

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for May 27, 2021

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:30 Laurraine Rodgers, Lincoln County Veterans Service Officer, to provide an update
- 10:00 Patricia Phillips to present the Department of Human Services monthly report
- 10:30 Jobeth Mills, Public Health Director, to review Public Health Director required qualifications
- 11:00 Kari Linker with Senator Hickenlooper's Office to provide a legislative update
- 1:00 Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f)(I) for personnel matters regarding conducting interviews for the Human Services Director Position
  - 1. Approve the minutes from the May 18, 2021, meeting
  - 2. Review and act upon Resolution #1042, a resolution for the renewal of the ambulance service license for the Community Ambulance Services, Incorporated, located in Arriba, Flagler, and Seibert, Colorado
  - 3. Review an estimate from Eastern Slope Technologies for a new phone system for the Lincoln County Courthouse and other county offices
  - 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 May 27, 2021. The following attended: Chairman Steve Burgess, Commissioners Doug Stone and Ed E. Schifferns, County Administrator Jacob Piper (via Zoom), County Attorney Stan Kimble (until noon), and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel.

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

Mr. Stone moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 18, 2021, as submitted. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone moved to adopt a resolution renewing the annual ambulance service license for the Community Ambulance Services, Inc., located in Arriba, Flagler, and Seibert, Colorado. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County, Colorado, held in Hugo, Colorado, on May 27, 2021, there were present:

Steve Burgess, Chairman	Present
Douglas D. Stone, Vice Chairman	Present
Ed E. Schifferns, Commissioner	Present
Stan Kimble, County Attorney	Present
Corinne Lengel, Clerk of the Board	Present
Jacob Piper, County Administrator	Present

when the following proceedings, among others, were had and done, to-wit:

**RESOLUTION # 1042** It was moved by Commissioner Schifferns and seconded by Commissioner Stone to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Colorado Emergency Medical Services Act, Section 25-315.101, et seq., C.R.S., the Board of County Commissioners has the authority to establish requirements for the inspection, licensure, and operation of ambulance services, ambulance personnel, and ambulance vehicles operating in the county; and

**WHEREAS** the Lincoln County Commissioners adopted Resolution #651 and thereby established rules and regulations governing the licensure of ambulance services operating within Lincoln County; and

**WHEREAS**, Community Ambulance Service, with ambulances based in Flagler and Seibert in Kit Carson County and Arriba in Lincoln County, has presented the Board of County Commissioners with an application to license the ambulance service and to permit their ambulances as basic life support vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, upon review, the Board of County Commissioners determined that the documentation presented met the rules and regulations established under Resolution #651

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County that Community Ambulance Service is hereby authorized to provide ambulance service in Lincoln County with basic life support ambulances.

Upon roll call the vote was:

Commissioner Burgess, Yes; Commissioner Stone, Yes; Commissioner Schifferns, Yes.

The Chairman declared the motion carried and so ordered.

Board of County Commissioners  
of Lincoln County

ATTEST:

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Clerk of the Board

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The Board reviewed an equipment estimate of \$15,424.17 from Eastern Slope Technologies to install a new phone system, including approximately one hour of labor in each office. The quote also reflected an anticipated monthly cost savings of a little less than \$400. Mr. Piper said the 2021 budget amount for the project was \$75,000. Mr. Schifferns moved to proceed with replacing the phone system through Eastern Slope Technologies. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone reported attending the Colorado East Community Action Agency meeting on May 18. They still haven't received applications for the director position. A resident sent Mr. Stone a text message asking the county to grade about a mile of road between the cattleguards through the Hugo state wildlife area. Mr. Burgess interjected that he'd had the same text message, which he forwarded to Mr. Schifferns since it was his road district. Mr. Schifferns asked Chris Monks to take care of it. On May 19, Mr. Stone checked roads and talked to Rick Ashcraft about the tractor lease program. They want to order one and try to trade off the John Deere tractor that's given them so many problems. Sheriff Nestor sent the commissioners a text message regarding the ambush and subsequent hospitalization of one of his deputies early on the morning of May 20. A Hugo resident called Mr. Stone regarding the sewer pond, which he felt ultimately was a town issue. Mr. Stone reported speaking with Rick Ashcraft daily regarding road maintenance, including graveling and oiling.

