

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for December 15, 2020

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 10:00 Open and review sealed bids for chemicals for the Lincoln County Weed Control Department
- 10:30 Kevin Stansbury, Lincoln Community Hospital CEO, to provide a LCH monthly report
- 11:00 Zoom meeting with the U.S. Census Bureau to review the 2020 Census
1. Approve the minutes from the December 7, 2020, meeting
 2. Review the November 2020 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for County General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, Human Services, Road and Bridge and Individual Road Districts
 3. Review the November 2020 reports from the County Assessor, County Clerk & Recorder, County Sheriff and County Treasurer
 4. Review the November 2020 reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and the Workers' Compensation Pool
 5. Discuss an appointment to the 18th Judicial District Juvenile Services Planning Committee
 6. Discuss an appointment to the Hospital Board of Trustees
 7. Review the Lincoln County Personnel Manual to include changes introducing more detailed sections regarding employee benefits
 8. Review and act upon pay schedules for 2021
 9. County Commissioner reports
 10. County Attorney's report
 11. County Administrator's report
 12. Old Business
 13. New Business

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on December 15, 2020. The following attended: Chairman Steve Burgess, Commissioners Ed E. Schifferns and Doug Stone, County Administrator Jacob Piper, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel.

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

Road & Bridge Foremen Chris Monks and Rick Ashcraft had come to discuss the scrapers they looked at in Boone the previous week. Although there were four available, two were in better shape than the others. Mr. Monks felt they were decent machines for how old they were (36 years) and added that they were also a reasonable price at \$25,000 each. He'd checked with Ron Smith, who told him he would have expected them to be closer to \$50,000 each. Mr. Ashcraft said they'd discussed getting one and splitting the cost between Districts 1 and 3, but if they would need one at the landfill to dig the new cell, they might want to consider buying two. He made it clear that he would not have time to help with the new cell, and the county might not have someone who could operate it. Mr. Ashcraft also said that to buy twenty-five-year-old scrapers would cost between \$70,000 and \$90,000, or to rebuild an engine in one would run about \$40,000. Mr. Burgess felt they should consider buying three and using one for parts, and Mr. Ashcraft said the parts were all interchangeable on them, so that might be a good idea. Mr. Monks commented that one of the other two had a bad tire, but they could make an offer for all three if they would replace the tire. He added that, for the price, they might want to offer \$85,000 for all four and use the other two machines for parts. Mr. Ashcraft said he could check and see if they would accept the offer.

The foremen left at 9:30 a.m., and Lincoln Community Hospital CEO Kevin Stansbury called in to give his monthly report. The hospital suffered a loss of a little over \$100,000 in October, but Mr. Stansbury said he was more concerned with November since that was when they were the hardest hit with COVID-19. They lost quite a bit of revenue in the clinics as well as for elective procedures last month because of the virus. Mr. Stansbury informed the Board that they were finalizing the 2021 operations budget for approval at the January meeting. The Moderna COVID vaccine should be delivered in the next couple of weeks, and Mr. Stansbury said the hospital is working closely with Public Health to distribute the two hundred doses they are projected to receive. They plan to vaccinate two hundred people rather than one hundred and waiting for the required twenty-one days in between doses. The second doses should be delivered soon after the first, so they hope to get as many people vaccinated as they can with the first round.

When Mr. Stansbury finished, Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 7, 2020, as submitted. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the 2020 Statements of Revenues and Expenditures for the General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, Human Services, and Road & Bridge funds, as well as for the individual road districts.

Weed Control Coordinator Patrick Leonard arrived for the 10:00 a.m. opening of sealed bids for weed department chemicals. Mr. Piper said he'd only received one bid, which was from Try-Me Spraying. Mr. Leonard said he'd have to check to see what the prices were in 2020 before he could tell if they were the same or higher on the list provided. Mr. Stone moved to accept the bid for Weed Control chemicals from Try-Me Spraying for 2021. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

When Mr. Leonard left, the Board reviewed the November 2020 reports from the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Sheriff, and Treasurer as well as the November 2020 Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and Workers' Compensation Pool reports.

