

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for May 19, 2025

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 10:00 Kelly Meier, Public Health Director, to present a monthly report
- 10:30 Discussion regarding the courthouse parking lot project
- 11:30 Ritchie Bruno with Bruno Painting, to quote the painting of parking spaces on the courthouse parking lot

-To be completed as time permits-

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1. Approve the minutes from the May 6, 2025, meeting
2. Approve the minutes from the May 15, 2025, meeting
3. Review April 2025 reports from the County Assessor, County Clerk & Recorder, County Sheriff and County Treasurer
4. Review April 2025 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for County General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, Human Services, Road & Bridge and Individual Road Districts
5. Review the April 2025 reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and Workers' Compensation Pool
6. Review and act upon quotes regarding the replacement of the backflow preventer in the Lincoln County Courthouse
7. Review and act upon a Credit Limit Change Request for Cody Hurtado
8. County Commissioner reports
9. County Attorney's report
10. County Administrator's report
11. Old Business
12. New Business

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on May 19, 2025. Chairman Wayne Ewing, commissioners Robert Safranek and Terry Jaques, county administrator Jacob Piper, and clerk of the Board Corinne M. Lengel attended.

Chairman Ewing called the meeting to order and asked Mrs. Lengel to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Jaques said a short prayer.

Mr. Jaques moved to approve the meeting minutes for May 6, 2025. Mr. Safranek seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Safranek moved to approve the meeting minutes for May 15, 2025. Mr. Jaques seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the April 2025 reports from the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Sheriff, Treasurer, and Public Trustee.

The commissioners also reviewed the April 2025 statements of revenues and expenditures for the General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, Human Services, Road & Bridge funds, individual road district reports, and the April 2025 Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and Workers' Compensation Pool reports.

Mr. Piper provided quotes to replace the courthouse backflow preventer from Limon Plumbing for \$20,690 (including post-installation testing), Flatland Plumbing for \$35,000, and V-Vora Productions, LLC, for \$12,437.47. Mr. Jaques asked if the bids included project start dates since the town has given the county a deadline. The quotes didn't have dates but indicated eight to ten hours to complete.

Mr. Safranek said that John Mohan couldn't attend the commissioner meeting but told him the low bid concerned him because he didn't know the company's owner or anything about their work. He liked that Limon Plumbing included testing, but knew of a different company that could do it cheaper. Mr. Jaques appreciated Mr. Mohan's concerns but felt the commissioners had an obligation to accept low bids, especially when the company was local. Mr. Safranek noted that the quote had expired; Mr. Ewing called and left a message for Rene Bojorquez with V-Vora Productions. He tabled further discussion.

After a brief explanation from Mrs. Lengel regarding her request to increase Cody Hurtado's credit limit from \$1,000 to \$3,000, Mr. Jaques moved to approve the increase. Mr. Safranek seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Ewing called for the commissioners' reports.

Mr. Jaques reported that he checked District 2 roads and visited with crew members on May 12. He also met with Allen Chubbuck at the landfill about constructing a new road to the

current cell and adding a drainage culvert; they will need an 18"-24" X 20' section of drainage culvert. Mr. Safranek said Judd Kravig thought District 3 had one they could use. Mr. Ewing said if not, District 1 might. Mr. Jaques and Mr. Chubbuck also discussed the need to repair the air conditioner in a piece of equipment; Mr. Jaques instructed him to schedule the service. Mr. Jaques also met with courthouse staff and reviewed the new concrete work in the parking lot before meeting with staff at the annex building.

On May 13, Mr. Jaques checked some roads and stopped at the courthouse to review the concrete work. He attended the Fair Board meeting, where they discussed details of this year's fair and how to set up the barn to improve flow and public safety. He and Mr. Ewing answered board members' questions regarding budget utilization protocol. The Fair Board was happy with the additional animal enclosures and protective screening that the commissioners approved.

Mr. Jaques met with staff in Hugo on May 14 and watched the contractor complete the last pour of Phase I of the parking lot project. He and John Mohan reviewed work needed at the annex building, including lighting upgrades and the north parking lot.

