

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for July 29, 2021

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:30 Troy McCue, Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director, to present the LCEDC monthly report
- 10:00 Andrew Lorensen, Human Services Director, to present the Department of Human Services monthly report
- 10:30 Kelly Linnebur, Public Health Director, to present a public health update
- 1:00 Patrick Leonard, Weed Control Coordinator, to discuss weed control matters
- 1:30 Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(a) to discuss matters regarding the purchase or sale of a property interest
  - 1. Approve the minutes from the July 19, 2021 meeting
  - 2. Review the Treasurer's Semi-Annual Schedule of Receipts and Disbursements
  - 3. Review and act upon an employee credit card request for John Mohan
  - 4. Review and act upon the Colorado Prairie Arts and Music Council Special Event Permit for the Aaron Watson Concert
  - 5. Review a proposed second round for the Lincoln County CVRF Small Business Grant Program
  - 6. County Commissioner reports
  - 7. County Attorney's report
  - 8. County Administrator's report
  - 9. Old Business
  - 10. New Business
  - 11. Approve Payroll

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on July 29, 2021. The following attended: Chairman Steve Burgess, Commissioners Doug Stone and Ed E. Schifferns, County Attorney Stan Kimble, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel. County Administrator Jacob Piper was absent and excused. Catherine Thurston, with the Limon Leader and Eastern Colorado Plainsman, asked the Clerk to tape the meeting for the newspaper. The commissioners agreed they didn't want the meeting recorded, and Mr. Burgess told Ms. Thurston that the approved minutes are the official record. Ms. Thurston said it would be too late for next week's paper if she waited until the commissioners approved the minutes at their next meeting, so she left.

Mr. Burgess called the meeting to order and asked Gordon Nall to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Others attending the meeting at 9:00 a.m. were Economic Development Director Troy McCue, Sheriff Tom Nestor, and Undersheriff Gordon Nall. Mr. Burgess had asked the officers to come in and discuss a letter of intent to order 2022 Chevy Tahoes for the sheriff's department. Since manufacturers are still behind because of the pandemic, Vince's GM is only ordering the number of vehicles for which they have letters of intent. The company now accepts trade-ins as long as the county can keep the mileage under 100,000 per vehicle. Therefore, the sheriff wanted to trade two of their old units for the price of a new one. The undersheriff responded to Mr. Burgess's question of whether they could reuse the equipment from the trade-ins, stating that the body styles changed between 2019 and 2021, so it would be unlikely. He also said it costs close to \$1,000 to decommission a unit. The sheriff would like to order three vehicles next year to maintain the mileage cycle; otherwise, he felt they would have to get four in 2023. Sheriff Nestor commended Vince's GM Center for their willingness to retain the county's business by taking trade-ins and for staying within the state bid. The group discussed possibly keeping one of the old vehicles to replace the land use pickup but decided it would be best to trade them off.

Mr. Stone moved to allow the sheriff to send a letter of intent to Vince's GM to purchase three 2022 Chevy Tahoes out of the 2022 budget for approximately \$40,000 each. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Schifferns moved to allow the sheriff to trade a 2019 Chevy Tahoe and a 2013 Chevy pickup for roughly \$35,000 toward a new vehicle. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Amy Vice stopped in at 9:15 to ask the commissioners if they had any questions regarding the CPAM music concert. Mr. Burgess said he understood they wanted to use the county's generator and that Ken Stroud didn't have a problem with it as long as they had qualified people to operate it and paid for the fuel. Mrs. Vice said that Mr. Stroud and John Palmer had a plan as long as the Board approved the use, which it did.

After Mrs. Vice left, Troy McCue gave the monthly economic development report. Denver Cutlery and Wausau Supply are doing well, and the Foreign Trade Zone should have its first official user within the next ninety days. Mr. McCue also discussed grant funds, the

roundhouse restoration project, and the Bethel Community Center. He reported that Rural Philanthropy Days were a tremendous success, he passed his tests, allowing him to obtain his certification, and the EDC selected Sharon Mason to replace John Thelen on the EDC board.

Mr. McCue left, and Mr. Stone moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on July 19, 2021, as submitted. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Semi-Annual Schedule of Receipts and Disbursements, and then Mr. Schifferns moved to approve a county credit card with a \$500 limit for John Mohan. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone moved to approve the Colorado Prairie Arts and Music Council Special Event Permit for the Aaron Watson concert. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The commissioners also reviewed a second round for the Lincoln County CVRF Small Business Grant Program and agreed to move forward.

Human Services Director Andrew Lorensen met with the Board at 10:00 a.m. to give the monthly report for his department. The Board reviewed the employee timesheets and the financial, Income Maintenance, Child Welfare, and director's reports.

Mr. Lorensen asked for a signature on the Core Services plan, explaining that the commissioners had to sign it each year, although it was an SFY three-year plan. The amount for 2021-2022 is \$103,950. Mr. Schifferns moved to sign the Core Services Program annual plan for 2021-2022. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Burgess asked Mr. Lorensen how the DHS vehicles were holding up, and the director responded that he would like to replace one if possible. He wondered how they would pay for it; using county funds, DHS Parental Fees, or a combination of the two, but the commissioners didn't know how they'd done it in the past.

