

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for June 29, 2020

**This meeting will be held in the Lincoln County Administrator's Office**

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 10:00 Patricia Phillips, Human Services Director, to present the Department of Human Services monthly report
- 10:30 Troy McCue, Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director, to present the LCEDC monthly report
- 11:00 Dusty Johnson, Northeast Area Representative for Congressman Ken Buck, to provide legislative updates
1. Approve the minutes from the June 18, 2020 meeting
  2. Review and act upon a memorandum of understanding and cooperative agreement related to distribution of CARES Act funds between Lincoln County and the municipalities within Lincoln County
  3. Discuss the current status of Lincoln County's Emergency Declaration regarding Covid-19
  4. Review and discuss the Lincoln County Employee Pension Plan 2019 GASB Report
  5. County Commissioner reports
  6. County Attorney's report
  7. County Administrator's report
  8. Old Business
  9. New Business
  10. Approve payroll and expense vouchers

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met in the County Administrator's office at 9:00 a.m. on June 29, 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 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 18, 2020, as submitted. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a memorandum of understanding and cooperative agreement related to the distribution of CARES Act funds between Lincoln County and Lincoln County municipalities. Mr. Piper explained that the best option would be for a countywide business grant program. Of the \$489,072 allocated to Lincoln County, ten percent (\$48,907) would go into a contingency fund. The county would get seventy percent of the balance (\$308,115) for direct expenditure in countywide Public Health and Emergency Management and Recovery to benefit both incorporated and unincorporated regions. Thirty percent of the remainder (\$132,050) would go to the municipalities, allocated on a per capita basis. There would be no pre-approval process, so if the county had an expense that the commissioners felt qualified as COVID-19-related, they would have to buy the item and then submit the receipts for reimbursement. Mr. Piper said the county might have to pay for the purchase if it didn't fall within the Act's covered expenditures. He also said that they had to use the money for things that the county already procured in connection with the pandemic, so his thought of buying freezers for the coroner's office probably wouldn't work. Mr. Piper used the Limon Ambulance as an example, saying that they outfitted an ambulance specifically for patients with the virus, so the funds should cover all those expenses. Depositing the money into an interest-bearing account, while acceptable, meant that the county would have to spend the interest on COVID-19-related items or return it to the state if unused. Although there was no deadline for establishing the grant program, the MOU needed to be signed by all parties no later than July 7 if they wanted to participate.

Mr. Schifferns made a motion to sign the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperative Agreement related to the distribution of CARES Act funding between Lincoln County and Lincoln County municipalities. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board agreed to keep the Lincoln County Emergency Declaration regarding COVID-19 in place, as is, until further notice.

As for the Lincoln County Employee Pension Plan 2019 GASB Report, Mr. Piper explained that the changes the Board made seemed to be working. He provided figures from 2017 compared to those from 2020, stating that the county's plan is now fifty percent funded. The average is 60% to 90%, and the discount rate is now at seven percent, where it was four percent in 2017. Mr. Burgess said he felt they were on the right track, and Mr. Piper agreed. He added that the

additional \$150,000 they put in annually, plus the increased employee contribution, helped considerably.

Mr. Burgess reported that he went by the Genoa shop on June 18, where they discussed the May expenses. He had a question about the water bill; the average is \$257 per month, but May's was \$326. They had Mike from Genoa check to see if there was a water leak. Mr. Burgess and Mr. Walters also discussed the CAT loader bid. On June 19, Mr. Burgess asked the clerk's office to check on the water bills. Mrs. Lengel said that the finance director copied all the invoices for the year if he'd like to pick them up after the meeting and discuss it with the town clerk. He also picked up flooring samples from Doug Ratzlaff at Superior Builders and brought them to the courthouse for Mrs. Lengel. She and the staff picked one out, they measured the area, and Mr. Ratzlaff agreed to figure out a price to install the product. Mr. Burgess stopped by the landfill, where he learned the steel was hauled off, and they were starting a new lift in the middle of the fill area. Mr. Burgess talked with Bruce Walters about chipping on June 22. Mr. Piper called about having a commissioner meeting during the fair board meeting on June 30, which he said would be fine. Since it is Election Day, Mr. Piper offered to take the minutes for Mrs. Lengel. Later in the week, a resident called to ask about the county taking over the lease on his gravel pit, so Mr. Burgess left word with Mr. Lundy to contact the party. He also got a quote on a John Deere loader and a call from a resident needing a signature for the tax credit on tire bales. Earlier this morning, Mr. Burgess spoke with Bruce Walters about keeping their tanker truck full of water to help with fires. Sheriff Nestor told him that the towns of Arriba, Hugo, and Limon were all enacting the Stage 3 fire ban, effective June 30.

