

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for April 29, 2019

9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

10:30 Kevin Stansbury, Lincoln Community Hospital CEO, to provide a LCH monthly report

11:00 James Dingwall with Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation, to discuss the Lincoln County Action Plan

1. Approve the minutes from the April 17, 2019 meeting
2. Review the monthly management report from the First National Bank Omaha
3. Review and act upon an agreement letter between Lincoln County and the Colorado Department of Transportation regarding the I-70 Milling Project
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 April 29, 2019. The following attended: Chairman Ed E. Schifferns, Commissioners Steve Burgess and Doug Stone, County Administrator Jacob Piper, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel. Juliet Lundy with the Eastern Colorado Plainsman/Limon Leader attended until 11:35 a.m.

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

Mr. Burgess then made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 17, 2019, as submitted. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

During the Board's review of the monthly management report from the First National Bank of Omaha, District 1 Road Foreman Chris Monks stopped in to discuss the issues with County Road 2W. He had reports of Mortensen trucks driving across the oil all weekend, so he said he waited this morning to see if any of them showed up. He counted four trucks on the road hauling material to County Road 45 where they are stockpiling it for the repairs to 2W. He stated the trucks come from Golden, and to bypass the port of entry, they take State Road 71 to Limon and then use County Road 2W to County Road 45. They then haul the material back to whatever portion of the road they're working on at the time. The fine for the four trucks would be \$2,000, and Mr. Monks asked the commissioners if they wanted to collect that money before they allowed the company to continue using the route. The other option would be to increase the fee to \$1,000 per truck. Mr. Schifferns commented that he and Jerry Kelly exchanged text messages over the weekend, and Mr. Kelly told him that Mortensen would be in touch with Mr. Monks to figure it out, which hadn't happened. The commissioners agreed that Mortensen should not be allowed to use County Road 2W until they pay the fines.

Mr. Monks left, and Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the agreement letter between Lincoln County and the Colorado Department of Transportation regarding the I-70 milling project. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Schifferns called for old business, and Mr. Burgess said he stopped by the fairgrounds this morning to see how the progress was coming on the electrical work. K.C. Electric should be there to change out the pole either today or tomorrow. Mr. Schifferns said he'd followed a K.C. truck when he came to the meeting and thought they might be doing it today. He also wanted to know about the bleachers, and Mr. Burgess told him he'd talked with Tom Head over the weekend, and they can't start until the Fourteenth or Fifteenth of May.

Mr. Schifferns asked about the replacement of countertops in the Clerk's and Driver Examiner's offices, and Mrs. Lengel said Dave Dobbs was supposed to be in to do it in April. Mr. Piper said he'd ask John Mohan about it and have him call Mr. Dobbs if necessary.

Mr. Schifferns also wanted to know if they still planned to replace any of the carpets in the courthouse, but the group agreed to wait until 2020. Mr. Burgess said the hallways were a necessity and they would have to do at least that much next year.

Lastly, Mr. Schifferns asked Mr. Piper if the county received the rebates on the new lighting yet. Mr. Piper told him the rebate from Titan LED Lighting Solutions came in but not the one from K.C. Electric.

As for new business, Mr. Piper informed the Board they were invited to meet the new executive director of DOLA at the town hall in Limon at 5:00 p.m. on May 7.

Mr. Stone asked if they needed to put together a donation basket for the CCI conference again, and Mrs. Lundy offered to help with it like she did last year.

Mr. Piper provided an Application for a Provisional Radioactive Material License Authorizing Temporary Possession of Radioactive Material Pending Disposal from CDPHE and said he might need some help filling it out. Mr. Burgess said he would contact the landfill and tell them to isolate the material.