After Mr. Lorensen left, Mr. Burgess called for commissioner reports. Mr. Stone reported that he stopped at the shop on July 19 and learned of a leak in the fuel tank of one of their mower tractors. Patrick Leonard was at the shop, so Mr. Stone talked to him about the weed spraying issues. Mr. Leonard told him he sprayed the area in question last spring when it was summer fallow, so he wasn't concerned that it would cause problems this year. Unfortunately, the amount of moisture received caused the chemical to carry over into the new wheat crop. On July 20, Mr. Stone spoke with Rick Ashcraft. They'd ordered the new fuel tank but learned it would take a while to get it. District 3 crews were mowing and fixing roads. They chip-sealed on July 22. Mr. Stone went by the shop again on July 26, and then he and Mr. Ashcraft checked roads to the east. They did the same with western roads on July 28. Earlier this morning, District 3 received a quote on a road grader and the estimate for the trade-in.

At 10:30 a.m., Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting and re-convened as the Lincoln County Board of Public Health to meet with Director Kelly Linnebur.

When Mr. Burgess asked about the recent suggestion that everyone should start wearing masks again, Miss Linnebur said that it came out in the news that Lincoln County was the least vaccinated county in the state, which wasn't true. Although only 27% of Lincoln County residents were fully vaccinated, that number is above other counties. Miss Linnebur reported that they currently have a 9% two-week positivity rate, the first time it's been over 5% since last November. Mr. Burgess asked her to provide a weekly report to the commissioners, which Miss Linnebur was happy to do. She explained that 95% of the active cases are the new Delta variant, which is more contagious and not affected by the vaccines. They are awaiting guidance regarding booster shots, and when they get the go-ahead, they will most likely rerun the PODS. There is still quite a bit of last year's ELC money left over, and now Public Health received another \$608,000. Miss Linnebur said she could not spend all of it since it had to be for COVID-related expenses, such as testing supplies. She would like to use some of the money to reimburse the facilities allowing the POD setups, such as the schools and the fairgrounds. She asked if Mr. Palmer could bill Public Health for the fairgrounds usage and said she'd budgeted \$500 per day, per site. Miss Linnebur also budgeted for a temporary part-time person out of the ELC funding if they need one.

Mr. Burgess told Miss Linnebur she should use the county vehicle as much as possible and fill the gas tank if another department was going to use it. He also informed her that they should get gas at the county shop and asked if the employees in her department had all taken the fuel training, which she said they had. Miss Linnebur said she hadn't used the van in over a year.

Miss Linnebur hired Dami Bandy to fill her old position, starting on August 1.

Mr. Burgess asked if there would be a mandate on masks in the schools, but Miss Linnebur said it was a recommendation right now, not a requirement. If there is another outbreak, she might push for vaccinations in students twelve and up or require wearing masks if they refuse the vaccine. Mr. Burgess told her to come to the commissioners if she got any resistance from the community, as they would help in any way they could.

Miss Linnebur left; Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting as the Lincoln County Board of Public Health and reconvened the meeting as the Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Lorensen stopped back in to say he'd forgotten to let the commissioners know that they would see a \$13,640 invoice for the power cot he'd told them about previously. The county has to pay the bill but will then receive a reimbursement from the Northeast Healthcare Coalition. The Board thanked him for the information.

Mr. Schiffers reported talking to Mr. Burgess on July 20 about helping haul sand to College Avenue in Arriba after the wheat harvest. District 1 also decided to discontinue their mowing operations until after the harvest so that they weren't out on the county roads. On July 21, Mr.

Burgess reminded Mr. Schifferns of the county picnic on Friday, and on July 22, Mr. Schifferns responded to an email from Mr. Kimble. He attended the picnic on July 23 and checked roads on July 26. District 1 crews worked on paving County Road 109. Mr. Schifferns got a call about the hospital on July 28 and referred the party to Mr. Burgess.