Mr. Stone reported looking at the new chipper on June 22. He had another call from the resident asking the county to purchase magnets for the road graders. Mr. Stone wanted to know if the other commissioners thought it was worth doing since the magnets cost about \$1,000 each. Mr. Burgess again said they'd tried it in District 2 one time and got no more than a coffee can full of nails or metal objects, so he hadn't felt it was worth spending the money. Mr. Stone said the party told him the magnets he recommended were strong enough to pull objects out of the ground. District 3 used the chipper on two miles of road east of Karval on June 23, and Mr. Stone claimed it was a good buy as it worked very well. On June 24, Mr. Stone attended the livestock sale committee meeting and said they still didn't know what they were going to do regarding the 2020 county fair. They hoped to figure it out at the meeting on June 30.

Mr. Schifferns reported participating in the June 19 Eastern Region call-in meeting. They discussed the CARES Act funding and what might be eligible. On June 20, he learned that the state approved Jobeth Mills' request for a variance to allow groups of 250 people outdoors. Mr. Schifferns checked roads on June 21 and had a couple of calls from residents on June 22 asking about the free landfill day. Mr. Piper also called him about the June 30 meeting.

Mr. Kimble reported that Heather Brickey and Chris Monks decided on a date and time to look at County Road 2W to finalize the project. He never heard back from Steve Monks about his

right-of-way complaint, and he received several county plans from Emergency Manager Ken Stroud that he hadn't had a chance to look at yet. Mr. Kimble also reported that he'd sent the commissioners information he found in statute dictating that a utility company may legally place light, power, gas, or pipes in a county right-of-way. Mr. Lundy spoke up to say that the information would help the Arriba Wind Farm know that they could move forward with their project.

Mr. Burgess asked Mrs. Lengel about the flooring, and she provided two quotes from Superior Builders. The first bid for \$6,653.05 included installation and was for the product Mr. Burgess brought by on June 19. For \$8,603.80, the second quote was for an interlocking product that Mr. Ratzlaff indicated was more of a "do-it-yourself" product. Mrs. Lengel said if the commissioners wanted Dan Hendricks to lay the tile, they should accept the second proposal, although she preferred the first product overall. Mr. Burgess said that if they were going to get it from Superior, he'd just as soon have Mr. Ratzlaff provide the labor. That way, he would stand behind his work.

Mr. Stone made a motion to accept the proposal of \$6,653.05 from Superior Builders to install tile in the driver's license office and county clerk's entryway. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The discussion prompted Mr. Burgess to ask when Mr. Hendricks planned to finish up the carpet project on the courts' side of the building and in the probation office, so Mr. Piper called John Mohan to ask if he'd heard anything. Mr. Mohan said he'd contact Mr. Hendricks and let them know.

Human Services Director Patricia Phillips met with the Board at 10:00 a.m. to present the monthly report for her department. She provided the May financials, employee timesheets, and Income Maintenance, Child Welfare, and Director's reports.

Mr. Burgess asked if they found they were excessively busy with clients due to COVID-19, and Mrs. Phillips said that their Food Stamps seemed to be higher. He added that there might be CARES Act funding if she needed to use employees from other departments to help them with the backlog, something another county had done. Mrs. Phillips said that since she is down one employee, she's been using the part-time person a lot more since March 19. The commissioners thought that the extra expense might be covered under the CARES funding. Mrs. Phillips said the department has also paid out money in lodging expenses for people testing positive for the virus or in quarantine because of exposure. That expense should also be eligible for reimbursement.