Mr. Schifferns reported getting the text message on May 18 about grading the road to the Hugo ponds and speaking with Chris Monks about it. Mr. Burgess called him to discuss the ambush of Deputy Hutton on May 20, and since the suspect was still at large at the time, Mr. Schifferns

called Chris Monks to be on the lookout. On May 24, Mr. Schiffers checked roads and talked to the sheriff about his deputy, and on May 26, he ran into Mr. Burgess in Limon, so they talked about the rain.

Mr. Burgess reported attending the economic development meeting on May 19. KC Electric said they didn't have to install a meter for the roundhouse, so Mr. Burgess said he'd check with David Churchwell to be sure. Mr. Burgess checked roads around Arriba and found several washed-out spots. He also talked to John Rowe at Wagner Equipment about the lights they hadn't received for their CAT blade and Kris Smith about the payment on the CAT 950 loader. On May 20, Sheriff Nestor informed him about the shooting of Deputy Hutton and that the suspect died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Mr. Burgess stopped by the sheriff's office on May 21 and told the sheriff to do whatever he thought necessary to take care of the family. He also received a call that day asking why Lincoln County's resolution against the PAUSE 16 legislation wasn't listed with the other twenty-five counties. Mr. Burgess attended a meeting at Mountain View Electric on May 24 and a lunch meeting at the hospital to discuss moving forward with the new facility. He stopped by the fairgrounds and also went to Genoa to check in at the county shop. On May 25, Deputy Hutton came home to a well-attended parade to honor him. Mr. Burgess made a phone call regarding DHS on May 26. He also toured roads with Bruce Walters, and they ordered two Case IHC rental tractors from Plains Equipment for 2022. Mr. Burgess stopped by the landfill and learned they were having a problem with the fuel pump on the old truck. Allen Chubbuck planned to get in touch with Chris Monks about it.

Mr. Burgess provided a report from the landfill free day and then asked Mr. Kimble to give the attorney's report. Mr. Kimble had nothing other than an update on the landowner dispute.

At 9:30 a.m., Veterans Service Officer Laurie Rodgers met with the Board to provide an update. She didn't have the monthly report yet, since it wasn't the end of the month, but Ms. Rodgers said she'd like to have a military or veterans' day at the fair and wondered if anyone had suggestions for what the county might offer. She had considered a free meal, but no one knew how to monitor it. Ms. Rodgers also wanted to set up a booth during the county fair and at the Limon car show to provide more visibility for anyone seeking veteran services. The commissioners suggested that she talk with John Palmer and the fair board about doing anything during the fair. As for her new position as the Veterans Service Officer, Ms. Rodgers said she'd attended several trainings and discovered there was a lot to learn. Mr. Burgess recommended getting in touch with the newspaper to see if she could provide information regarding veterans' services, possibly as the neighbor or friendly face of the week. Ms. Rodgers said she would do that after she spoke with John Palmer to include information about the fair if she had any.

Human Services Director Pat Phillips met with the Board at 10:00 a.m. to give her monthly report. While the commissioners reviewed the financials, employee timesheets, and the Income Maintenance, Child Welfare, and director's reports, County Treasurer Jim Covington stopped in to express his concerns about a Facebook post regarding the county having twenty million dollars in reserves. He commented that the six-month reports reflected that the

majority of those funds were earmarked for other entities and agencies, and those reports are public records. The commissioners said they were aware of the Facebook post and thanked Mr. Covington for stopping in.

Ms. Phillips said it was the time of year for renewing contracts, and she presented three.

Mr. Stone moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) and Lincoln County for July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2024. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the Child Protection Agreement for Mental Health Services between the Departments of Human Services of Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, and Lincoln counties and Centennial Mental Health Center, Inc., effective June 1, 2021, and expiring on May 31, 2022. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone moved to approve the Substance Abuse Treatment Service Agreement for Child Welfare clients between CELK (Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, and Lincoln counties) and Signal Behavioral Health Network. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

After Mrs. Phillips left, Mr. Piper reported receiving a call from a resident regarding the same weed spraying issues discussed in a previous meeting. Mr. Burgess said he'd spoken with a different landowner who suggested that the county weed board meet and make any recommendations to the commissioners. He also felt that at least an annual meeting of the weed board was probably necessary. Mr. Burgess said the commissioners shouldn't attend since they might have to make a final decision regarding a complaint, and Mr. Kimble noted that having a neutral party set up the meeting might be best. Mr. Piper asked who set them up in the past, and Mr. Burgess said that Wayne Shade had always done it. The Board decided to have Patrick Leonard set it up and have one of the weed board members report back to the commissioners after the meeting.

