

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for March 17, 2021

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
 - 9:30 Tom Nestor, Lincoln County Sheriff, to discuss the plumbing in the Lincoln County Jail
 - 10:00 Howard Pierpont with the East Central Council of Governments to meet with the commissioners
 - 10:30 John Palmer, Lincoln County Fairgrounds Manager, to discuss capital improvement projects at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds
 - 11:00 Laurraine Rodgers and Parker Newbanks to discuss the position of the Veteran's Service Officer
 - 3:00 Representative Holtorf to discuss the House of Representatives District 64 roundtable meeting
1. Approve the minutes from the March 5, 2021, meeting
 2. Review the February 2021, 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
 3. Review the February 2021, reports from the County Assessor, County Clerk & Recorder, County Sheriff and County Treasurer
 4. Review the February 2021, reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and the County Workers' Compensation Pool
 5. Review and act upon an employment agreement with Jeremy Forristall regarding the fairgrounds wastewater system
 6. Review and discuss a request from The Garage Workspace in Hugo, CO regarding a DOLA REDI Grant
 7. Review applications for the Landfill Assistant Operator Position
 8. Review a proposal from Norm Services regarding a Site Compliance Audit for the Lincoln County Landfill
 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 March 17, 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. Juliet Lundy, with the Eastern Colorado Plainsman and Limon Leader, attended until noon.

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

Mr. Stone moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on March 5, 2021, as submitted. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the February 2021 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 and the individual road districts. Also reviewed were February 2021 reports from the Assessor, Clerk and Recorder, Sheriff, Treasurer and the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property and Workers' Compensation Pools.

At 9:30 a.m., Sheriff Tom Nestor, Jail Captain Michael Yowell, and maintenance man John Mohan met with the commissioners to discuss the jail's plumbing. The sheriff provided several photos of the ruptured pipes while Mr. Mohan explained what they did to patch the problem temporarily. Sheriff Nestor said the company they had asked to come out a year ago never showed up, so they got in touch with JCOR Mechanical in Golden, a company currently working on the Adams County Jail. JCOR agreed to come out and run cameras in the pipes to see if they could determine how severe the problem is, which would cost around \$3,000. The sheriff commented that they might get lucky, but those same pipes have worked 24-7 since 1992, so there was a good chance it could be a costly resolution. Captain Yowell said that Adams County felt JCOR was the most qualified, timely, and cost-effective company they could find. Sheriff Nestor also commended Mr. Mohan for his diligence, hard work, and willingness to take on the task.

Sheriff Nestor also informed the commissioners that LeRoy Yowell resigned, so he needed to hire another part-time person for courthouse security.

Mr. Mohan had made a list of projects that need completing and reminded the commissioners they had discussed trying to find someone to help him. After some discussion, the Board agreed to allow Mr. Mohan to find part-time help if he could. If not, they would hire specific companies or contractors for individual jobs. Some of the tasks on the list were painting, installing the new water fountains, working on the water closets, drywall repair, building a wall under the awning, gutter repairs, and tree cutting/trimming. Mr. Burgess asked if they should hire a plumber for the water fountain installation, and Mr. Mohan agreed it would help. Mr. Burgess also said that if they could get the jail plumbing under control, perhaps it would free Mr. Mohan up for some of the other items. He went on to say that he didn't support hiring another full-time person, and the other commissioners agreed. Mr. Mohan stressed that they

needed someone with experience, and Mr. Burgess reminded him that they'd also discussed keeping up with the painting on the roundhouse each year. Mr. Schifferns felt they needed to do whatever they could to get Mr. Mohan caught up.

Fixing the alcove outside the commissioners'/clerk's office became the next topic of discussion, and Mr. Burgess said that whatever they did, they needed to keep as much light as possible in the clerk's office. Mrs. Lengel commented that they also needed to make sure they didn't block off the emergency exits.

Fairgrounds Manager John Palmer arrived around 10:00 a.m., and LaRay Patton followed shortly after that.

Howard Pierpont with the East Central Council of Governments could not keep his appointment in person, but the commissioners placed a call and spoke with him over the phone. He explained that the US Economic Development Agency had to complete a CEDS, or Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, every five years. Since the onslaught of the pandemic, they've added a section on recovery and resiliency, which is his area of expertise, so he was helping Candace Payne with the project. He noted that COVID-19 delayed the Census information, and they couldn't include it in the CEDS. Mr. Pierpont added that EDA uses the CEDS as a guideline document for HHS, DOJ, USDOT, and USDA grants, among others. Mr. Burgess asked Mr. Pierpont if he could send Mr. Piper some information that the commissioners could review, and he agreed.

At 10:30 a.m., John Palmer met with the commissioners to discuss capital improvement projects at the fairgrounds. He provided the original estimate from WWIT Dirt, LLC, and a comparison of money already spent. So far, materials totaled \$31,409, and labor was \$17,550. The parking lot lights and materials were \$7,107 for a total project price of \$56,066. Mr. Palmer said he still estimated \$6,000 in expenses, including \$2,000 for painting, but he felt the entire project would come close to the budgeted \$60,000. They will use the poles and lights they have for the arena and parking lot lights, and he hoped to have K.C. Electric put them up, which might cost something as well. Mr. Palmer had plans to redo the main gate and a few other smaller projects, but he explained there was money in the fairgrounds budget for those.