Economic Development Director Troy McCue arrived as Mrs. Phillips commented that they hadn't had many TANF Diversion requests for housing or utility expenses from people out of work due to the pandemic.

Mrs. Phillips presented the CORE contracts for FY2020-2021, stating that neither had any changes.

Mr. Schifferns made a motion to approve the Signal Behavioral Health Network and County Department of Human Services of Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, and Lincoln Counties Substance Abuse Treatment Service Agreement for Child Welfare Clients contract for June 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the Child Protection Agreement for Mental Health Services between the Departments of Human Services of Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, and Lincoln Counties and Centennial Mental Health Center, Inc., for 2020-2021. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

At 10:30 a.m., Troy McCue met with the Board to present the monthly Economic Development Corporation report. Denver Cutlery will close on the Alco building this week, Wausau Supply has a CDL position available, and housing development efforts continue. They succeeded in getting Kaiser Premier in Fort Morgan to agree to a formal Foreign Trade Zone User assessment, and Fort Morgan issued a formal contract. Due to ongoing work with Kaiser, they've been able to extend the sunset date of June 11, 2020, to December of 2021 for the FTZ.

Mr. McCue said LCDEC intended to assist Roundhouse Preservation, Inc., with the efforts to complete the interior of the Hugo Union Pacific Railroad Roundhouse. They are also actively engaged with the Arriba Wind Farm development. Economic Development successfully accessed a little over \$4,000 of COVID-related funding through SBDC and will continue to bill his and Raejean's COVID-related consulting hours until the funds are gone.

According to Mr. McCue, Colorado's C-PACE (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy) program prompted questions from both the assessor and treasurer. He explained that lenders would loan up to 100% for green energy upgrades for commercial properties. If the county would opt-in, businesses could pursue the loans. Mr. Burgess said he'd like to give Mr. Kimble time to review the information and tabled further discussion until July 7, 2020.

At 11:00 a.m., Dusty Johnson, Northeast Area Representative for Congressman Ken Buck, met with the Board to provide legislative updates. She gave the group a handout from the congressman and said there are several videos available as well. Congressman Buck's "No Bailouts for Illegal Aliens" bill involving COVID-19 payments not going to illegal aliens went to committee, and he also introduced the "Get Americans Back to Work" act. The legislation would cap unemployment benefits at 100% of workers' previous employment. Ms. Johnson said many Americans who are out-of-work because of the pandemic are making 200% or 300% from unemployment, so the congressman believes that capping the amount will prompt people to return to work.

Lastly, Ms. Johnson said that thirteen young men and women from the Windsor, Greeley, and Castle Rock areas, among others, were accepted to attend military academies this year. She

asked that the commissioners spread the word to interested parties on the eastern plains if they knew of anyone.

Mr. Burgess commented on HR7151, the proposed legislation to create Interstate 27, and Ms. Johnson said the congressman wanted to know if it would negatively affect first responders on the plains if the state constructed the new highway. Mr. Burgess said a new interstate would probably help since it is often challenging to find alternate routes for traffic or first responders if roads are closed because of accidents or other emergencies.

Ms. Johnson left, and John Mohan returned to say that he'd spoken with Dan Hendricks about finishing the carpet project in the courts and probation office. They plan to complete the latter next weekend and start on the courts the following weekend if Mr. Mohan doesn't take a vacation then.

Mr. Mohan left, and Mr. Burgess asked if there was any other business to discuss. Mr. Piper said that Hugo Town Manager Maria Nestor wondered whether the county would have a fair parade as they would need to close the highway. The group agreed they should know more after the meeting with the fair board Tuesday night. Mr. Burgess commented the sheriff felt they should allow campers at the fair, even though the Public Health Director disagreed. Mr. Stone said he thought Mrs. Mills might have changed her mind if they can space the vehicles out somehow.

The commissioners approved DHS expenditures and the June 2020 payroll, and then, with no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

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Steve Burgess, Chairman