

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for June 21, 2021

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:30 Fred Lundy, Land Use Administrator, to discuss land use matters
- 10:00 Laurraine Rodgers, Lincoln County Veterans Service Officer, to provide an update
- 10:30 Kelly Linnebur with Public Health to discuss the position of Public Health Director
- 11:00 Jeremy Forristall, Maintenance Director with the Town of Hugo, to discuss the water meter for the courthouse
1. Approve the minutes from the June 7, 2021 meeting
  2. Review the employee timesheets for County Administrator Jacob Piper, Land Use Administrator Fred Lundy, Weed Control Coordinator Patrick Leonard, Emergency Management Director Ken Stroud and Landfill Manager Allen Chubbuck
  3. Review the May, 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
  4. Review the May, 2021, reports from the County Assessor, County Clerk & Recorder, County Sheriff and County Treasurer
  5. Review the May, 2021, reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and the County Worker's Compensation Pool
  6. Review and act upon the County Veterans Service Officer's Monthly Report and Certification of Pay
  7. County Commissioner reports
  8. County Attorney's report
  9. County Administrator's report
  10. Old Business
  11. New Business

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on June 21, 2021. The following attended: Vice-chairman Doug Stone, Commissioner Ed E. Schifferns, County Administrator Jacob Piper, County Attorney Stan Kimble, Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel, and Cathy Thurston with the Limon Leader/Eastern Colorado Plainsman. Chairman Steve Burgess was absent and excused.

Vice-chairman Stone called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Gary Lewman was also present at the start of the meeting, and Mr. Stone asked if he wanted to discuss something with the Board. Mr. Lewman thanked Mr. Piper and the county for publishing the results of the free landfill day. He then asked the commissioners to consider working with the communities to support National Cleanup Day, the third Saturday in April and the third Saturday in September. He would like the county to establish it as a common practice.

Mr. Lewman also asked the Board to consider a policy change wherein the Emergency Manager and 911 would fall under the county administrator instead of the sheriff's department. He called it an "institutional bias" and said if the question of what the emergency was instead of where it was, it would create a better benefit to county residents. Mr. Lewman also felt it might cost the taxpayers less if the county responded to an emergency with the correct service first. He said it would probably give the administrator more work, but it might make the operation more efficient.

Mr. Schifferns said they could look into it, and Mr. Lewman thanked them and left.

Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on June 7, 2021, as submitted. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the employee timesheets for the administrator, land use administrator, weed control coordinator, emergency manager, and landfill manager. Also reviewed were the May 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, as well as the individual road districts. The commissioners also looked over the May 2021 reports from the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Sheriff, and Treasurer.

At 9:30 a.m., Land Use Administrator Fred Lundy met with the Board to discuss land use matters. He provided a Master Road Use Agreement between the county and Castle Rock Construction Company for the Nestor Pit. It will be a short project, the agreement was only effective through September, but Mr. Lundy said they felt it was necessary since they would use county roads. The only difference from other road agreements was that the company asked that the county submit all fines to the company rather than its drivers. Mr. Kimble said he'd already reviewed the documents, and they appeared to be fine. Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the Master Road Use Agreement between Lincoln County and Castle Rock Construction Company of Colorado, LLC, for the Nestor Pit. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Lundy had also met with representatives of NextEra, and they plan to repower the Limon Wind I and possibly the Limon Wind II wind farms. They hadn't wanted to do it at the same time as the Arriba Wind Farm, but since that one is currently on hold, they decided to go ahead with the project.

The group spoke briefly about land use regulations, and Mr. Kimble brought up 1041 regulations again, stating that he'd mentioned it to a previous board of commissioners. At the time, they hadn't wanted to institute more rules. Mr. Kimble explained that 1041 regulations would catch things that the county's zoning regs didn't, and he felt it would be a good idea to adopt them at some point.

Mr. Lundy left, and the Board reviewed May 2021 reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property and Workers' Compensation pools and the Veterans Service Officer's monthly report and certification of pay.

Veterans Service Officer Laurraine Rodgers met with the Board at 10:00 a.m. to provide an update. She'd spoken with John Palmer and LaRay Patton about providing something for the veterans at the fair, such as a free or reduced-cost meal. Mr. Palmer told her he'd do whatever instructed, and Mrs. Patton suggested discounting a concert ticket. Ms. Rodgers said she still liked the idea of a reduced-price meal and asked if she could speak with someone in charge of the Methodist Women's booth. If the Methodist Women agreed, veterans could stop by and pick up a ticket from Ms. Rodgers before getting their meal. The commissioners gave her information regarding other food vendors, and Mr. Kimble asked if the county would then have to supplement the cost to those organizations so that they didn't lose money. The Board said that would likely be the case. Ms. Rodgers said she'd also considered giving away free bottles of water to anyone who stopped by to get one as it might get people to talk to her about the county's veteran services. Mr. Stone liked the idea and told her to try it this year to see how it went. She asked about a tank or large coolers for ice and water, and Mr. Stone suggested contacting the manager of Big R in Limon, as he'd helped the county out in the past. Ms. Rodgers asked if she could buy the water and ice from the VSO budget, and Mr. Piper told her to see if she could find out how much it would cost. The group decided it would be best for Ms. Rodgers to hand out water from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, August 13.