As in the past, the 18th Judicial District Juvenile Services Planning Committee suggested that Andrew Lorensen be the annual appointee. Mr. Schifferns moved to appoint Andrew Lorensen, and Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Stone moved to appoint Sarah Nuss to the hospital board to fill Keith James's term. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed additional changes to the Lincoln County Personnel Manual regarding more detailed sections on employee benefits. Mr. Piper said he'd added information on how employees would receive the HSA payment if they elected the new plan when they were hired.

At that time, James Martin, with Evergreen Systems and Technology, arrived to work on the commissioners' laptops. He also commented that the new SIPA website was technically supposed to go live the previous Friday, but he wasn't ready for it yet. Mr. Martin said they couldn't import the county's design, so he would continue to work on it to maintain organization and navigation. He felt some other sites put together by the company were cumbersome and hard to navigate. Mr. Martin said the best part of the new website would be that several departments would have access to it to update individual webpages. He planned to put together training for it in either January or February.

The weekly Public Health Zoom meeting had already started when the commissioners got on the call, but they listened until 11:00 a.m. They then disconnected to join the Zoom meeting with Joie Ha with the U.S. Census Bureau to review the 2020 Census. Ms. Ha explained that Colorado was fourteenth to respond, but she had no specific data for Lincoln County yet. She promised to forward it to Mr. Piper along with the presentation.

During a brief break, Mark Morrison stopped in to inform the Board that one of the Limon Area Fire Protection District ambulances was in an accident earlier that morning, totaled by a semi-truck. They needed a permit for another ambulance as soon as possible. Mr. Morrison left what paperwork he had with Mr. Burgess, and once Mr. Piper reviewed it, he said he still needed a couple of forms before he could issue the permit. Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the Limon Area Fire Protection District's ambulance permit as soon as Mr. Piper received all the proper paperwork. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The discussion resumed regarding the personnel manual, Mr. Piper saying that although he strongly recommends that new employees sign up for the old insurance plan when they start, he has to offer both options. He explained that the county would only deposit one-twelfth of the employee's deductible per month in their Health Savings Account for their first year of employment. Once employed full-time for twelve consecutive months, the county would deposit a lump sum in the employee's HSA to account for the remainder of their deductible for the current plan year. Mr. Piper said there would still be savings to the county if the employee worked more than six months. However, depending on what month they started, the employee might be out quite a bit of money if something happened to them since they might have to meet the full deductible without having the HSA to help cover it. Mr. Burgess said the employee would have to take that chance if they chose the high deductible plan, especially if Mr. Piper encouraged them to take the other option for their first year. He added that he wasn't in favor of putting in the full deductible for a new hire, and the other commissioners agreed.

Mr. Stone moved to update the Lincoln County Personnel Manual that included the changes regarding employee benefits. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Schifferns moved to adopt the 2021 pay schedules. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone reported stopping by the shop after the commissioner meeting on December 7. He talked with Rick Ashcraft about the scrapers and sending some guys to help at the landfill with the new shooting range. On December 8, Mr. Stone attended the weekly Public Health Zoom call in the morning and the fair board meeting that evening. They discussed whether they were an advisory board or a working board and decided they were advisory. Still, several fair board members agreed to help John Palmer during the fair if he needed help. Rick Ashcraft and Chris Monks went to Boone to look at the scrapers on December 10, and Mr. Stone reported one of their road graders was still not running. The rental scraper they were using also broke down on December 11, so they brought it back to the shop. Mr. Stone checked roads on December 13 after they received about two inches of snow. He attended the Eastern TPR Zoom meeting on December 14.

Mr. Schifferns reported stopping by the fairgrounds with Mr. Burgess after the December 7 meeting. They talked with Carlos Leonard about the work he and John Palmer had done. Mr. Schifferns attended the Public Health Zoom meeting on December 8. Chris Monks called him on December 9 to discuss possibly purchasing the scrapers he and Rick planned to look at the following day. They also discussed roads. Mr. Burgess called Mr. Schifferns about the COVID cases on December 10, and on the Eleventh, Mr. Schifferns received a call from a resident asking if the county planned to keep local businesses open. Mr. Schifferns told him it wasn't up to the commissioners, but they hoped businesses would not close. He contacted the board members on his list of appointments that he'd promised to speak to and had no changes.

