

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for April 17, 2020

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO CALL IN, ALTHOUGH THE PUBLIC WILL BE MUTED UNTIL THE COMMISSIONERS ASK FOR ANY PUBLIC COMMENT. PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR THE CALL IN NUMBER AND THE ACCESS CODE.

- **Call in number: (571) 317-3112**
- **Access Code: 613-960-437**

9:00 Call to order

9:00 Tom Nestor, Lincoln County Sheriff, to discuss mental health mandates

1. Approve the minutes from the April 7, 2020 meeting
2. Discuss a bid regarding the painting of the Roundhouse
3. County Commissioner reports
4. County Attorney's report
5. County Administrator's report
6. Old Business
7. New Business

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met via conference call at 9:00 a.m. on April 17, 2020. The following attended: Chairman Steve Burgess, Commissioners Ed E. Schifferns and Doug Stone, County Administrator Jacob Piper, County Attorney Stan Kimble, Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel, and Juliet Lundy with the Eastern Colorado Plainsman and Limon Leader.

Chairman Burgess called the meeting to order and asked Sheriff Tom Nestor to begin his discussion item. For the past four-or-five years, the county has participated in a ten-county contingency with other eastern counties that provide in-house group treatment for inmate substance abuse. The MAT (Medicated Assisted Treatment) Program, which is a new state-funded mandate, separates the counties and requires each county to provide equipment, medication, and a treatment program. Of the \$200,000 to \$300,000 allocated to Lincoln County, the sheriff said they would only use a portion of it, possibly around \$100,000. Since the funds should come into the county around the first of July, Sheriff Nestor wanted to know how to handle it in his budget. He asked if he should run his Medical line item over or if the Board wanted to increase the line item to reflect the income. The sheriff assumed that the county would initially receive about \$70,000, and it might take \$30,000 or \$40,000 of that to set up the program and purchase medication. Mr. Piper said he'd speak with the county auditor about the best way to track the revenue and expenses.

The sheriff went on to say that the State Office of Behavioral Health asked why several counties weren't using the funding, but Sheriff Nestor noted that most of them didn't even know the money was available. He felt it was a good thing that they broke up the ten counties; otherwise, they might never have known about it.

Mr. Burgess asked if the sheriff would have to hire someone to dispense the drugs, and Sheriff Nestor responded that they would, and he had someone in mind to run the program and recommend medications. He assumed those duties might take about eight hours a week to complete with another four hours per week spent on counseling. He again commented that he was sure they wouldn't use all of the money, but Mr. Burgess and Mr. Schifferns both said they might use more than he thought. The sheriff said they would need to do some carpentry work on one of their rooms to finish it out, plus obtain a record system for Southern Health Partners to track the meds. They will also have to install a video system for video counseling.

Mr. Stone asked if this were a single instance, and Sheriff Nestor said that the county would receive the money annually, so they would need to figure out what line item to put it in when they worked on future budgets.

The only other thing the sheriff had to discuss was that he would need to submit the court security grant application soon. He planned to ask for a full-time person again as well as the current part-time staff.

In response to a question from Mr. Kimble, Sheriff Nestor said that the jail population is surprisingly low and that Judge Fisher's timeliness for processing lower-end crimes seemed to be contributing to that fact.

As for the coronavirus, the sheriff said he'd heard rumors that the governor might extend the stay-at-home order until at least May 8. He'd also heard that gatherings of ten people or less and the social distancing guidelines might also remain in place for a year. The group discussed what that could mean for the county fair and many other events. Mr. Stone commented that they might have to seriously consider holding a virtual fair if things didn't improve by July 1.

