

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for February 25, 2021

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:30 Open sealed bids for Lots #1-20 being sold from the Lincoln County Fairgrounds and Road and Bridge Shop
- 10:00 Patricia Phillips, Human Services Director, to present the Department of Human Services monthly report
- 10:30 Ken Stroud, Lincoln County Emergency Management Director, to present the annual review of county plans
- 11:00 Robin Halley, CSU Extension Director, to discuss a memorandum of understanding and to provide a CSU Extension Update
- 11:30 Greg Etl, Northeast Regional Manager with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), and Angie Cue, grant assistant with DOLA, to provide an update from DOLA
1. Approve the minutes from the February 16, 2021 meeting
 2. Review and act upon an employee credit card request for Jason Bandy
 3. Review and act upon the COR900000 Annual Report Form for the Stormwater Discharges Associated with Non-Extractive Industrial Activity
 4. County Commissioner reports
 5. County Attorney's report
 6. County Administrator's report
 7. Old Business
 8. New Business
 9. Approve Payroll

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on February 25, 2021. The following attended: Chairman Steve Burgess, Commissioners Doug Stone and Ed E. Schifferns, County Administrator Jacob Piper, County Attorney Stan Kimble, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel.

District 1 and Shop Foreman Chris Monks arrived shortly before 9:00, so Mr. Burgess called the meeting to order and asked him to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Monks said he'd locked in three loads of fuel for the districts at \$2.06 per gallon, but he probably should have gotten nine since the price is going up. Also, the last time the commissioners raised the price of gravel the county buys from landowners was in 2012, and he thought it might be time to consider doing it again. After a brief discussion, Mr. Schifferns moved to increase the amount the county pays for gravel by \$2 per load, effective March 1, 2021. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion. Mr. Schifferns and Mr. Burgess voted in favor, and Mr. Stone abstained from the vote.

Mr. Monks pointed out an unimproved road off of County Road 2G, which appeared to be County Road 39 on the county road map. One of the landowners in the area put in a feedlot and would like the county to maintain about two miles of the road. It's currently a secondary road, but Mr. Kimble said the county was justified in taking care of it since it's on the map and would have public use because of the business. Mr. Monks said the landowner would have to widen the cattleguards.

Mr. Monks left, and Mr. Stone moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 16, 2021, as submitted. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Burgess signed the application for a county credit card with a \$1,000 limit for Jason Bandy.

Mr. Schifferns moved to sign the Annual Stormwater Discharge Report for the landfill. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone reported checking roads east of Karval on February 19. He also talked to Rick Ashcraft. He spoke with Mr. Schifferns about the landfill and checked roads down by the Cage Ranch on February 22. On the Twenty-third, Mr. Stone discussed marijuana grows with a couple of landowners who were not in favor of them. Their information was that people in Crowley County had numerous problems with it down there. Mr. Stone said he'd talked with Public Health Director Jobeth Mills a little bit since he wasn't going to make the weekly Zoom call. On February 24, Mr. Stone went to look at the area where Mr. Sveinsson wanted to build his marijuana grow facilities.

Mr. Schifferns said the District 1 road crew started sanding on February 17. He also checked roads after the snow. They got about twenty-five new road signs on February 19 and learned that one of their employees tested negative for the COVID-19 virus. On February 22, Mr.

Schiffers checked roads south of Arriba. He also received a call about some of the sale items. On February 23, Chris Monks talked to Mr. Schiffers about raising the gravel price, and the following day, they discussed the oil fire. Chris had sent a tanker truck.

At 9:30 a.m., the Board opened the sealed bids for Lots #1-20 on items from the fairgrounds and Road & Bridge shop. The complete list of items is on file, but the following were high bids: Lot #1 to Matt Mosher for \$555, Lot #2 to Trevor Burgess for \$383, Lot #3 to Tom Burden for \$75, Lot #9 to Carlene Mosher for \$175, Lot #10 to Carlene Mosher for \$290, Lot #11 to Carlene Mosher for \$200, Lot #12 to Carlene Mosher for \$320, Lot #14 to David Saffer for \$322, Lot #15 to Carlene Mosher for \$100, Lot #16 to Ed Waite for \$1,101, Lot #18 to Mark Bronson for \$26, Lot #19 to Carlene Mosher for \$100, and Lot #20 to Ed Waite for \$60.