LaRay Patton said she was also there on behalf of the Ranch Rodeo Committee and asked if the commissioners would allow them to pay the same fees as they had for the last several years. Plans for the event were the same as before the pandemic, and Mr. Palmer said most events were operating on the assumption that they would be able to do the same.

Mr. Stone moved to approve the same fairgrounds rental rate for the Ranch Rodeo as they had for the past several years. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed an employee agreement with Jeremy Forristall regarding the fairgrounds wastewater system. Mr. Piper said that he agreed to another year and reminded the commissioners that John Mohan was in the middle of the class to become certified when the

pandemic hit, so he would need to finish that when he could. Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the employment agreement with Jeremy Forristall regarding the fairgrounds wastewater system. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Concerning the request from The Garage Workspace in Hugo for a DOLA REDI grant, Mr. Piper said that Gillian Laycock didn't want to go through the town because she was on the town board and felt uncomfortable with the conflict of interest. Mr. Stone said he'd spoken with Ms. Laycock, and Greg Etl was the one who advised her to see if they couldn't do it through the county. Mr. Burgess's concern was that they might be setting a precedent, and Mr. Schifferns asked how much work it would create for Mr. Piper. Ms. Laycock had indicated to Mr. Stone that she would handle most of it, and Mr. Piper put in that it shouldn't take much of his time. He said they would need to establish a pass-through account, similar to the Karval Water Users account but wouldn't require a separate budget. Mr. Kimble felt there wouldn't be much liability to the county, although there would be some responsibility. Since they'd gotten turned down once before, Ms. Laycock told Mr. Stone it could happen again, and Mr. Piper said that at this time, they were only requesting assistance with the application. However, the commissioners would have to decide whether they wanted to open the door for future flow-through accounts. Mr. Kimble said that involvement with a 501c3 nonprofit organization was always a concern to county government, and Mr. Burgess responded that the commissioners had the right to reject any other such projects in the future. He considered that this could be a special case due to Ms. Laycock's conflicting positions.

Mr. Stone moved to allow Lincoln County to become the government pass-through entity for the upcoming DOLA REDI application requested by The Garage Workspace in Hugo. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The proposal from Norm Services regarding a site compliance audit for the landfill stemmed from the previous year's issue with the pipe. Mr. Piper said he'd talked to Mark McMullen, who felt it wouldn't be worth the money since the state is working on guidelines for naturally occurring radioactive material to include in the EDOP. A detector can be attached to the scales that would take radioactivity readings, and Mr. Piper said it might be worth it to see how much they cost. Mr. McMullen thought the audit by Norm Services was to prepare the landfill for accepting radioactive material, which was not what the county wanted.

Mrs. Lundy stepped out while Mr. Kimble updated the Board on the landowner dispute, and then he also provided a draft agreement with Haulin' Hass Recycling for tire disposal. After discussing it, the commissioners agreed to speak with Bruce and Kara Hass in person before asking them to sign an agreement.

At 11:00 a.m., Lorraine Rodgers and Parker Newbanks, Jr., met with the Board to discuss the Veterans' Service Officer position. Mrs. Lundy returned as well. Mr. Newbanks explained that the Colorado Division of Veterans Affairs would teach his replacement the specific computer programs necessary to do the job, which he guaranteed were user-friendly. Ms. Rodgers verified that she was familiar with military programs, and Mr. Burgess felt it essential to have a

veteran in the position. Mr. Newbanks suggested the purchase of a new laptop with Windows 10 installed on it since he'd had the current computer since 2017. He added that the printer he used belonged to him, so the county would need to buy one of those as well. Other than that, he hadn't required much in the way of office equipment, although he occasionally sent faxes. Mrs. Lengel commented that the county currently paid for the VA officer's phone line and internet, and the group discussed changing the phone number or transferring the line over to Ms. Rodgers' cell phone. Mr. Newbanks noted that he'd become less comfortable meeting clients in his home over the years, especially those he didn't know. He suggested setting up a separate meeting place for client conferences. Mr. Piper felt the DHS building in Limon would be acceptable since it had internet, and the commissioners agreed. Ms. Rodgers said she did not have a landline or internet access at home—she used her cell phone and a Hotspot for internet connectivity. She wasn't opposed to getting a landline if the commissioners thought it necessary, but she preferred to add a line to her cell phone. Mr. Piper told her the county would pay for it.