Mr. Jaques attended the special commissioner meeting and reviewed the parking lot project on May 15. A constituent suggested an option Mr. Jaques promised to review as a possible test case for reducing metal on county roads. Mr. Jaques discussed the Republican River Water Conservation District Board with a constituent; he plans to attend a virtual meeting with the board on Tuesday, May 20. He will also attend the Arickaree Ground Water District meeting on May 21 if he doesn't have other obligations.

Mr. Ewing reported discussing the new District 1 loader with Chris Monks on May 8. They also discussed the parking lot, blading, and mowing. Mr. Ewing signed the DHS certification of pay on May 9. He also checked the parking lot concrete and roundhouse projects, noting that the commissioners needed to make sure the company removed all the old concrete from the roundhouse before the county paid their bill. Mr. Ewing attended the Fair Board meeting on May 13; the Fair Board promised to provide suggestions to replace Meg McAtee.

On May 14, Mr. Ewing checked roads, stopped at the county shop, and watched the final concrete pour at the courthouse. He spoke with Chris Monks while there. Lastly, Mr. Ewing reported attending the special commissioner meeting on May 15.

Mr. Safranek reported meeting with DHSEM Recovery Grants Specialist Ted Lucero on May 14—he signed off on the County Road 2T project. Judd Kravig took Mr. Lucero to look at the culvert and sinkhole on County Highway 109; Mr. Lucero indicated the county could use FEMA funds since the problem is flood-related. Mr. Safranek said it was becoming a safety concern and felt it would require a 30-inch replacement culvert; the road crew would have to tear out the old one because the asphalt cracked when the tube settled on the west side. A detour would be costly; Mr. Safranek said replacing the culvert would take at least two days. They will have to step-trench it since it's so steep.

Mr. Safranek also reported that District 3 started laying asphalt this morning, the new hire has his CDL permit, and he spoke with JP Juranek about the free landfill day.

Mr. Piper provided the free landfill day report from clerk Brenda Howe, which the commissioners reviewed. Mr. Safranek said he felt better when he saw they would have only lost about \$2,300 had the county charged for the loads people brought in that day.

Rene Bojorquez returned Mr. Ewing's call and said he would have to check with the supplier before agreeing to honor the expired backflow preventer bid. Mr. Jaques asked if he could complete the project on a weekend before July 1 if the county accepted his bid; Mr. Bojorquez said he could and would call back when he heard from his supplier.

Public Health Director Kelly Meier arrived at 9:55 a.m.

Mr. Safranek continued his report, stating that they could set up a temporary diversion for County Highway 109 with the landowner's permission; however, doing so would take quite a bit of material and cost. Otherwise, the only other route was to go straight north from Karval to State Highway 94. Mr. Jaques suggested designating an alternate route and advertising the information well before the crew started the project; Mr. Safranek felt there would be adequate time for it since the District 3 crew needed to finish paving first.

At 10:01 a.m., Mr. Ewing recessed the Board of County Commissioners meeting and opened the Lincoln County Board of Public Health meeting. Mrs. Meier informed the commissioners that they received a \$10,000 mini grant from the Office of Gun Violence and Prevention for gun safes they plan to distribute at the Ranch Rodeo. They had enough money to buy 150 safes and must disburse them by June 30.

Mrs. Meier said they stored the safes in the Conex container at the fairgrounds the last time, but there is now a small hole in the roof that has caused damage to the PPE equipment they keep there. While all boxes in the unit are damp, the ones in the front received the most damage. Mr. Ewing asked if she had informed Fairgrounds Manager John Palmer; Mrs. Meier had also told Emergency Manager Ken Stroud, since he houses some OEM equipment there. Mr. Palmer thought John Mohan had caulked the ceiling once, but when Mrs. Meier asked Mr. Mohan, he suggested contacting his nephew, Karlin, to fix it. However, Karlin Mohan wanted \$500 to fix a hole the size of a dime with material his brother had already bought. Mrs. Meier said it couldn't be that hard to caulk, and Mr. Safranek said he could fix it. Mr. Jaques asked if the Extension office had room to store the gun safes; Mrs. Meier said they already store many pamphlets and other Public Health items. She offered to contact John Mohan and ask him to seal the hole; Mr. Jaques said either Mr. Mohan or Mr. Palmer should since it's maintenance-related.

