

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for January 30, 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; discuss the Annual Operating Plan for wildland fire; and present a request to attend the 2017 Emergency Management Academy

9:45 Tom Nestor, Lincoln County Sheriff, to discuss disposition of surplus vehicles

10:00 Dave Stone, Limon Town Manager, to discuss The Plains to Peaks Region Emergency Medical Trauma Advisory Council (RETAC) appointed positions

10:45 Chris Monks, County Shop Foreman and District 1 Road Foreman, to discuss road and bridge matters

11:00 Rhonda Roth, Executive Director of the Eastern Colorado Services for the Developmentally Disabled, Incorporated, to present an update on this agency

11:45 Jeffrey Coonts, Land Use Administrator, to report on the Land Use Board meeting of January 24, 2017, and other land use matters

1. Approve the minutes from the January 10, 2017, meeting
2. Review the monthly management report from the First National Bank Omaha
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 January 30, 2017. The following attended: Chairman Doug Stone, Commissioners Ed Schiffers and Steve Burgess, County Administrator Gary Ensign, County Attorney Stan Kimble, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel. Deputy Clerk to the Board Mindy Dutro took the minutes from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

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

OEM Director Richard Johnson met with the Board to discuss the Lincoln County 911 System and the Annual Operating Plan for wildland fire, and to present a request to attend the 2017 Emergency Management Academy. Sheriff Tom Nestor, Captain Michael Yowell, and Patricia White from Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association also attended the discussion.

Mr. Johnson explained that he'd been researching options for the county's reverse 911 service, stating that he'd looked at the current contract with CodeRED, which is a three-year contract. He spoke with account representative Joey Medvick, as well as the county's sales representative, Jim Erickson. He also talked with Deborah DeBoard from a competitor, Hyper-Reach, and provided a proposal/comparison based on use by the three counties currently using CodeRED: Cheyenne, Kit Carson, and Lincoln.

The 3-year contract cost of CodeRED is \$26,400, or an annual cost of \$2,934 per county. The CodeRED system allows for 20,000 minutes per year for landline and wireless devices, and is split between the three counties. Additional minutes cost \$.40 per minute over the 20,000. CodeRED also allows for 500 testing minutes, again divided up between the three counties. The Hyper-Reach system has unlimited minutes. The CodeRED system allows up to eight user pass codes, divided between the counties. Lincoln County currently has four pass codes; one for the Sheriff's office, one for the Hugo Marshall, one for Limon P.D., and the other for Emergency Management. CodeRED must create end-user accounts and there is an additional charge for each. Hyper-Reach has unlimited user pass codes that can be created by the county. While CodeRED allows unlimited user groups, the groups must be created on an Xcel spreadsheet and then uploaded to CodeRED, where the information is entered. Hyper-Reach allows for unlimited user groups that can be created by the end-user. With the CodeRED Mobile App, users can only be one of the eight initial users and are required to go through a fifteen minute training segment prior to the system granting access. Hyper-Reach has no training requirement to use the app, and any end-user with a pass code can use it. CodeRED charges \$100 per hour for database management service labor; the database management service fee is included in the Hyper-Reach system. The additional feature, iPAWS (which basically allows every cell phone to receive a reverse 911 call, even if the user hasn't signed up for it), is not included with the current CodeRED contract and costs an additional \$500 annually, or \$166.66 per county. The iPAWS feature is automatically included in the Hyper-Reach contract. Lastly, automated weather alerts are included in the current CodeRED contract and would be with the Hyper-Reach contract as well, at no additional cost with either company. Mr. Johnson concluded by stating that CodeRED is an antiquated system with additional costs to the county. Hyper-Reach

is actually a cheaper system if the other two counties would join in, with much more updated features.

Mr. Burgess asked Sheriff Nestor how he felt about the subject, and the sheriff's concern was that the system is not very well known. Captain Yowell has seen the Hyper-Reach demo and was impressed with it. The other two counties are not interested in switching to a smaller, unknown company.

Mr. Schifferns asked the captain what he liked about the system and was told that he was most impressed that it is all-inclusive. For instance, during the Hugo water situation, Hugo residents were not getting the reverse 911 calls on their landlines. Since many people only have a cell phone now, it would be good to know that the reverse 911 would work for either a landline or a cell phone. They also had problems getting in touch with the CodeRED representative during that incident.

