiring his computer for internet was a good idea because the public Wi-Fi isn't encrypted.

Lastly, Mr. Lorensen said he just recently found out that he can re-coop the costs of the death from Department of Corrections when they have a death at the facility in Limon.

After Mr. Lorensen left, Mr. Stone then made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on September 19, 2016, as submitted. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the monthly management report from the First National Bank of Omaha.

At 9:40 a.m., Sheriff Tom Nestor and Land Use Administrator John Dewitt joined the meeting to discuss the pending vacancy in the Lincoln County Office of Emergency Management. Sheriff Nestor told the Board that he has been speaking to Mr. Ensign about the vacancy and thought that the Board should consider combining a few things from his office and make an all-encompassing OEM position. He stated that his office stores all the 911 equipment and is in charge of the weather sirens as well but that they don't get the proper attention that they

need. Mr. Dewitt agreed that combining the OEM position with some duties that the sheriff's office currently has would be a great fit.

Sheriff Nestor said he didn't think the position was necessary under him, more of a stand-alone position that would be directly under the commissioners. He stated that if he needed to they could find a place for them in the sheriff's office, but it really depends on who the Board hires. Sheriff Nestor stated he thought they needed to offer it to county employees first and then advertise for it. He said that the other option is to leave it at the state for a while and then fill the position when they can.

Mr. King asked if they find someone to hire, would they be able to use the sheriff's office emergency management equipment? Sheriff Nestor stated yes as long as they pass the necessary background checks. Sheriff Nestor also told the Board that the system is from 2007 so it may need to be updated, which they could probably do with grant funding.

Mr. Ensign stated that there is no budget right now to pay an OEM position and that Mr. Dewitt has basically doing it volunteer, but they would use the funding from E911 for a salary because it had been done in the past, the budget could probably be half paid by E911 and half out of a new OEM salary budget.

Mr. King asked Sheriff Nestor if the Board went this route would the position be half time working OEM and half time sheriff's office. Sheriff Nestor stated that the position would be truly OEM so it really wouldn't be under his office; they need to have their own position, budget and everything.

Mr. Ensign stated that he thought that if they do some shuffling in his and the Land Use office they could make room for this new position. Although it may not be the best time in the budget to do it, it would be doable if they could get E911 to fund half of it. Mr. King asked if this would need to come before the E911 Board, and Mr. Ensign stated he thought it would probably need to be approved by them. Mr. Ensign stated that they would also find a place for them on the pay schedule 40 hour/week job, probably same level as the undersheriff, not same pay just same level. Sheriff Nestor agreed that the position would definitely fit on the same level since the position would be on call basically 24/7, and that it would not all fit into a 35 hour work week. Mr. King stated that the Board can put together a budget for this if this is something they want to do and Mr. Ensign stated that OEM has a budget already just not a budget for a salary. Sheriff Nestor also mentioned that his office already has a vehicle that they have been wanting to get rid of that would work for the new position. Mr. Schiffers agreed that adding the OEM position is looking like the way they will have to go. Mr. Ensign stated that he also has things for the new person to do if they ever happen to have down time, Sheriff Nestor agreed that his office has lots of stuff for them to do that needs to get done that isn't getting done now.

After Sheriff Nestor and Mr. Dewitt left, Mr. King called for old business and Mr. Ensign stated that he spoke with GMS about the building at the fairgrounds, and the next step is having a

meeting that includes Travis Taylor, John Palmer, the Fair Board and the commissioners to discuss what is needed.

The commissioners approved the September payroll and several expense vouchers, and then, with no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on September 30, 2016.

Mindy Dutro, Acting Clerk to the Board

Greg King, Chairman