After Ms. Rodgers left, Mr. Stone reported attending the CCI conference from June 7 through the 9. Mr. Piper asked if they'd discussed the next round of COVID-19 funding, the American Rescue Plan funds, but the commissioners told him they hadn't. Mr. Stone attended the Rural Philanthropy Days barbeque at the Limon railroad park on June 10, and he checked roads south of Karval on June 11. CDOT held its June 14 meeting at the new CDOT shed west of Limon. They discussed that quite a bit of money would come in for roads but that most would go toward bridges instead. Mr. Stone also met with the other commissioners and Bart O'Dwyer about the alcove roof that afternoon. They agreed to have Mr. O'Dwyer do what he could to stop the leaks. On June 15, Mr. Stone attended the Colorado East Community Action Agency board training. He commented that it sounded like Pat Vice would return to the director

position as they had had no other interest in the job. He also reported that Rick Ashcraft and others went to pick up the scraper at Fowler.

Mr. Schifferns reported attending the CCI conference, providing entertainment at the Rural Philanthropy Days on June 10, and joining the meeting with Bart O'Dwyer on June 14. He also checked roads that day. Chris Monks and crew went after their scraper as well on the Fifteenth. Mr. Burgess had previously reported speaking with John Forristall about the county putting sand on a county road, so Mr. Schifferns talked with Chris Monks about it on June 16. Chris told him they would get it done. Mr. Schifferns had also spoken with Steve Burgess about the districts working together to haul gravel to College Avenue in Arriba.

Mr. Burgess called in at that time for the 10:30 appointment and said that they'd discuss the topic of gravel in Arriba after harvest.

At 10:30 a.m., Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting as the Board of County Commissioners and reconvened the meeting as the Lincoln County Board of Public Health. Kelly Linnebur met with them to discuss the director position. First, she said she had three contracts that needed their approval.

Mr. Burgess moved (via phone) to approve the Tobacco Contract for \$36,869 (which had already been approved but needed re-signing), the Immunization Contract for \$4,458, and the EPR PHEP Contract for \$108,615. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Piper announced that Miss Linnebur was the only applicant for the Public Health Director after advertising the position. They had already submitted the waiver to CDPHE, but Mr. Burgess moved to appoint Kelly Linnebur as the Public Health Director, effective July 1, 2021. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Burgess got off the call before Miss Linnebur asked about hiring someone to replace her as the office manager, so Mr. Stone and Mr. Schifferns agreed that she would need to do so. She said she'd already had some interest but would advertise for the job if the Board approved. Mr. Schifferns moved to allow Kelly Linnebur to hire someone to fill the office manager position in the public health office, effective July 1, 2021. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Miss Linnebur then brought up the fact that Candace Myers would have to take over the nurse's duties and asked if it would be possible to increase her hourly wage. Ms. Myers currently works full-time at the hospital and part-time for Public Health but agreed to put in twenty hours a week at the latter with a higher wage. She currently makes \$28.50 per hour, and Miss Linnebur said she would like to raise it to \$35.00 per hour, which she felt was reasonable. CDPHE reimburses the salary fully, most likely for the next three years, and Mr. Kimble asked if that was because of the pandemic. Miss Linnebur said it was, and even though the reimbursements would probably continue indefinitely, the state could end them at any

time. Mr. Piper suggested that Miss Linnebur have Ms. Myers sign a contract with the county depicting the hourly rate and how many hours she agreed to work. Mr. Kimble commented that if the department didn't have a nurse, CDPHE might not agree to the waiver for Miss Linnebur.

Mr. Schifferns moved to increase Candace Myers' salary from \$28.50 per hour to \$35.00 per hour for twenty hours per week at Public Health, effective July 1, 2021, reimbursed fully through CDPHE. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Miss Linnebur left, and at 10:45 a.m., Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting as the Lincoln County Board of Public Health and reconvened as the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Kimble reported attending his June 11 attorney conference virtually. They discussed roads; establishing a county road and dealing with conflicts, and he got to talk about section line roads with the Weld and Logan County attorneys. He also attended sessions on mobile homes, county volunteer liability, the mechanics of land use processes, tips to avoid ethical mistakes, and an overview of 1041 regulations. Mr. Kimble said the sessions were all useful and interesting. He mentioned that he would have a couple of his colleagues review the proposed resolution he'd drafted before bringing it to the commissioners.