Sheriff Nestor dropped off the call, and Mr. Burgess asked for additions or corrections to the minutes from the meeting held on April 7, 2020. He said he'd requested that Mrs. Lengel correct the mileage reflecting the warranty on the coroner vehicle to 36,000 miles, which she'd done. Mr. Schiffers made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board discussed a bid from Spectrum General Contractors for painting all exterior elements (doors, windows, and fascia) of the roundhouse that weren't being supplied and installed as part of the current phase of work. The \$51,711.37 bid included exterior faces, lift rental, labor, and materials. Roundhouse Coordinator Roxie Devers had emailed Graham Johnson with Spectrum to ask if the proposal included the work still pending from Phase I. Mr. Johnson's response to her was that he'd asked the painters to provide their cost assuming that the new windows and doors from the current phase wouldn't need repainting. Spectrum would first provide warranty repairs to scrape sap and touch up glazing and spot paint to cover the repairs for the rest of the doors and windows. After Spectrum completed their work, the painters would mask and paint all remaining exterior windows, doors, and fascia/eave trim for a consistent coat on everything from Phase I and earlier.

Mrs. Devers had let Mr. Piper know that she would be available if one of the commissioners wanted to call and discuss it with her, but she wasn't asking for action at this time. Mr. Burgess said he was struggling with the high cost of the bid, and Mr. Kimble commented that it appeared Mrs. Devers felt they should have taken care of the warranty work first. Mr. Burgess said he would contact Mrs. Devers and talk it over with her. Mr. Piper noted that the money for the painting would come from the Roundhouse Improvements line item in the Capital Projects budget if the county decided to accept the bid.

Mr. Burgess called for commissioner reports, and Mr. Stone said he'd checked roads on April 13. On the Fourteenth, he participated in the COVID-19 call with various entities and Public Health. Later that evening, Mr. Stone and Mr. Burgess both attended the CSU Extension Zoom meeting. He commented that everyone is uneasy about what will happen with the county fairs and, ultimately, the state fair. Mr. Burgess said that something else to check on would be whether or not the county would receive refunds on any deposits they'd made for the stock contractor or other items relating to the fair. There were also several questions regarding food vendors, carnivals, and entertainment and how to handle the show animals and exhibits.

Mr. Stone continued his report, saying that he'd participated in a call-in Southeast and East Central Recycling meeting on April 15. Cardboard is the only commodity up in price. They are

also waiting for grant funds to purchase a new collection trailer. On April 16, Mr. Stone checked roads again. He said he'd also kept in daily phone contact with Rick Ashcraft.

Mr. Schifferns talked with Chris Monks about the culvert on County Road 2W on April 7. On April 10 and 11, he spoke with Jeff Fike about getting some 12" culverts for the town of Arriba. Mr. Burgess said he checked, and the smallest he had in District 2 were 18" pipes. Mr. Schifferns said he didn't have anything either. On April 12, Mr. Schifferns spoke with Public Health Director Jobeth Mills about the coronavirus. He talked to her again on the Fourteenth and Fifteenth. He also learned from Chris Monks that they got the tubes in on County Road 2W. Mr. Schifferns also spoke with Mr. Burgess about the roundhouse painting.