The Board approved the April 2019 payroll and several expense vouchers and then called Emergency Manager Ken Stroud to ask about one of the bills that he submitted. Mr. Stroud came over to explain that the voucher to Orolia USA, Inc. for \$8,468 was to pay for synchronizing the 911 system to the correct time. The commissioners thanked him for the explanation and then met with Lincoln Community Hospital CEO Kevin Stansbury at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Stansbury gave the monthly hospital report, stating that they were finalizing the 2018 audit, and as of Friday, their cash-on-hand was close to \$750,000. They continue to make conservative adjustments rather than rely on their receivables, and accounts payable is averaging around a million per month, which is typical. Mr. Schifferns asked what the timeframe was between patient billing and the hospital receiving payment. Mr. Stansbury said it depended on the payer; if Medicare or Medicaid it was about sixty days. Some of the others take anywhere from ninety to one hundred and twenty days to remit payment, but it also depends on how long it takes the hospital to get the bills out. He added that their goal is to do it within thirty days.

They lost about \$160,000 in March due to lower than projected gross revenue, but Mr. Stansbury said they are starting to build cash in the bank and are much better off than they were at this time last year. He showed the commissioners one of the reports that they provide to the hospital board each month, explaining that it depicted variances from the budget and were items that required an explanation from the leader/department head. February and March were months impacted by bad weather, resulting in the closure of the clinics, but April is looking much better. At a meeting on Friday, their bankers agreed to amendments on the bond documents, which could mean a potential increase in revenue. Mr. Stansbury reported they'd lost about \$40,000 on the mobile clinic, then said discussions began with Banner regarding offering chemotherapy services. They are currently trying to decide if it would be worthwhile. The battle with insurance companies continues, and Mr. Stansbury said they're doing what they can to keep patients from going out of town for medical care, which is what some insurance companies are trying to convince their claimants to do. In their effort to offer transparency,

Mr. Stansbury said they've held several town and community group meetings, as well as meeting with state and federal policymakers such as Senator Cory Gardner.

Mr. Schifferns asked if they'd made any progress on finding a neurologist, and Mr. Stansbury said they had the names of a few possible candidates. Mr. Schifferns also asked if they replaced Colleen Luft since she'd resigned. Mr. Stansbury said they had a good prospect and asked the individual to attend the Thursday night board meeting. Lori Coonts is the new chairman, and Jack Cross is the new vice-chairman.

The Board had no other questions for Mr. Stansbury.

At 11:00 a.m., Vista Volunteer James Dingwall met with the Board to discuss the Lincoln County Action Plan. Lincoln County Economic Development Executive Director Troy McCue attended the discussion as well.

Mr. Dingwall provided several documents to the commissioners and asked if they wanted to handle the action plan similar to the municipalities. Once they identified their priorities, he met with the administrators to go over their objectives before he met with the town boards. Mr. Burgess felt that one of the biggest issues is the number of abandoned buildings. He commented that even if they were free to someone, the person couldn't afford to tear it down because it costs so much. He gave the example of the old nursing home in Limon. Mr. McCue agreed, stating that blight and dead trees are a problem countywide.

Mr. Dingwall asked if the commissioners wanted to partner with each town, but Mr. Piper commented that obligating the county in the Plan document could be problematic. Mr. Burgess agreed, stating they look at things more on a case-by-case basis, and even though the commissioners want to help, they have to be careful of making promises or committing to anything definite. Mr. McCue spoke up, stating that the hope was to open the doors of communication, and Mr. Stone remarked that most of the items listed appeared to be town projects, which they were. The Board chose the fairgrounds, landfill, and transportation as priority tasks to work on, and Mr. Schifferns said that they needed to do something to stop the laws that continue to have devastating effects on rural counties.

Mr. McCue gave his report for April, and then Mr. Piper asked if it were true that there were plans to replace the water tower in Hugo. Mr. Dingwall told him that the rumor is true, and Mr. McCue said he thought they'd identified funding for the replacement.

The announcement of who will host the June 2020 Rural Philanthropy Days event occurs on May 3; Lincoln County and Sterling are the two contenders.

Mr. McCue said they had to cancel the special screening of "Ocean of Grass" on April 24 due to problems with the projector, so they rescheduled it for 2:00 p.m. on May 5. They've had issues with the projector in the past, so Mr. McCue will inform the Your Community Foundation board

at the next meeting and see if they want to buy a backup. If so, Mr. McCue will look for grant funding for the purchase, which would be between \$8,000 and \$12,000.

Mr. Dingwall and Mr. McCue left, and the Board approved the rest of the expense vouchers, then adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Ed E. Schiffers, Chairman