Mr. Burgess wanted to know when the CodeRED contract expires. Mr. Johnson said it was up last year, but Kit Carson County actually signs the contract. Lincoln County is simply named in it. He wanted Mr. Kimble to look at it to see if it is binding to Lincoln County. He added that adding iPAWS to the CodeRED contract would certainly open up more capabilities, such as allowing for every cell phone to receive the reverse 911 calls. Mr. Johnson recommended that the county at least add the iPAWS feature, even if they don't change companies.

Mr. Burgess wanted to know if the other two counties have iPAWS and if so, why Lincoln County doesn't. Sheriff Nestor spoke up to say that the other two counties do have the feature, and he was asked by the Kit Carson County sheriff why Lincoln County doesn't test reverse 911 to make sure everyone is getting the calls.

Mr. Stone stated they would need to table the issue until more information can be obtained regarding the CodeRED contract and why it isn't working for all landlines in Lincoln County. Mr. Johnson stated that he is not opposed to keeping CodeRED if they can get it to do what it needs to do.

Mr. Johnson presented the 2017 Annual Operating Plan, stating that there were no changes from the previous year, other than the dates, and asked that the chairman and the sheriff sign the document. Mr. Schifferns made a motion to approve the 2017 Annual Operating Plan, and Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Lastly, Mr. Johnson asked the Board to allow him to attend the emergency manager's academy three days each month that John DeWitt attended in the past. There is no cost to the county for lodging or the class, but he would have to pay for fuel to and from the conference and possibly some meals. Mr. Ensign asked if it is okay with Ms. Kelly if he takes the time off from his Public Health duties and was told that it is fine. Mr. Burgess made a motion to allow Richard Johnson to attend the emergency manager's academy each month. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

As for the surplus vehicles he would like to get rid of, Sheriff Nestor said Bent County offered \$9,000 for the 2010 Chevy Tahoe. They would like the equipment left on it, and the sheriff said if he can get that much for it, it would help offset the price of a new vehicle and equipment.

Mr. Burgess made a motion to allow Bent County to purchase the 2010 Chevy Tahoe for \$8,000 or \$9,000, including the equipment. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Sheriff Nestor also has a 2009 Ford with approximately 180,000 miles on it that was used as a transport vehicle. He asked for direction on what to do with it and was asked if it were an option to give it to Richard Johnson for emergency management. They could then leave the storage box in it. Mr. Burgess commented that he is concerned with the number of vehicles the county has sitting around again. Mr. Schifferns stated that it already has high mileage and doesn't get very good gas mileage, so Mr. Johnson should take a more economical vehicle on longer trips. Mr. Stone said he doesn't have a problem with letting Mr. Johnson use it and the others agreed.

Limon Town Manager Dave Stone and Rob Handley arrived for the 10:00 a.m. appointment to discuss the Plains to Peaks Region Emergency Medical Trauma Advisory Council (RETAC) appointment, so the sheriff, captain, and Mr. Johnson left.

Dave Stone said he'd spoken with Lincoln Community Hospital CEO Kevin Stansbury about Mr. Handley's time on the RETAC board and was told that they had been very happy with the appointment. He added that the hospital actually does the hospital and post-hospital but not pre-hospital. He went on to say that the town allows Mr. Handley any time required to attend meetings in regard to RETAC.

Mr. Burgess stated that he'd heard from county residents, as well as another county's commissioner, that it seems Mr. Handley and Mr. Schallenberger are "building empires" and always have everything prearranged when they attend the RETAC meetings. He added that the county ambulance services need to work together for the good of the residents and their best possible care, not for personal gain.

Mr. Handley responded that they are definitely trying to improve EMS care for all residents of all counties in the RETAC and have met with all boards of county commissioners to discuss what regional EMS would look like. They hope to bring an autonomous agency to the region, serving all counties equally. He added that he does not see it as self-serving in any way; however, a lot of identity issues do come into play. He went on to say that ALS ambulances aren't just about critical patients, especially when distance is involved. There is, however, a lot that an ALS ambulance can offer that a BLS ambulance cannot. He was quick to add that it doesn't mean a BLS ambulance is bad; it's all about what is needed for the proper care of the patient.

Mr. Burgess stated that there is an impression that the Limon Ambulance Service is trying to push the other services, such as Hugo and Karval out, and that perception needs to change. All

services in the county are important and he felt Mr. Handley needs to do a better job of conveying that to the residents, as well as the various department personnel. Mr. Schifferns put in that it is difficult enough to obtain volunteers without having competition among the agencies and stated that everyone needs to work together. He asked what Kevin Stansbury had said and Dave Stone reiterated that the hospital has been pleased with Mr. Handley's performance on the RETAC. He added that they would also begin working on the ambulance transfer issue, which is a separate matter entirely.