Mr. Burgess reported that they got their new Case tractor on April 7. On April 8, Patrick Leonard asked Mr. Burgess if he would be allowed to respond to a fire or accident near Karval if he were in the vicinity while he was on duty as the Weed Coordinator. All commissioners agreed that it would be acceptable. Mr. Burgess added that the road crew hauled gravel to County Road 4C. They were also working on the grass drill so that they could seed the following week. On April 9, Mr. Burgess talked to Bruce Walters about the crew hauling more gravel on County Road 38. He also attended a video conference with Centennial Mental Health. Everyone expressed concerns about budget cuts. On April 13, Mr. Burgess spoke with CSU Extension Agent Robin Halley, who said that CSU wants him and his staff to work from home until June 30. Mr. Burgess also signed a letter for Chris Monks regarding his essential status as a county employee. He checked roads north of Genoa and had someone offer to pay \$500 for the county's old John Deere grass drill. The other commissioners agreed it was an acceptable price. Mr. Burgess also had a call from Gary Beedy, who told him that the state considered selling 4.2 acres of Lady Bird Park. Mr. Beedy wanted to know if the state contacted the county about the road alignments. When Mr. Burgess told him they had not, Mr. Beedy said he'd ask for an extension and that they contact the county commissioners. Mr. Burgess spoke with Bruce Walters about road concerns and checked on the carpet for the courthouse. Hugo Lumber expected delivery around April 20. Mr. Burgess let Dan Hendricks know that they'd like to have him install it while the public was out of the building. On April 14, Mr. Burgess participated in the conference call with Public Health and other entities in the county, as well as the CSU call regarding the outlook for the county fair. Mr. Burgess and Mr. Walters looked at County Road 21 on April 15 to see if they needed to put in another cattle guard. They also looked at the gravel pit at the county line. Mr. Burgess called and thanked Jobeth Mills for all of her hard work and reminded her to take care of herself and her family. Mr. Burgess reported that he took the check for the drill to Hugo on April 16. Clerk's office employees installed germ shields on their front counters and in the driver's license office, so Mr. Burgess looked at them and then contacted Jim Covington and Jeremiah Higgins to see if they would be interested in something similar. He told them to go ahead if they wanted to and said that the materials came from Hugo Lumber. He asked the other commissioners if they should take the cost from the Grounds and Buildings budget, and Mr. Schifferns and Mr. Stone both agreed. Mr. Burgess and Mr. Piper discussed posting the court phone numbers on the front doors of the courthouse in case people showed up for court and didn't realize the building was closed to the public. He

also talked with Land Use Administrator Fred Lundy about the agreement for a trespass fee to reach the Hoffman Pit.

Mr. Kimble reported that Mr. Lundy sent him those agreements to review. Since he wasn't sure what Mr. Burgess wanted them to include, he said he would have Mr. Lundy forward them to Mr. Burgess. Mr. Burgess asked that he also send them to Mr. Schiffers since the access to the pit would be through District 1.

Mr. Piper reported that he and Emergency Manager Ken Stroud signed up for a FEMA account. There is a briefing on April 27, where they will hopefully learn what reimbursement the county is eligible for and when to expect payment if anything fits the criteria. He also heard that there would be no CARES funding for counties with a population of less than 500,000.

Mr. Burgess said they would need to be thinking about budget cuts and how they would affect the county. The group discussed postponing expenditures and taking a hard look at the Lodging/Tourism fund expenditures. Mr. Schiffers wanted to know about the concert event scheduled for the Saturday of the fair and whether or not they would still have to pay for it if they canceled it. The commissioners agreed they'd like to have someone from the Tourism Board call into the meeting on April 29.

Mr. Burgess said he'd like to schedule the jury assembly room for the meeting on April 29 so that they could have an in-person meeting while maintaining social distancing.

Mr. Piper also reported that County Treasurer Jim Covington found a new laptop to replace his, so he would be happy to let the Weed Coordinator have the old one. James Martin agreed to wipe the Treasurer's data from the computer.

Mr. Burgess called for old business, and Mr. Schiffers asked if the coroner had his vehicle back yet. Mr. Piper said he thought so.

As for new business, Mr. Burgess asked the others how they felt about putting a thank-you ad in the papers concerning COVID-19. Juliet Lundy said she would email the price list to Mr. Piper for a display ad.

Mr. Burgess suggested they have the department heads call-in to the meeting on April 29 to discuss anything the governor might say on the Twenty-sixth. Mrs. Lengel asked if they were extending the public closure or if they expected full staff to return on April 27, since they hadn't made that determination yet. Mr. Schiffers said they shouldn't contradict the governor's orders, but since that wouldn't occur until April 26, which was a Sunday, they should consider extending the closure.

Mr. Stone made a motion to extend the county's closure to the public until at least May 4, 2020. Depending on what orders the governor issues on April 26, the commissioners might

decide to extend the closure further at their meeting on April 29. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting at 10:13 a.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on April 29, 2020.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

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Steve Burgess, Chairman