Mr. Burgess reported attending an in-person economic development meeting on February 17. Taylor Henderson was there, and they are still trying to get the Arriba Wind Farm going. They also discussed allowing marijuana grows in the county and felt the consensus was that most people would disapprove of it. District 2 had some problems with their equipment because of the freezing temperatures. Mr. Walters spoke with someone at Wagner Cat about putting a 3-axle trailer on consignment with them. Mr. Burgess participated in a Zoom meeting with CDOT on February 18. They discussed upcoming projects and the two recent accidents on I-70. Someone suggested putting out more message boards around Flagler and closing the highways sooner, and Bob Johnson praised Captain Yowell's professionalism during the incident. Mr. Burgess let Jeremiah Higgins know that the commissioners discussed replacing the flooring in his and the clerk's offices this year. Mr. Burgess asked Doug Ratzlaff if he could install a heating pad underneath the carpet, as the assessor had requested it. Sheriff Nestor, Ken Stroud, Chris Monks, and Mr. Burgess met at the Genoa repeater site (water tower) on February 19. They need to replace the box for the radio system. Mr. Burgess spoke with Mr. Walters about installing a fence around the Genoa shop on the south side, and he got some pipe prices. On February 22, Mr. Burgess went to Genoa and talked to Bruce Walters. He also went by the landfill and stopped to speak with Chris Witt about tire disposal. He discussed the current cap on sick leave with Mrs. Lengel and Mr. Piper. Mr. Burgess checked roads pertaining to the landowner dispute on February 23. He saw no sign that there was ever a road there, but he took pictures of the section lines. On his way back to Limon, he toured roads and then talked to Bruce Walters, who told him the lowboy trailer's trade-in value was only \$5,000-\$6,000. Mr. Burgess participated in the weekly public health Zoom call that day as well.

At 10:00 a.m., Human Services Director Patricia Phillips met with the Board to give her monthly report. She provided employee timesheets, the January financials, and the Income Maintenance, Child Welfare, and director's monthly reports. The state now requires a cost allocation plan instead of direct cost audits, and Ronny Farmer won't do it for them because the former is more detailed than the latter. MGT Consulting is willing to do it in rural counties at a 32% discount if DHS pays for it. Mrs. Phillips wasn't sure of the cost but said it would probably be around \$5,000. They could use funds from the DHS general fund. She added that she would give the Board more information as she got it.

At 10:30 a.m., Emergency Manager Ken Stroud met with the Board to present the annual review of county plans. First, Mr. Burgess asked if Mr. Stroud wanted to say anything about the tower/radio equipment in Genoa. They'd been afraid to open the door to look inside because of the corrosion and were worried they wouldn't be able to get it closed again. Mr. Stroud had talked to Rick Josephus about a new building. A 10' x 12' wood painted structure with a metal roof, and a twenty-five-year warranty on the paint would cost around \$4,500, and Mr. Stroud calculated the whole project, including moving the equipment, would cost between \$11,000 and \$12,000. He should know by the end of March if he can obtain grant funding. The Genoa-Hugo School thought they might be able to kick in something toward the cost since they have a repeater in the building. The school currently pays for the electricity. Mr. Stroud said they would like something large enough to store sheltering supplies as well. Mr. Schifferns asked if he'd looked at Darlings buildings, and Mr. Stroud told him he had a pamphlet but hadn't checked them out yet. Mr. Burgess commented that one of the E911 Board members told him they might also contribute some money from the EMS Subsidy.

The topic of the tower and repeater south of Hugo came up, the group again discussing how hard it was to get in touch with Tony Hagans. Mr. Stroud said the tower was his biggest concern, more so than the building, because it was the mainstay for the Road & Bridge paging. He commented that he wanted Bill Drake to look at it when he came out to see what it might cost to repair it. Mr. Kimble said that right now, it doesn't cost the county anything, and Mr. Stroud agreed that Mr. Hagans could sell the tower and not even tell them. Mr. Kimble said he would follow up with another letter to Mr. Hagans.

Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the annual county emergency plans, and Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

One of the requirements of the annual MPG funding was a cyber-security audit for the county. Mr. Stroud spoke with James Martin about it, and he didn't indicate that it would be a problem. He would have to submit an audit form and checklist by December 31.

Mr. Stroud asked for about an hour and a half of the commissioners' time for an OEM overview. The Board agreed to fit it into one of their March meeting dates, and Mr. Stroud said he would do a presentation for the county offices later on.

As Mr. Stroud was leaving, Economic Development Executive Director Troy McCue arrived. Shortly afterward, CSU Extension Director Robin Halley met with the Board to discuss a memorandum of understanding and provide an extension update. The MOU, between Lincoln County Extension and the Lincoln County Fair Board, clarified responsibilities for 4-H/FFA members and their exhibits at the annual county fair.