Mr. Handley commented that he felt the relationships and communication has improved considerably among the agencies in the ten years he has been involved, and Dave Stone added that the commissioners can hold the town accountable as well.

Mr. Kimble asked about an agreement and Mr. Ensign said there is actually an IGA for the RETAC, which is made up of fifteen members. The commissioners appoint two members; one from local government and the other from the pre-hospital community, but it is their sole responsibility to appoint those members. The hospital has their own levels and appoints representatives according to those levels.

Mr. Schifferns asked Dave Stone if he was there to request that they remove Mark Morrison from the appointment and put Rob Handley back on as the commissioners' appointment to the RETAC. Mr. Stone stated that he was there to ask the Board to reconsider their decision and appoint someone from the pre-hospital services.

Mr. Handley commented that as the RETAC chair he felt he has represented the region well. He has been "all-in" and has done what he can to bring the best advances to the area that he possibly can. He added that sometimes things go wrong and people are disappointed or angry with the way things are handled, but they cannot really defend themselves or respond to posts on Facebook. He said he does not act independently; everything he does goes through the town manager. Sometimes people don't want to ask for help, even though they need it, and they may just need a nudge in the right direction. Mr. Handley said he certainly hasn't meant to come across as self-serving or as an "empire builder."

Mr. Schifferns asked Dave Stone if they need to meet every couple of months or so, and Mr. Stone responded that he could come back on March 7. Mr. Burgess told him the Board would discuss the RETAC appointment and let them know what they decide to do.

Mr. Schifferns asked Mr. Stone if he would be back the following day for the discussion on the I-70 speed study. Mr. Stone said he would not be but wanted the Board to know that the town requested the study to see if it really is a legitimate 65 mph zone for the port of entry. He added that the port at Fort Collins has a speed of 75 mph, as do others, so that is why they requested the study be done almost a year ago.

Mr. Stone and Mr. Handley left and Kris Smith, secretary at the Hugo shop, stopped in with the Colorado Department of Transportation Certification of Highway Miles for Highway Users

funding. Chris Monks was unable to make his appointment with the Board, but Ms. Smith asked for the chairman's signature on the document.

Mr. Burgess made a motion to sign the CDOT Certification of Highway Miles for 2017. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Kim Schallenberger arrived for the meeting with Dave Stone and Rob Handley but was told they had already left. He apologized for being late and asked the Board if they had any questions for him. When asked to affirm the five counties in the RETAC, Mr. Schallenberger said they are Cheyenne, El Paso, Kit Carson, Lincoln, and Teller. He also wanted the commissioners to know that Mark Morrison is already on the RETAC board via the hospital. The Board had no further questions for Mr. Schallenberger, so he left.

Mr. Burgess said he'd emailed Ms. Lengel a correction to the January 10, 2017, minutes to clarify that District Two has the least amount of oiled roads, not the most. Ms. Lengel said she had made the correction, so Mr. Burgess made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the monthly management report from the First National Bank of Omaha and then Rhonda Roth, Executive Director of the Eastern Colorado Services for the Developmentally Disabled, Inc., arrived to update the commissioners on the agency. Vicki Duran, local coordinator for the ECSDD, and Public Health nurse Heike Petersen also attended the discussion.

After explaining what ECSDD does and clarifying that it is a case management and approved service provider agency that does not contract with the state, Ms. Roth stated that the grant funding ends in February. They will continue to seek county support to keep the program active and carry on services in Lincoln County. She added that they are required as a community center board to ask for a five percent match of revenues.

Ms. Petersen put in that legislature is moving more toward the single resident or host homes rather than the group homes, which can be a potential problem as the region does have several group homes. Although there are none in Lincoln County, there are several ECSDD cases in the county needing care. Ms. Roth added that she doesn't believe the state will close down the nine group homes they do have but it is always a possibility.

Ms. Petersen said that Lincoln County does a fabulous job through BOCES and other agencies to support ECSDD and provide services, and that Ms. Duran is also a credit to the organization as she is excellent at her job.

Ms. Roth stated that the grant was for community participation, and one of the goals was for it to be supported by community members, not paid staff. The problem is that volunteers were hard to come by and it was difficult to find people who had the time to commit to the

individuals with disabilities and still handle their own busy lives, which she felt was one of the things the state didn't like.