Mr. Schifferns moved to hire Lorraine Rodgers to replace Parker Newbanks, Jr., as the Lincoln County Veterans Service Officer. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Landfill Manager Allen Chubbuck arrived to review applications for the assistant operator position. Of the three applicants, Mr. Chubbuck narrowed it down to two to interview. The Board agreed that Mr. Chubbuck should conduct those interviews since he would know what questions to ask. Mr. Chubbuck's primary concern was how they would determine which days off the new person took since he has Saturdays and Sundays off, and Brenda Howe takes Sundays and Mondays. Mr. Chubbuck asked the commissioners how they felt about the landfill only being open half days on Saturdays, and Mr. Burgess commented that Kit Carson County follows that schedule. He asked Mr. Chubbuck how busy they are. While the summer months are busier, Mr. Chubbuck said Saturdays generally aren't as bad in the wintertime. He suggested full days on Saturday from June through September.

Mr. Chubbuck said the 1996 landfill compactor had a knock in it again, and the front wheels spin. Mr. Burgess responded they'd put a lot of money into the machine for it to be having issues again so soon. Mr. Stone noted that John Rowe had a line on a 2014 compactor that would cost around \$240,000, but with a trade-in, it might be closer to \$200,000. Mr. Rowe told Chris Monks about it because he knew Lincoln County was looking for one. The commissioners called Mr. Monks to gather more information. The unit, a 2014 816F Series 2, has 5,000 hours on it. Mr. Rowe told Mr. Monks it probably wouldn't last long in their inventory, so if the county wanted it, he would put a hold on it until they could come out and determine what the '96 was worth. The Board agreed to have Mr. Rowe hold the compactor.

Mr. Burgess said they needed to discuss replacing the crushed pipe they'd found at the landfill as well, and the group decided to speak with Mark McMullen about it.

Mr. Piper commented that it might be better to have one person handle the landfill wastewater reports. Currently, Fred Lundy does a quarterly report, and Mr. Piper then completes the annual report.

The commissioners also agreed to discuss a free landfill day at their April 16 meeting.

After Mr. Chubbuck left, Mr. Burgess called for commissioner reports.

Mr. Stone attended the Eastern TPR meeting on March 8 and then stopped by the shop that afternoon. On the Ninth, he attended the Colorado East Community Action Agency and the fair board meetings. The county will use Rocky Mountain Rodeo Company this year, and they allow county personnel to help. District 3 put the snowplow on their new blade on March 10, and the road crew prepared for the upcoming storm on the Eleventh. Mr. Stone checked roads south of Karval on March 12 and again on March 15 after the snowstorm.

Mr. Schifferns reported that he checked roads south of Arriba on March 6. He attended the Eastern TPR Zoom meeting on March 8 and part of the weekly public health call on the Ninth. He also talked to Mr. Stone. Mr. Schifferns spoke with Chris Monks both on March 10 and 11 about the projected snowstorm, and he discussed it with Mr. Burgess on the Twelfth. They agreed to a two-hour delay for the courthouse on March 15 due to the weather, and Mr. Schifferns called Mr. Monks about road conditions on the Sixteenth. He also missed the public health call that day, so he called Jobeth Mills for an update.

Mr. Burgess reported checking out the drive-through COVID-19 vaccination sites on March 5 and 6 and thought they were well organized. He attended the Baby Bear Hugs and Eastern TPR Zoom meetings on March 8 and received a call from Roxie Devers about electricity in the roundhouse. Shawn Boyd called to thank the commissioners for supporting the livestock industry in Lincoln County on March 9, so Mr. Burgess contacted Mr. Stone and Mr. Schifferns to pass along the message. Mr. Burgess listened in on the weekly public health Zoom call, and he and Bruce Walters went to Lamar to pick up a Lowboy trailer and some pipe. Mr. Burgess went to Seibert for new gates and also checked on the landfill employees. On March 10, Mr. Burgess checked roads north of Genoa. The crew worked on building ramps for the new trailer and prepared for the upcoming snowstorm. District 2 hired a new employee. Mr. Burgess attended the Centennial Mental Health Zoom call on March 11. On March 15, Mr. Burgess spoke with John Rowe at Cat about some lights he thought they hadn't received. He learned they would also need to get a different door for the landfill as the contractor framed the wrong size. John Rowe called Mr. Burgess on March 16 and said he would schedule someone to install the lights. Mr. Burgess picked up parts at Mack and John Deere. He attended the weekly public health Zoom; they'd given 1,283 vaccinations, Hoffman Drug gave 188, and the hospital had administered 1,000. They planned to take the mobile clinic around to the truck stops, hotels, and grocery stores. Mr. Burgess attended the Economic Development meeting on March 17. Doug Ratzlaff let him know that the carpet the Clerk requested was no longer available, but he'd found something comparable.

Mr. Piper updated the Board on the Conservation Trust Fund balance. Roxie Devers had asked for a bid proposal on the roundhouse electrical work, but then she told Mr. Piper that the engineers would do it when they were ready.

Mr. Burgess called for old business and wanted to discuss when the courthouse employees could go back to work in the offices. Mr. Kimble commented that Mrs. Mills felt torn between the state mandates and what the commissioners wanted and said a few more weeks might not hurt. Mr. Stone said they could wait a while longer and see what other counties decided to do once people received vaccines. The Board agreed to reevaluate the situation again on April 29.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on March 30, 2021.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Steve Burgess, Chairman