

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for September 30, 2016

9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

9:00 Kevin Stansbury, Chief Executive Officer, Lincoln Community Hospital, to discuss various matters with regard to the hospital and care center and to request an executive session pursuant to §24-6-402(4) (a), C.R.S., for the purpose of discussing acquisition of real property

10:00 Robert Kraxberger, Assistance Payments Supervisor, to present the Department of Human Services monthly report

10:30 Andy Lorensen, County Coroner, to discuss a vehicle purchase for the Coroner's Office

1. Approve the minutes from the September 29, 2016, meeting
2. County Commissioner reports
3. County Attorney's report
4. County Administrator's report
5. Old business
6. New business
7. Approve additional expense vouchers if necessary

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on September 30, 2016. The following attended: Chairman Greg King, Commissioners Doug Stone and Ed Schifferns, County Administrator Gary Ensign, County Attorney Stan Kimble, and acting Clerk to the Board Mindy Dutro. Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel was absent and excused.

Chairman King called the meeting to order and asked Lincoln Community Hospital Chief Executive Officer Kevin Stansbury to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Stansbury reported that the hospital's general operations took a really large adjustment in accounts receivable, around a \$750,000 loss in August, but they bounced back in September and are expected to be back in the black by the end of the year. He also reported that the hospital's cash on hand is about 94 days, which is really strong. Mr. Stansbury said that since they acquired Lincoln Park Living Center, it is now an LLC and has also turned a profit. They have no problem keeping it full, even after a resident passes away.

Mr. Stansbury also reported that the hospital is trying to enter into a lease with the optometry office in Limon, formerly Eastern Colorado Eye Associates, and Dr. Lee, the ophthalmologist who currently works with the hospital, to hopefully be open one day a week in the Limon office. He told the Board that the hospital is still working on the walk-in clinic in Hugo and wants to open one in Limon soon. Mr. Stansbury also told the Board that they are working with Dr. Hood to provide dental services in the specialty clinic to the residents of the hospital first, then the residents in the county jail, and then to residents of the county.

Next, Mr. Stansbury reported that the hospital was really happy with the parking lot that the county road crew put in for the home health office. He also stated that they have been working on cleaning up the front of the hospital; including curb and gutter cleaning, removing weeds, and laying sod to make the hospital look nice. Mr. Stansbury said that the hospital is still working with local fire departments to obtain funding to build a new ambulance garage. They hope the new garage will have an education center that everyone can use, as well as a decontamination shower.

Mr. Stansbury reported that the hospital has purchased a couple of new vehicles. With the help of the County Clerk's Office, they discovered that some of the vehicles the hospital owns have government plates and some have regular passenger plates. He wasn't sure what the correct plate type would be, and Stan Kimble stated that since the county owns the hospital all hospital-owned vehicles should have government plates.

Next, Mr. Stansbury reported that the hospital had interviewed a few consultants to help them with long-range planning for the hospital for 10-15 years from now, and that they were close to hiring a group. However, they decided to wait to see the outcome of Amendment 69. Mr. Stansbury stated that the hospital has agreed to oppose Amendment 69 and that they were discussing having a community meeting but figured it might already fail in Lincoln County anyway. Mr. Stansbury spoke with Charlie Hoffman with the Limon Leader about putting an ad

in the papers regarding why Amendment 69 is a bad idea and to try and get several groups to endorse it. Mr. Kimble informed Mr. Stansbury and the Board that since they were government they could not spend money to lobby for or against anything. Mr. Kimble stated that there would be no problem saying the county opposes the amendment; they just can't use government money to advertise against it.

Mr. Stansbury reported that the Air Life transfers are still remaining strong and that they are flying regularly to Cheyenne Wells, Burlington, and even Eads. He also told the Board that he has been discussing the services the hospital provides to the jail with Sheriff Tom Nestor, including how the hospital can drop costs. Mr. Stansbury said that the hospital provides a nurse four days a week, for eight hours a day to the jail and that Dr. John Fox makes visits to the jail once a month. The hospital is trying some new things for the jail, including providing an after hour on-call nurse that will always be available for the inmates to call. The hope is to minimize the transfer of inmates from jail to hospital in order to do everything they can to keep the inmates at the jail. Mr. Kimble stated that he thinks it is a statewide problem that inmates do everything they can to leave incarceration by using health issues as a means to do so. Mr. Stansbury stated that usually it is not the inmates in the county jail but the inmates coming from Department of Corrections that are the problem.

Mr. Stansbury also commended Ryan Smithburg with Hoffman Drug and Ben Ferree with Ben's Family Pharmacy, in helping to drive down medicine costs for the inmates. Mr. Stansbury stated that they have really helped keep the jail's fixed costs down and that they are slightly under where they were last year. He also told the Board that they are always working to get the costs down for the jail and that they hope to do a 20% discount on services delivered at the hospital, and then bill the rest of the cost at six month intervals. Mr. Stansbury stated that they can keep costs down if they can provide services to the inmates at the jail; it is when they have to transfer them to the hospital that costs go up. When they have to transfer inmates to Denver, or somewhere else for hospital services, the hospital will look for other benefits to pay for the cost, or will ask the other hospital to discharge the inmate as soon as possible in order to get them back into jail.