Mr. Stone moved to sign the MOU between the Extension Office and the Fair Board. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Halley informed the commissioners that CSU also wanted to update the MOU between the county and CSU Extension since they should sign one every three years, and it was last done in 2010. The area director, Dennis Kaan, is coming out on March 17 to perform Mr. Halley's evaluation, and he would like to have lunch with the commissioners. They could ask about the MOU at that time. The Board changed the meeting scheduled for March 15 to March 17 to meet with Mr. Kaan. Mr. Halley provided several other extension office updates, including scholarships, programming, and his search for Advisory Board members.

When Mr. Halley left, Mr. Burgess called for the attorney's report. Mr. Kimble said that Mr. Burgess had asked about the county adding a six-month probationary period to the personnel policy. Since the county is an at-will employer, doing so might jeopardize that situation. Mr. Kimble had finally heard back from CTSI on the drug and alcohol policy. They told him it was in the manual, so he felt the county should get an updated version. Lincoln Community Hospital/Lincoln Health proposed a letter that they would send to lenders letting them know they have the authority to enter into financial transactions. Mr. Kimble said there would be no obligation to the county. He'd received a letter from the Colorado Department of Transportation that they intended to sell the Lady Bird rest area but had to notify and offer it to governmental entities first. If the county wanted it, CDOT indicated the fair market value for 4.3 acres was \$8,760. Mr. Burgess said there was no advantage to the county to own it, so Mr. Kimble should let the deadline pass without responding. Regarding the county allowing marijuana grow facilities, Mr. Kimble said that when they passed the law, it included provisions that a citizen could file an initiative petition if they wanted the question on the ballot. He couldn't see where the county would gain much from allowing it, and the commissioners agreed that most landowners or residents they'd spoken to were against it.

At 11:30 a.m., Greg Etl, Northeast Regional Manager with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, and Angie Cue, grant assistant with DOLA, met with the Board to provide updates. If funded, the Recovery and Resiliency Roadmap program money would come from EDA, and the grant would pay for a consultant on a two-year project. Since there are eight regional managers, each would be responsible for two projects (they hope to fund sixteen plans). Mr. Etl said that it is all CARES Act/COVID-19 related, so if entities had the recovery process in place, they would bounce back a lot quicker. Also, if there were projects further down the road already in the plan, progression would move much simpler.

Mr. Etl felt that the broadband issue was a priority for the county, and they would be talking about it again this year. DOLA still has broadband money available and funded several projects on the western slope, but they haven't done much on the eastern plains. They can enhance ISPs and run fiber optics, providing more efficiency for those working remotely. Mr. McCue spoke up to say that Limon needs improved broadband more than any other place in the county, as ES Tech does an excellent job with coverage. Adding more fiber could also help increase the amount of cell phone towers in the county. Mr. Burgess said there was no way the county could take on that financial burden. Mr. Etl assured him that the federal government and USDA were working on the broadband costs, so the county merely needed to identify a

plan. Mr. Burgess said they didn't want to commit county money, but they definitely needed to do what they could to improve broadband.

Mr. Piper asked if Mr. Etl had any news on the second round of CARES Act funding, but he said it hadn't passed through Congress yet. Mr. Piper told him the county would like to do more of the small business grants if possible.

Lastly, Mr. Etl said that DOLA was only giving Tier I grants in March, and they had a \$200,000 maximum on them.

After Ms. Cue, Mr. Etl, and Mr. McCue left, Mr. Kimble finished his report, touching briefly on the landowner dispute.

Mr. Piper reported that he never received figures for the 2021 Developmentally Disabled budget, so he'd used the previous year's numbers when calculating it. He recently learned that they needed \$18,336 instead of \$15,675. They overspent it when the same thing happened in 2019 because it is part of the General Fund budget, so there was no need for a supplemental appropriation.

Mr. Schifferns moved to increase the 2021 Developmentally Disabled budget to \$18,336. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

After discussing Brenda Howe's information regarding the annual Uniform Waste Tire Manifest, Mr. Kimble said it wouldn't hurt to sign a contract with Haulin' Hass reflecting the correct number of tires they collect from the Lincoln County Landfill each year. He agreed to draft an agreement and letter and speak with Miss Howe.

Mr. Burgess called for other business and then mentioned that the heat pad Mr. Higgins requested under the new flooring was expensive. John Mohan was also worried that it would require too much voltage for the system to handle. Also, Mr. Burgess felt the county should do away with the cap on sick leave, but Mr. Piper said it could create issues, and they might want to think about it more before deciding. Joe Kiely had contacted Mr. Burgess about proposed legislation that might become a problem for municipalities.

The commissioners approved the February payroll, and then, with no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on March 5, 2021.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Steve Burgess, Chairman