

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for February 27, 2017

9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

9:00 Richard Johnson, Director of the Office of Emergency Management, to discuss the Lincoln County 911 System

1. Approve the minutes from the February 15, 2017, meeting
2. Review the monthly management report from the First National Bank Omaha
3. Review and act upon a proposed cattle grazing operations lease agreement between Robert J. Safranek and Lincoln County
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 February 27, 2017. The following attended: Chairman Doug Stone, Commissioners Ed Schiffers and Steve Burgess, County Administrator Gary Ensign, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel.

Chairman Stone called the meeting to order and asked OEM Director Richard Johnson to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Johnson then met with the Board to discuss the Lincoln County 911 system. Tony Lyons with Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association also attended the discussion. Mr. Johnson said he'd sent an email to Wes Horn with Century Link to ask him for a quote on a new 911 system. Years ago when the system was put in, Mr. Johnson said it cost roughly \$147,000. Mr. Horn told him it would be less than that to replace the three-position system: closer to \$125,000 or \$130,000. When asked what a three-position system is, Mr. Johnson said it means that there are basically three emergency lines so that they can roll over to the next line if one line is busy. If all three lines are busy, incoming calls are routed to Cheyenne County dispatch.

Mr. Lyons said that ESRTA really has nothing to do with the system other than as a consultation. The phone company delivers the circuits for the 911 system but Century Link actually has the bid for providing the system and making it work.

Mr. Burgess wanted to know what would happen to Cheyenne and Kit Carson counties if Lincoln County upgrades its 911 system. Mr. Johnson said they are not related; it is a standalone system. Mr. Schiffers asked how long the system could be down, and Mr. Lyons told him he's seen Century Link down for several hours in the past. Mr. Johnson said the county could also contract with Adams County or another county with a larger dispatch center instead of purchasing a new system, but he did not know how expensive that would be.

According to Mr. Johnson the equipment, all housed in the jail dispatch center, is over seven years old and still running on Windows XP, an operating system no longer supported by Microsoft. Currently, the third position is down and they cannot fix it due to the fact that they can no longer get parts. A new system would be what the county needs but also expandable; CAD mapping or other features could be added in the future. Mr. Johnson also said he would ensure that the new system came with a maintenance and support contract, which he feels is imperative. He added that he was told it will take up to four months to get a new system in place and operational if the county does decide to make the purchase, since it would take time to draw up and sign the contracts, as well as install and test the new equipment.

Mr. Johnson said he could speak with Sheriff Nestor about contracting with another county if the commissioners wanted him to. Mr. Ensign said it is very expensive to have another entity dispatch 911 calls, as many of them charge per call. He added that he also knew what the sheriff's opinion is, and it would not be favorable. Mr. Johnson agreed, stating that he would prefer to keep 911 dispatch in-house as well.

Mr. Burgess asked Mr. Ensign if the money could be taken from the E911 Fund and was told it could be. Mr. Ensign asked Mr. Johnson if there was a way to replace the third position as a short term fix, but Mr. Johnson responded that it couldn't be done because of Windows XP. Mr. Lyons put in that it's only a matter of time before the system goes down completely if they are running Windows XP. Microsoft no longer makes patches or does security upgrades, so there is no longer any support for XP from Microsoft. He added that it would benefit them to watch what operating system is put in since Windows 7 may not be the best option at this point. He suggested doing some serious research to determine if Windows 10 would be a better option. Mr. Burgess said if they are going to spend the money they should do it right and get the most updated version.

While Century Link is on site, Mr. Lyons suggested they also have them make sure that the equipment has all the adequate environmental controls. He wasn't sure if the cooling is sufficient for the building and said it would not make sense to let those issues go if the county were spending over \$100,000 on equipment. He went on to say that they could probably control the room where the equipment currently sits with a mini-split unit, which doesn't require duct work. It is also possible that the older equipment generates more heat than what the new equipment would, as the new equipment would most likely be smaller.

Mr. Stone asked Mr. Johnson to obtain more prices and asked him to meet with the commissioners again when he has additional information.

Mr. Johnson also updated the Board on the CodeRED issue, stating that he will be taking training on March 6 to become an instructor. He will then be able to instruct the county's dispatchers on how to use the system. He also discovered that CodeRED has many of the same features that Hyper Reach has; they simply haven't been turned on. The sheriff is working with the other counties regarding IPAWS, and the FEMA courses have to be completed and an application submitted before all three counties can get it for the annual fee of \$500. There should be one single point of contact, but Mr. Johnson said he is not comfortable being that person for all three counties, although he wouldn't mind being Lincoln County's.

Once Mr. Johnson had gone, Mr. Burgess made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 15, 2017, as submitted. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the monthly management report from the First National Bank of Omaha and the proposed cattle grazing operations lease agreement between Robert J. Safranek and Lincoln County. Mr. Burgess said that most grazing leases have a time limit. Mr. Ensign said that paragraph IV of the lease basically addresses that fact by stating that the land shall not be overgrazed.

Mr. Schiffers made a motion to approve the lease agreement between Lincoln County and Robert J. Safranek, in the amount of \$1,120, for the period of March 1, 2017, through March 1, 2018. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone called for old business, and Mr. Burgess said he'd spoken with Ephron Brent who asked that he be replaced on the Land Use Board. Mr. Ensign said it was listed as an action item on the following day's agenda.

As for new business, Mr. Burgess said he'd spoken with Joe Schieffelin, who is the manager of the Solid Waste and Management Program for CDPHE, while at CCI. Mr. Schieffelin inspects landfills and would like to come out and look at Lincoln County's. Mr. Burgess added that the county definitely needs to do something with the wind tower blades, as the loads are coming in with three foot sections on top and much larger sections underneath. He said the county is not obligated to take them, and Mr. Schifferns disagreed since the county has so many wind towers now. Mr. Burgess said they are creating a huge problem, and Mr. Schifferns suggested imposing a fine to whoever brings them in when they come the next time.

Mr. Burgess will also speak with Limon town administrator Dave Stone about having the town bring their trash to the landfill in the morning rather than at 3:30 or 4:00 in the afternoon. It is becoming a problem for the landfill operators to apply the required daily cover before they leave for the day. He added that with the increased regulations, they cannot complete their tasks, especially when the landfill is open on Saturdays. Mr. Stone commented that he still felt they need more help, possibly even another full time operator. Mr. Ensign put in that he'd just received the application and rules for storm water discharge, which is due April 1. The application alone is approximately one inch thick. He said he could most likely complete the application unless that was something the commissioners were thinking would become a job duty of the office manager they hope to hire. He added that the Air Quality Control is also coming, but if they have to complete annual and quarterly water sample testing, he is not sure how that will be done when the landfill employees are so busy with daily operations.

Mr. Burgess said it may just be time to close it down, and Mr. Stone asked if he meant they should put in a transfer station. Mr. Burgess said if they can't afford to keep it open, they may have to consider that. He added that the equipment they are currently using really isn't doing the job either, especially the loader. Mr. Stone said he felt they should keep it open as long as possible, and Mr. Schifferns stated it may be time to increase the fees again.

Mr. Ensign said he would set up something with Jennifer Reynolds for the commissioners to meet with Mr. Schieffelin at the landfill.

The commissioners approved the February 2017 payroll and several expense vouchers for the month and then, with no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on February 28, 2017.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

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Doug Stone, Chairman