Lastly, Mr. Stansbury told the Board that they have been having several issues with Centennial Mental Health. He stated that they don't seem to care about providing services for the hospital and that they are more centered on Sterling and Fort Morgan. He wanted the Board to be aware that he felt CMH isn't doing a good job of taking care of the hospital's patients and that they don't take the hospital seriously.

Mr. Stone made a motion to go into closed executive session, pursuant to 24-6-402(4) (a) C.R.S., for the purpose of discussing acquisition of real property. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Ms. Dutro left the meeting room. The meeting was recorded and the recording will remain on file in the county clerk's vault for the statutory ninety days.

When the Board came out of executive session, Department of Human Services Assistance Payments Supervisor Robert Kraxberger joined the meeting at 10:00 a.m., where he presented

the September financial report for Human Services. After the Board reviewed the financial report, Mr. Kraxberger asked them to approve and sign a letter that transfers the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation grant from the Lincoln County Department of Human Services to the Cheyenne, Kiowa and Lincoln Early Childhood Council, since it had recently been approved as a non-profit organization. Mr. Schifferns made a motion to approve the transfer of the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation grant from the Lincoln County Department of Human Services to the Cheyenne, Kiowa and Lincoln Early Childhood Council. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Next, Mr. King asked Mr. Kraxberger about the Human Services department still having their cars detailed by outside sources rather than the sheriff's office. Mr. Kraxberger replied that he had asked his department members about it and found out they were just finishing up a few vehicles. From now on, they will have the department vehicles detailed at the sheriff's office.

Mr. Kraxberger also reported that the case they had where one of the department members had to fly to California is no longer their case since the child is now in the custody of her father in California. However, the department did fly the father out here to be with the child while she had surgery before she could move out there to live with him.

Mr. Stone then made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on September 29, 2016, as corrected after a change in wording. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

County Coroner Andy Lorensen met with the Board at 10:30 a.m. and reported that he had called both dealerships in Limon. He spoke with sales people but they never got back to him with a quote for a new coroner vehicle. Vince's General Motors in Burlington had a 2015 Chevy pickup for \$35,995, which he reported was a year older and had more miles than the vehicle Dellenbach quoted him. He also reported that the dealership in Akron had a 2016 Chevy pickup for \$19,995, with 65,000 miles, which wouldn't be much of an upgrade from the 2005 Chevy pickup he uses now. Mr. Lorensen told the Board that he also checked with CarMax and Carfax and they both didn't have anything that would fit the coroner needs. Mr. Stone stated he didn't think Mr. Lorensen would find anything that would beat the Dellenbach quote since they got the state bid, but he appreciated that he did more research.

Mr. King asked the Board what they wanted to do, and Mr. Schifferns stated it was obvious that they needed to replace the coroner's current vehicle. Mr. Lorensen stated that the vehicle is fine as long as you are on a dry highway. Mr. Stone stated that if they approved the purchase of the new vehicle, he thought they should get rid of the old one, as there seemed no reason to keep it sitting around. Mr. King asked Mr. Lorensen what kind of tires the new pickup has, because if he will be off-roading they need to be at least 6-ply sidewalls. Mr. Lorensen looked it up and stated that it comes with 10-ply sidewall tires. Mr. Stone stated he hates to buy a new vehicle when the old one is still in good condition, but it is of no use if they couldn't get to the body. Mr. Ensign said Mr. Lorensen made a good case and that he sees the need. There is money in the Capital Projects line item and he didn't believe the Board will beat the price

Dellenbach quoted Mr. Lorensen. Mr. Ensign also stated that as far as the budget goes, the county is in a good place this year rather than where they might be next year. Mr. Lorensen requested that he be allowed to keep the current coroner vehicle as a backup for his deputies so they don't have to come get the vehicle from his house in Limon and then go to the scene. Mr. Schifferns asked Mr. Lorensen to check with Suburban topper because he thinks that they could beat the price of the topper that Dellenbach quoted him.

Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the bid of \$34,600 for the purchase of a 2016 Chevy pickup for the County Coroner, to include a topper and lighting, from Dellenbach Motors. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Ensign asked what the Board wanted to do with the old coroner pickup and Mr. Schifferns said they could leave it for now. Mr. Lorensen said that it would be nice to have a backup since it is already fitted for his department and many times when there is a bad accident they need more than one coroner vehicle anyway.