At 10:30 a.m., Public Health Director Jobeth Mills and Kelly Linnebur met with the Board to review the required qualifications for a replacement director. Mrs. Mills talked with someone at CDPHE, who told her that they'd changed their requirements. The commissioners would have to file a request for a waiver to hire Miss Linnebur. The Public Health Act required that they advertise the position, which they'd done. Mrs. Mills didn't believe Miss Linnebur would be turned down for the job because of her experience with public health if the commissioners chose to hire her. Miss Linnebur provided her application and resume, and then they left.

Mr. Piper continued with his report, stating that he'd spoken with Robert Rueb, with KC Electric, about the electricity at the roundhouse. Mr. Rueb wanted to look at the facility and meet with the commissioners to work out the details. Mr. Burgess said to schedule him for 8:30 a.m. on June 7.

Candace Payne, with the East Central Council of Governments, sent an email requesting information for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy SWOT analysis.

As for old business, Mr. Burgess said that someone stole a car from a Limon resident recently. He wanted to know if the other commissioners were opposed to selling her the 2002 Chevy Malibu that they'd recently gotten back from the Colorado East Community Action Agency. The vehicle was only worth about \$300, so the group agreed to sell it for that price.

At 11:00 a.m., Kari Linker, the regional director for the eastern plains with Senator Hickenlooper's office, met with the Board to provide a legislative update. Economic Development Executive Director Troy McCue attended the discussion as well. Ms. Linker introduced herself, explaining that she saw her role as the advocate and voice for Colorado's eastern plains because of her rural economic development and agriculture background. Ms. Linker said her goal was to ease the political division and do right by the area, and she asked if the commissioners had any concerns.

Mr. Burgess brought up broadband, and Ms. Linker said that a significant portion of the American Rescue Plan funds would be earmarked for rural broadband and internet service. Mr. Burgess also pointed out that rural healthcare and the future of agriculture on the eastern plains were worrisome topics.

Mr. Piper asked Ms. Linker if she knew when the county would receive the next portion of allotted COVID-19 money because the commissioners would like to implement another business grant program. She said she'd send him what information she had.

Ms. Linker also said that there was money within specific subcommittees in the federal government and that the roundhouse might qualify for some of that funding. They were trying to ensure that every region received money for a project.

After Ms. Linker and Mr. McCue left, Mrs. Lengel asked if anyone had heard back from Bart O'Dwyer about the roof over the alcove. He hadn't contacted Mr. Piper, so Mr. Burgess placed a call to Mr. O'Dwyer and left him a message.

When the meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m., Mr. Stone moved to go into executive session, per 24-6-402 (4) (f) (I), C.R.S., to conduct interviews for the Department of Human Services director position. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Those remaining for the session in addition to the three commissioners were Mr. Piper, Mrs. Lengel, Laura Miller with the Colorado Department of Human Services, and the three interviewees in separate intervals. Mrs. Lengel recorded the executive session, and the recording will remain on file in the County Clerk's vault for the statutory ninety days.

At the conclusion of the interviews and executive session, Mr. Burgess placed a call to Mr. Kimble to ask if it would be a conflict of interest for the County Coroner also to hold the position of Human Services director. Mr. Kimble checked the statutes and said he didn't see

anything that prohibited it. The commissioners discussed re-advertising for the position and decided they would have to increase the starting salary to around \$80,000 if they did. With only the possibility that it would draw in other applicants with DHS experience, they decided the best course of action was to hire someone who already had experience in the department.

Mr. Stone moved to appoint Andrew Lorensen as the Department of Human Services director with a starting salary of \$5,712 per month, or Level 11, Step 2. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion. Mr. Stone and Mr. Burgess voted in favor of the appointment, and Mr. Schifferns voted against it.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m. The next meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. on June 7, 2021.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

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Steve Burgess, Chairman