Ms. Duran named several activities that they are involved in; such as, Project SMILE, Simply Eating, an exercise class through the Independent Center, activities at the Limon Library and the museum, and outings to local restaurants, post offices, the grocery stores, the bowling alley and swimming pools. The Genoa-Hugo school and NAPA have employed persons with developmental disabilities as well. She added that there are eight people enrolled now between the ages of 22 and 32 but that anyone over the age of 18 is welcome.

Mr. Schifferns asked what the long range goals were and Ms. Duran responded that they only want to continue doing what they do for as long as they are needed.

Ms. Petersen put in that they look at job coaching and job placement but some people in our society will never live on their own. She repeated that the county is very blessed to have Ms. Duran to provide these services because they had nothing before, and she wanted the commissioners to understand how important the program is.

Mr. Stone stated that it sounded like the key is to have the help available if people want it. Ms. Roth said that they like to get people enrolled right out of high school now. They used to have a waiting list for the region but now the state keeps a waiting list, which means it is a statewide list. She added that they have several empty beds but the state has to decide who will get them so local people can't unless they are next on the list. She went on to say that it causes problems when local people want their developmentally disabled family member to be close and the state tells them there is a spot open in the city.

Mr. Ensign asked if there is any difference in the level of service for counties that don't contribute, and Ms. Roth responded that the level of service is the same, regardless of whether a county pays the requested amount or not. She added that they hope the numbers will increase, and said that they will keep the Board updated. They will be back in August to request funding for the next fiscal year and Ms. Roth thanked the commissioners again for their contribution.

Land Use Administrator Jeff Coonts had arrived for his 10:45 a.m. appointment concerning the Land Use Board's decision on solar energy regulations at the meeting on January 24, 2017.

First, the question was asked as to whether or not Ephron Brent wanted to stay on the Land Use Board since he had not been to several meetings. Mr. Burgess said he would contact him and ask. It also brought up the question of diversity on the board, as it is currently comprised of mainly ranchers and cattlemen, who tend to have the same viewpoint.

The conclusion of the Land Use Board at the meeting, according to Mr. Coonts, was that the county needs to hire an outsider with more knowledge of setbacks. Chris Monks had suggested Barbara Green since she had helped with other county regulations in the past.

Mr. Kimble suggested adopting a moratorium, which can be in place for up to six months while the county works on the regulations. He stated that while Ms. Green would not be an expert on solar energy, she may know someone who is. He added that it would help Mr. Coonts with the developers as well, since they seem to be calling him constantly to see if the county has adopted regulations. Mr. Coonts added that the Land Use Board was also concerned with the lack of knowledge and regulations regarding transmission lines so would like help with them too. Mr. Kimble said that perhaps Ms. Green could weigh in on them as well.

Mr. Burgess made a motion to put a moratorium on solar energy and transmission line regulations for six months while the county does further research into such regulations. No solar energy or transmission lines will be installed until the county has regulations in place to deal with them. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mr. Kimble will put together language for the resolution.

Mr. Coonts said he informed the property owner who wants the trailer house condemned that he thought he had done all he could according to the county's nuisance ordinance. The renter has complied with all the requirements and has cut the power to the house, boarded up the windows, and put locks on the doors. He said the complainant cited him a statute regarding an uninhabitable residence, but in his opinion, the house isn't uninhabitable. Mr. Kimble said the options were to fix it up, board it up, or demolish it, and it appears they have boarded it up to ordinance satisfaction. Mr. Coonts added that the property is not a health or safety issue so he felt there was no way he could condemn it. Mr. Kimble stated that the complainant could declare that there is a private nuisance and file a civil suit, or could purchase the property herself. Mr. Coonts said the owner or renter will have to have the house rewired and inspected before living there but otherwise he sees no real issues that can't be fixed. Mr. Kimble stated that he felt the nuisance ordinance was established for properties in much worse shape than this one is.

Mr. Burgess commented that he and Mr. Coonts toured gravel pits last week, and he would like to close some in District Two. He will get with Mr. Coonts again next month.

The Board agreed to stand by their decision of the appointment of Mark Morrison to the RETAC-pre-hospital board, and also discussed requiring paperwork on any property acquisitions intended by the Lincoln Community Hospital. Ms. Lengel asked for a change to the mid-April meeting date, due to the fact that the new election equipment will be in that week, and then the group broke for lunch.

When the meeting re-convened at 1:30 p.m., the commissioners approved the January 2017 payroll and several expense vouchers for the month. Then, with no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on January 31, 2017.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Doug Stone, Chairman