Mrs. Meier would like to use the \$1,000 in her maintenance line item to replace the sink in the Public Health kitchen with a bigger one. She explained that the water pressure is bad, and the filter leaks, causing water to spray everywhere. They finally installed a Culligan water dispenser

because it was cheaper than constantly replacing filters. The Board agreed to have Mrs. Meier obtain prices for a new sink; Mr. Jaques told her to inform Mr. Mohan of her plan.

Another issue at the annex is the fire alarm system; Mrs. Meier said the alarms on both sides of the building go off periodically, even when no one uses the microwave or air fryer. Mr. Mohan replaced all detectors, which stopped them from going off for a while; however, they are doing it again. Mr. Jaques felt it was an electrical issue and asked if the building had sprinklers. Mrs. Meier wasn't sure, nor was Mr. Piper. He wondered if Nebraska Safety and Fire came to the annex when they do their annual inspection, but Mrs. Meier said she'd never seen anyone. Mr. Jaques commented that they tend to forget about the annex when considering yearly building maintenance. Mr. Ewing asked Mr. Piper to have Nebraska Safety and Fire schedule a visit at the annex.

Mrs. Meier also informed the Board that their sign blew down back in 2020 or 2021 and has been on the ground behind the office since. She didn't know what shape it was in, but felt there should be a sign designating that the annex houses Public Health and the Extension office. Mr. Jaques suggested putting a sign on the building rather than on signposts; Mr. Safranek said they should look at it after the meeting.

Mrs. Meier left at 10:20 a.m., and Mr. Ewing adjourned the Board of Public Health meeting and reconvened the Board of County Commissioners meeting.

Mr. Ewing skipped the County Attorney's report until Miss Lowery got there and called for the Administrator's report. Mr. Piper asked if the commissioners were ready to proceed with the roundhouse RFP; the Board agreed to start on it.

County Treasurer Ashley Erwin arrived at 10:25 a.m. but left shortly after.

The commissioners discussed project timing if the county had to do the dirt work at the roundhouse; Mr. Piper said he would forward what they had done previously for the Board's review. If they approved it, the commissioners could act on it on May 29, and Mr. Piper would post it on May 30.

Court Clerk Kim Graham had asked Mr. Piper if the county would install another Maglock on the double doors into the courts. She said the courts might be able to pay for a portion of it, but she wasn't sure how much. Mr. Piper hadn't gotten Sheriff Nestor's opinion yet and thought each of the other Maglocks had cost between \$1,200 and \$2,000. Mr. Jaques said they needed to see prices.

The group set commissioner meeting dates through the end of the year. Land Use Administrator Ty Stogsdill arrived at 10:35 a.m., and County Attorney Kelly Lowery arrived at 10:45 a.m.

Miss Lowery reported that Deputy Assessor Renita Thelen did an exceptional job at the morning's BAA hearing and said they should receive an Order within thirty days. PSCo scheduled a meeting for 9:00 a.m. on May 20 to review the new Road Use Agreement, and Next Era sent an email requesting a meeting next Wednesday.

Miss Lowery said they were close to finalizing the MOU with Mountain View Electric Association. Their attorney wanted to know if the county used fuel cards, which would provide better accounting of fuel usage. When Mr. Ewing said it didn't, Miss Lowery said she would let MVEA know it was up to them to keep track of their fuel usage.

Mr. Ewing told Miss Lowery that a landowner wanted to buy county land he leased; she advised him they would need to follow the bid process to be fair. Mr. Piper noted that he had a form letter that the county used in similar situations and could send it to interested parties. Miss Lowery cautioned that they would need to accept the highest bid but admitted the county wouldn't have to sell if the commissioners changed their minds later on, as long as the bid package contained that language.