At 11:00 a.m., Jeremy Forristall, Maintenance Director with the town of Hugo, met with the Board to discuss the water meter for the courthouse. John Mohan also attended the discussion. The three-inch meter installed when the courthouse was built doesn't read properly, according to Mr. Forristall, so he felt the county should replace it with a four-inch meter. He said they would have to re-plumb some things to do so, but the current meter reflects that the county uses more water than it actually does. Mr. Forristall said that plumbers are pretty busy now and offered to help Mr. Mohan if he felt he could do some of the work. If the county would pay for the materials and not hold the town liable for anything but the meter, Mr. Forristall said they could work something out to get it done.

Mr. Mohan was against changing to a four-inch meter, stating that it had been that way for thirty years, and there was no need to go to the trouble of changing it now. He commented that it would be costly to move the prisoners to get the work done, which didn't seem logical, so he felt they should replace the meter with another three-inch meter and not mess with the extra work.

Mr. Forristall said he didn't believe it would take more than a couple of hours if they had a plan and everything lined out for the project, which meant they wouldn't have to move prisoners at all. It would be no different than a couple of weeks ago when the courthouse was without water for an afternoon. He added that it didn't make sense to use both three-and four-inch pipes, which was how it was currently. He felt the reason it was done incorrectly when the courthouse was built was that the town probably had a three-inch meter available at the time, so that was what they used. Mr. Forristall added that the decision was up to the county, and if the commissioners wanted to use a three-inch meter again, it would probably last about ten

years. The valves would be the most expensive part of the project, \$500 to \$700 each. Mr. Forristall estimated they would need three valves. However, he mentioned that he had one they could use, and the town was willing to help with labor. He also commented they had quite a bit of four-inch pipe on hand.

Mr. Piper asked Mr. Forristall to estimate the difference between the current sized meter and upgrading to the four-inch meter he recommended, and Mr. Forristall said it would probably cost around \$2,000. However, the water rates will only increase as time goes on, so the possibility of saving the county money by upgrading to a four-inch meter was relatively high.

Mr. Mohan was waiting for Limon Plumbing to return his call, and he wanted to wait and see what they said first. When Mr. Schiffers said Mr. Mohan was extremely busy right now, Mr. Forristall said they didn't have to do it right away; the county would continue to pay the minimum payment until they came up with a plan.

Mr. Piper felt they should do it correctly as long as they didn't have to move inmates, and Mr. Stone agreed, particularly if the bill would increase either way.

Mr. Mohan said he wanted to leave it for now and wait to see if Limon Plumbing got back to him with a quote. He added that if it were a reasonable cost, they could change to a four-inch meter as long as it didn't displace the inmates, and Mr. Forristall reiterated that the town would help, and they could wait until the fall. Mr. Mohan said he didn't know how soon he would hear from the plumber as he was still waiting to put in the touchless drinking fountains.

After the two left, Mr. Piper reported that KC Electric's bid for the roundhouse electrical line doubled because the line was going farther than they'd anticipated. Mr. Piper said the good news was that it would decrease the cost of Fox's Electric bid, and RPI had already paid the KC Electric bill. Still, the county would have to ask KC Electric to disconnect the meter to avoid paying the \$40 monthly fee once they hooked it up, which would also mean paying the disconnecting fee.

Mr. Piper reported receiving a call from Jobeth Mills about her remaining admin hours. At one time, the commissioners discussed paying her for them, but she'd refused, thinking she might be able to take time off later in the year. Mr. Piper asked the Board what they wanted to do, adding that admin time isn't typically paid to employees when they quit. Mr. Kimble felt it would set a precedent to start doing it and not follow policy, so the commissioners agreed that Mrs. Mills would not receive compensation for her extra admin hours.

Mr. Piper also said Mrs. Mills would like to continue receiving her salary and benefits through Lincoln County as a pass-through, similar to Darcy Janssen's format. County money would initially pay for Mrs. Mills' salary and benefits, and then the coalition would reimburse the county and pay a \$10,000 administration fee. Mr. Piper said they would need to decide before submitting the July payroll, but he didn't see much benefit to the county other than the admin fee. The difference between Mrs. Mills and Mrs. Janssen was that Mrs. Janssen does some

work for Lincoln County, where Mrs. Mills would not. Mr. Piper added that it tends to make the budget appear overinflated, and Mrs. Mills does have other available options that she could pursue. Lastly, if her family used the health insurance extensively, it could increase the county's premiums.

Mr. Kimble said it didn't appear that the county would lose anything by doing it but asked if it were worth the accounting workload. Mr. Stone asked Mr. Piper to gather more information and have it available for them at the next meeting.

Lastly, Mr. Piper reported that the new phone system should be in either the first or second week of July. Some of the phones were on backorder, delaying the project by a couple of weeks.

Mr. Burgess had asked Mr. Piper to provide a handout regarding the Opioid Response presentation, and Mr. Stone said they'd discussed it during the eastern region meeting at their conference.

There was no old or new business to discuss, so Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on June 29, 2021.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

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Doug Stone, Vice-chairman