

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

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:15 Greg Etl, North East Regional Manager for the Department of Local Affairs, to discuss a potential project concerning the Karval Water Users
- 10:00 John Mohan, Lincoln County Maintenance Director, to discuss steam cleaning tiles at the Lincoln County Courthouse
- 10:30 Darcy Janssen, Northeast Regional EPR, to provide a regional update
1. Approve the minutes from the August 15, 2019 meeting
  2. Review the July, 2019, Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for County General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, Road and Bridge and individual Road Districts
  3. Review the monthly management report from the First National Bank of Omaha
  4. Review prices on dehumidifiers for the Commissioner meeting room
  5. Discuss a potential resolution supporting the Ports-to-Plains Alliance
  6. Old Business
  7. New Business
  8. Approve payroll and expense vouchers

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on August 29, 2019. The following attended: Vice-chairman Steve Burgess, Commissioner Doug Stone, County Administrator Jacob Piper, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel. Juliet Lundy with the Eastern Colorado Plainsman and Limon Leader attended as well, and Chairman Ed Schifferns was absent and excused. Patrick Leonard with Karval Water Users arrived before the meeting started, and Emergency Manager Ken Stroud came in shortly after 9:00 a.m.

Vice-chairman Burgess called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Piper to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Burgess said he'd requested an addition to the minutes from the meeting held on August 15, 2019, regarding the pension plan. Mrs. Lengel added the sentence: "An employee could, however, buy service time back, with interest, if they returned to employment with the county." Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried.

The Board reviewed the July 2019 Budget Report (Revs and Expenditures) for the County General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, and Road & Bridge funds, as well as for the individual road districts. The commissioners also looked over the monthly management report from the First National Bank of Omaha.

Greg Etl, Northeast Regional Manager for the Department of Local Affairs, arrived at 9:20 a.m. to discuss the potential project for Karval Water Users. He explained that DOLA cannot give money to KWU because the entity is not an eligible local government. As in the past, the county would have to apply for the grant on behalf of the organization. Since the county would want to oversee the project to ensure the improvements were correct and the rates were increased sufficiently to pay off the debt, Mr. Etl suggested forming an LID (Local Improvement District) or PID (Public Improvement District). He admitted he didn't know a lot about them but forwarded some information to Mr. Piper. KWU, acting through the county, would have to set up the district, most likely through an election process. They would then have to apply for the grant before DOLA would approve funding. Patrick Leonard said they'd already increased the user rates, which are going from \$35 to \$55 a month and were based on the loan projections.

Mr. Etl commented that USDA funding is also an option but may not be worth the paperwork due to the lower cost of the project. If it were a three million dollar project, for example, it would be more worthwhile to try and obtain the three different funding sources. He went on to say that when applying for a DOLA grant, the applicant must be whoever will provide the matching funds. Karval Water Users would need to apply to that agency first to determine when they would award the funds, making sure that date coincided with the DOLA timeframe. The next grant round is December with hearings in March. After that, it would be April with July hearing dates. If the match isn't secured, DOLA will pull its money back, and KWU would have to reapply.

Mr. Piper said that Stan Kimble was looking into what it would take for KWU to be a component unit, but Mr. Etl said that would put the county on the hook for the extra money. He highly recommended forming either the LID or PID to protect the county.

Mr. Piper asked if the county would still have to be the applicant if KWU formed a PID or LID, and Mr. Etl said he believed so. Mr. Piper told Mr. Leonard that it appeared the next step would be for KWU to bring a proposal to the commissioners to make sure that the Board agreed with their plan.

Mr. Etl said that another thing to keep in mind regarding USDA funding was the life of the equipment. Although USDA offered a forty-year note, equipment life might only be around twenty years. Encumbering future county boards of commissioners with that debt might not be something the current board wanted to do.

Mr. Stone asked Mr. Leonard if the project were required. Mr. Leonard responded that part of the state's plan was for everyone to have a backup water source, which they do not have. Mr. Etl added that CDPHE could force KWU to do it as there wasn't much "wiggle room" when it came to water. Mr. Stone wondered if the storage tank Karval has would be sufficient to provide water to thirty users for a few days, but Mr. Leonard said it depended on the season. He added that they wanted to try and get ahead of it, as they figured that the state would force them to do it eventually, and they might not be able to afford it at all then. He added that they are back in compliance regarding the nitrate levels because of the new media, but the issue will never go away.

Mr. Burgess suggested they try and apply for one of the Mountain View Electric Round-up grants. Mr. Etl asked Mr. Leonard if they had more than one bid for the project. Mr. Leonard told him they don't even have one bid; it's just an engineering estimate. He felt they could probably complete the project for half of what the engineer quoted. Mr. Etl recommended that they obtain three proposals, using the middle one for the grant application. If it's still around \$400,000, they could apply for half of it from DOLA. He added that they needed to know the cost up-front because just guessing on the overall figure might hurt them in the long run.

Mr. Leonard asked if they could still get a DOLA grant if the project cost ended up being closer to \$200,000 than \$400,000. Mr. Etl said they could, and that was where the three estimates would help them. He added that there is also an SID, which he thought was a Special Improvement District, but he didn't know what the differences were in the three.

John Mohan met with the Board at 10:10 a.m. to discuss steam-cleaning the tile in the courthouse. K & K Carpet Cleaning did a test portion of one of the restrooms when they cleaned the carpets one time, and Mr. Mohan felt they did a pretty good job. Mr. Burgess said he'd done a little research on carbon-dioxide cleaning, which uses dry ice somehow. Mr. Piper asked if he wanted to do it soon or if next spring would be better. Mr. Mohan said spring would be fine, and that way, the expense could come out of the 2020 budget.

While Mr. Mohan was still there, Mr. Burgess addressed addenda item number four, which was to review prices on dehumidifiers for the commissioner meeting room. When he said it should be something that attached to either the furnace or plumbing, Mr. Piper said he'd only researched portable units similar to what they have currently. After some discussion, Mr. Mohan said he could probably put a damper on one of the room's three AC vents to see if that would help.

Mr. Mohan left, and the Board discussed a possible resolution supporting the designation of the Ports-to-Plains and a portion of the Heartland Expressway (between the Colorado/Oklahoma border and Interstate 76 at Brush) as a future interstate. The commissioners agreed that they would wait until Mr. Schiffers could attend before adopting a resolution.

Mr. Burgess called for old business and then said that he's spoken with Dave Copsey from Haynie and Company about doing a pre-audit for the county. Mr. Copsey told him they didn't have the human resources at this time, so they were not interested. Mr. Piper said that Ronny Farmer would meet with the Board soon to discuss the 2018 audit, and they could talk to him about it then.

As for new business, Mr. Piper said that Chris Monks gave him a quote from 21<sup>st</sup> Century for a 2017 John Deere 6110 tractor. The fairgrounds needs a newer tractor, so District 1 would like to sell their 2014 John Deere 5085M tractor for \$23,000 and trade in the 1989 John Deere 2755 for \$6,500. Mr. Monks proposed that the money should come from the Conservation Trust Fund. Mr. Piper said they'd budgeted for \$70,000 out of the Fund in 2019 and they'd already spent \$63,000 of that. He felt they would have to do a supplemental appropriation if the commissioners chose to use more of those funds for the tractor. Mr. Burgess told him to go ahead if the transaction were acceptable within the spending rules of the Conservation Trust Fund.

The Board approved the August 2019 payroll and expense vouchers, and then Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting at 12:15 a.m. The next meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on August 30, 2019.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

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Steve Burgess, Vice-chairman