Mr. Burgess reported that he went by the fairgrounds on December 7, where Carlos Leonard was installing panels for the corrals. He also stopped at the landfill to check the progress on the shooting range. Public Health Director Jobeth Mills called to let him know the Hugo school had several teachers test positive for COVID-19, so they closed the school until at least January 4, 2021. Mr. Burgess attended the weekly Public Health Zoom call on December 8 and went by Countrywide Diesel to check on their CAT backhoe, which they still hadn't fixed. He spoke with the owner, Randy Reed, who told him CAT would not work with him to get parts. Mr. Burgess talked to Bruce Walters about the crew hauling dirt for the shooting range, and he ordered 1,000 tons of half-inch rock for chipping from Hannebaum Trucking out of Salina, Kansas, which they would deliver. On December 9, landfill employees talked with Mr. Burgess about the guidelines for the shooting range. They were concerned with picking up trash in the area if they didn't know when the sheriff's office intended to use it. Mr. Burgess called Sheriff Nestor and asked him to explain to them how the range would operate. He also went to Genoa and spoke with Bruce Walters about where to stockpile the chipping rock. Mr. Burgess attended a Centennial Mental Health Zoom meeting on December 10 and went by the landfill to check out the finished shooting range. He stopped by the Genoa shop and then participated in a Zoom meeting with the hospital. On December 11, Brenda Howe called to ask if it would be okay to have an electrician work on the traffic control light at the landfill, and he told her it would be fine. Merritt Hoover started on the shop area at the landfill on December 14, and Bruce Walters was getting the site ready to receive the chipping rock. The road crew checked roads due to snow and blowing snow. Lastly, Mr. Burgess reported receiving several thank-you notes from local businesses for the CARES Act money.

Mr. Piper called Stan Kimble for his attorney's report. Mr. Kimble said he'd sent information about the State Relief Package, but most counties weren't excited about it and didn't feel it was worth the trouble. Mr. Piper agreed, stating it seemed counterproductive.

The only other item Mr. Kimble had to report on was the landowner dispute set for trial in the spring.

Mr. Piper had asked Mr. Kimble's opinion on snack gift bags for county employees that someone dropped off at the Clerk's office. Mrs. Lengel said that the sheriff's office said they came from the fire department, yet upon further inspection, they learned they were from one of the local churches. Mr. Kimble said he preferred the churches deliver their gifts to employees individually rather than through a government facility. Mr. Piper asked what he should do with the box, and Mr. Kimble suggested sending a note that it was in the lounge if county employees wanted to pick up a snack bag.

Mr. Piper reported that the UV lights were in, but John Mohan said they needed to do some electrical work first for about \$3,500. Plains Heating and Air Conditioning could do the work because it tied into the HVAC system, and the CARES Act money should cover the cost. Mr. Schifferns made a motion to approve the quote from Plains Heating and Air Conditioning to install thirty UV lights in the courthouse, jail, and annex. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Piper said they would adopt the board appointments on December 30 and asked if there were any changes. No one had any.

Mr. Burgess called for old business and asked again about the clean, washed gravel for the fairgrounds. He paid seven dollars a ton for it. Mr. Schifferns said if they used it at the fairgrounds, the county should reimburse District 2.

As for new business, Mr. Burgess asked what they wanted to do about the scrapers. He suggested that the others think about which district's budget the purchase would come out of and which would pay for repairs.

Lastly, Mr. Burgess said he'd noticed that three people were working at the landfill one day when he was there, and he thought they only needed two. He wanted to know how the others felt about having Chris Howe work if an employee took a sick or vacation day. The commissioners all agreed that they only needed two employees at the landfill each day and that it would be okay for Chris to fill in if necessary.

With no other business to come before the Board, Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on December 30, 2020.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Steve Burgess, Chairman