Mr. King called for commissioner reports and Mr. Stone reported that his road crew did some oil patching where a culvert was settling on a bridge that they tore out on September 21. His road crew is also running three mowers trying to stay caught up. On September 22, he attended the Colorado East Community Action Agency meeting and reported that they are looking for new members. On September 23, he checked roads west of State Road 71, and on September 28 he met with Rick Ashcraft and reported that they hauled six loads of oil for County Highway 109 south of Karval Lake.

Mr. Schifferns reported that he oversaw his road crew hauling a gravel mix on County Road 2W on September 19, and that they are also running three mowers. He checked roads on September 23. Mr. Schifferns also stated his road crew paved the Air Life parking lot on September 26, and a county citizen called and wanted gravel on his road. He also said that they interviewed someone for the opening in his district and that they received another application from a gentleman in Hugo who they will interview later.

Mr. King reported that he attended the Resources Unlimited meeting on September 20, and that the group is growing large. He stated that the Limon Workforce Center received a grant from the El Pomar Foundation that is good for three years. Mr. King reported that Peak Vista has 24 people on staff in Limon and that they see up to 1,400 patients annually. He also stated that Bethany Head is taking over the Baby Bear Hugs Coordinator position for Gretchen Blackwelder. Next, Mr. King told the Board that Limon Child Care has openings available for the first time in a long time. He also reported that he attended the Lincoln County Economic Development meeting on September 21. Mr. King reported that Rocky Mountain Crane has purchased 210 acres of land east of Genoa and that they want to put in a facility where they would be able to fix and repair wind towers. He attended the Baby Bear Hugs meeting on September 22 and reported that they will be doing a raffle for cash again, and that the lunch they held for a golf tournament in Limon made them a nice profit. Baby Bear Hugs is also going to host a cutest baby contest again and will be participating in the Fall Festival in Hugo on

October 1. Mr. King reported that they repaired the garage door at the shop in Genoa and also that they damaged a tire on a tractor when they were mowing. The road crew really likes the new John Deere motor grader that the county recently purchased. Mr. King reported that they are putting in a new gas pump and a new diesel pump at the old shop in Genoa because the old one is broken and they cannot buy parts for them anymore. A repairman from Fort Morgan is coming down to replace them and it should cost \$1,600 for both. They are also having electrical work done so they don't have to keep flipping the breakers when pumping.

Mr. King called for the attorney's report and Mr. Kimble reported attending the Land Use Board hearing on September 29 for Development Permit #16-02; Invenergy Rush Creek II Wind Farm and #16-03; Xcel Transmission Line for Rush Creek II Wind Farm. He stated that there were only four voting members and that they approved Permit #16-02 for Invenergy, but denied Permit #16-03 for Xcel. Mr. Kimble informed the Board that Invenergy and Xcel would like to go ahead and have a follow-up hearing with the commissioners on October 6. Land Use Administrator John DeWitt joined the meeting at 11:40 a.m. and told the Board that he and his replacement, Jeff Coonts, didn't like that Xcel did not have a proposed route that was clear. Xcel had disagreed and pointed out which appendix was their proposed route. Mr. Kimble reported that the Land Use Board's issue was that Xcel had only obtained two-thirds of the easements from affected landowners. Mr. Kimble stated that Xcel can exercise eminent domain but they are still trying to work with the remainder of the landowners. Mr. Kimble was concerned that if Xcel takes the matter to court it would only take about five days to obtain the easements, plus the landowners probably wouldn't get nearly as much as what they were originally offered by the company.

Mr. Kimble told Mr. DeWitt that the land use board needs time to get the commissioners up to speed with the transcripts and the commissioners agreed that they didn't have enough time to prepare to meet with Invenergy and Xcel by October 6. Mr. King asked if there were any questions on the county use tax to which Mr. Kimble replied there were, but they can't really discuss them until the applications have been approved. He stated that he needs to do research to see if the tax rates are negotiable or not. After checking their calendars, the Board decided to see if they could change the meeting to October 24, at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Ensign asked the Board if they wanted the application that Invenergy and Xcel turned in. Mr. King stated that his biggest concern is with the erosion around the poles and Mr. Schiffers was concerned with where the water would come from. Mr. DeWitt reported that the water wouldn't all come from one source. Mr. King didn't think that water would be a big concern but stated that it would have to come from a commercial pump. Mr. Ensign asked Mr. DeWitt to get the Board copies of the application and transcript, and Mr. DeWitt said that he would. Mr. Kimble told the Board that he would call and reschedule with Invenergy and Xcel.

Next, Mr. Kimble reported that Nighthawk told him they might have to go outside of the right-of-way. He told them they can do so if they want to but that they will have to enter into agreements with the landowners.

Mr. Ensign had nothing to report and there was no old business to discuss, so Mr. King called for new business. He stated that he and Mr. Stone cannot attend the meeting on October 17, so it was rescheduled for October 19.

The commissioners approved a few additional expense vouchers for the month of September 2016 and then, with no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on October 4, 2016, for the annual budget hearings.

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Mindy Dutro, Acting Clerk to the Board

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Greg King, Chairman