Mr. Stogsdill said that he and Renita Thelen discussed updating the county's manufactured homes regulations to create strict guidelines regarding the year of manufacture. The state no longer has those stipulations, but he and Mrs. Thelen wanted to ensure the county had a recourse for not allowing old, rundown mobile homes. Miss Lowery recommended regulations based on condition rather than age. Mr. Stogsdill said they will discuss the moratorium and residential development permit regulations at the June 11 Land Use Board meeting. There are also no junkyard rules to speak of, and another issue is that the county has zoned everything as agricultural for years, so it might be time to begin reclassifying areas. Miss Lowery said she would start working on the problems.

Sheriff Tom Nestor and Captain Michael Yowell arrived at 11:04 a.m. Miss Lowery and Mr. Stogsdill left.

The sheriff said they'd promised to obtain a Pretrial Services Agreement with Douglas County, which they'd received; he provided it for the Board's review. For an estimated cost of \$77,000, Douglas County agreed to provide services including alcohol monitoring, UAs, and GPS, among others. The person would be a judicial employee paid by each county, but Sheriff Nestor wanted the Board to understand it wasn't a sheriff's office function or requirement. He noted that he could tell the judge he'd presented it to the commissioners; what they did with it was up to them.

Rene Bojorquez with V-Vora Productions, LLC, called back to say they would honor the original bid for the backflow preventer, but since they had to backorder parts, it would be four to six weeks before they could do it. Mr. Ewing informed him that the county doesn't pay sales tax, so if the commissioners accepted the bid, they would remove \$592.26.

Sheriff Nestor said he favored installing the Maglock on the court's entryway, and he and Captain Yowell left.

Ritchie Bruno with Bruno Painting arrived at 11:30 a.m. The group went outside to look at the parking lot, after which Mr. Bruno said he would provide a quote for painting the ADA-accessible and parking spaces. County Treasurer Ashley Erwin met them outside and accompanied them to the meeting room. Mrs. Erwin noted that she uses one of the accessible parking spaces when the weather is bad and wanted the commissioners to ensure they have enough compliant parking spaces and correctly follow the ADA guidelines. Mr. Jaques told her it was their reasoning for hiring a subcontractor to do it, as the commissioners agreed it needed to be accurate and legal. Mrs. Erwin said that many areas of the building are not compliant and urged the Board to look into those areas as well.

Mr. Bruno returned with a \$2,475.50 quote for painting and said he could start this week. Mr. Jaques moved to approve the Bruno Painting quote of \$2,475.50 to stripe the parking lot, including the ADA-accessible spaces. Mr. Safranek seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mrs. Erwin mentioned that a space designated for ballot drop-off was an excellent idea and suggested signage to utilize another accessible space during the election. Mrs. Erwin left at noon.

Mr. Jaques moved to approve the V-Vora Productions, LLC, quote of \$12,437.47 for the courthouse backflow preventer. Mr. Piper noted that they might not comply with the town's deadline if it took six weeks. Mr. Jaques suggested contacting the town to let them know the county's plan. Mr. Safranek seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mr. Ewing clarified that the cost was \$11,845.21, and V-Vora would work on the weekend.

After reviewing information regarding the landfill loader, Mr. Ewing called Allen Chubbuck to discuss it. He told him to change the transmission filters and recheck the fluids after one hundred hours; the oil and hydraulics looked good. Mr. Chubbuck said that Bruce Walters did it the last time, and Mr. Jaques told him to contact Mr. Walters again. Mr. Chubbuck said that Power Equipment fixed the broken AC and noted that Troy would move the dirt sometime this week. Mr. Jaques told Mr. Chubbuck that Districts 1 or 3 might have a culvert they could use to build the new road to the current cell.

After disconnecting with Mr. Chubbuck, Mr. Piper said Mr. Bruno would start painting Thursday or Friday.

The commissioners agreed to look at the roundhouse and annex, and Mr. Ewing adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on May 29, 2025.