Mr. Burgess received a call from a District 2 road crew member about a request to mow along a resident's road. Mr. Burgess told him to go ahead. Then he received a call from the same party wondering why the county didn't grade his road. Mr. Burgess told the resident he thought it was a private driveway but would check. Ken Stroud called Mr. Burgess on July 20 to let him know that the party interested in the old truck body would move it. Mr. Burgess attended the Economic Development meeting in Limon on July 21. He also went to Hugo to see if County Road 4B west of County Road 28 is a county road. He found out it wasn't and sent a copy of the map to the party asking District 2 to grade the road. Mr. Burgess also talked with the sheriff about vehicles. He attended the county picnic on July 23, and he and Mr. Schifferns spoke with John Palmer about the fairgrounds and the sheriff about personal GPS for the deputies. He again talked to the party about the county not grading their driveway. Mr. Burgess spoke with landfill employees on July 26 and said he would ask the other commissioners about closing the landfill on September 4 so the employees could have a three-day weekend for Labor Day. He also talked to Bruce Walters and looked at the bridge on County Road 33. The inspector tagged it with a code yellow, stating the guardrail didn't meet standards, and the county had ninety days to respond. Mr. Burgess said there was no way to address the problem since the bridge would not take rails that would hold traffic. Allen Chubbuck called Mr. Burgess on July 27. Mark McMullen wanted to dig test holes for the new cell and would call to schedule a time. District 2 would then take a backhoe to the landfill. Bruce Walters, Rick Ashcraft, and Mr. Burgess looked at the bridge on County Road 33 to see if they could figure out how to fix it. He also got a quote on a new CAT motor grader and said he would contact John Deere to come out and give him a price as well. On July 28, Mr. Burgess set up a time with Mark McMullen to drill the test holes. He will be out on August 2. Mr. Burgess had a call about drainage on County Road 4C and said he would see if they could take care of it. Sheriff Nestor called about the vehicles they wanted to buy, so he told him to come to this morning's meeting to discuss it. Mr. Burgess received a call from a resident about the hospital billing. He also spoke with Roxie Devers about the water lines at the roundhouse and building some moveable steps for the pink rail car. Mr. Burgess also talked with Scott Kimble about surveying the property east of the courthouse, but Mr. Kimble told him Dave Smith already had someone lined up to do it. Ken Stroud called to let him know CPAM wanted to use the generator for the concert, that they had someone to operate it, and that they would pay for the fuel.

Mr. Burgess asked Mr. Kimble about the bridge and whether the county would be liable. Mr. Kimble said he would check case law and put the question on the List Serve.

The Board reviewed and approved the Veterans Service Officer's monthly report for July, and then Mr. Piper called in at 11:00 a.m. to give the administrator's report. There is around \$115,000 left of the 2020 CRVF funds, and the Board agreed to have the same committee review the requests for business grants. Mr. Piper recommended holding back approximately

\$5,000 to install the touchless water fountains. The commissioners agreed that businesses that didn't apply for the initial round of funding would have the first opportunity. They would then divide up any remaining funds evenly among the applicants.

Mr. Piper had contacted CTSI about the alcohol policy class, which CTSI offers online. He felt the department heads would be able to complete it if he emailed the link to them.

Representatives from American Fidelity wanted to meet with the Board regarding employee benefits, but the commissioners agreed it wasn't necessary since the inception of the new HSA plan.

Further guidance regarding the American Rescue Plan funds is forthcoming, and Mr. Piper said they might broaden the restrictions somewhat since it would be challenging to spend so much money on strictly COVID-related expenses.

Mr. Piper asked if the commissioners would allow county offices to close at noon on Friday, August 13, to attend the fair. The Board agreed.

Mr. Burgess told Mr. Piper the commissioners had decided to close the landfill on Saturday, September 4, and asked him to make sure he published it in the newspaper.

Mr. Kimble reported that he would like to schedule the hearing regarding the amendment to the county road policy for August 30. That would allow for two weeks of publication; August 16 and August 23.

Mr. Burgess brought up the fact that several private driveways show up on the county road map, and he wasn't sure how to address the matter. Mr. Stone said he has several of the same but only provides annual maintenance if the landowners request it.

Mr. Stone asked if anyone had applied for the mechanic job, but Mr. Burgess said he hadn't heard anything yet.

At 11:35 a.m., Weed Coordinator Patrick Leonard met with the Board to discuss weed control matters. Mr. Leonard provided a report of activities of the past year and a half and then addressed the issue presented by the landowner down south. Although he hadn't sprayed the area this year, Mr. Leonard said the Tordon must have held over last year when there was little moisture and then reactivated after the high amounts of moisture received this spring. He said he would certainly watch for it in the future. The group also discussed the large areas of Kochia weed, Mr. Leonard stating that it isn't on the noxious weed list but is certainly harmful to Lincoln County. He felt that Vista would be the only thing he could use to kill it, but it's expensive. Mr. Stone suggested Mr. Leonard talk to Rick Ashcraft and find an area to spray next spring. Lastly, Mr. Burgess told Mr. Leonard to let him know if he ever needed someone to drive the truck while he sprayed.

At 12:15 p.m., Lincoln Community Hospital CEO Kevin Stansbury met with the Board for an executive session. Mr. Stone moved to go into executive session, per 24-6-402 (4) (a) C.R.S. to discuss matters regarding the purchase or sale of a property interest. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Those remaining for the session were the three commissioners, Mr. Kimble, Mr. Stansbury, and Mrs. Lengel. Mrs. Lengel recorded the session, and the recording will remain on file in the County Clerk's vault for the statutory ninety days.

After coming out of executive session, Mr. Stone moved to allow Lincoln County and the Board of Trustees of Lincoln Community Hospital dba Lincoln Health, to sign a contract to buy and sell real estate located at Lot 1, Block 3, Weeks Subdivision to the West Town of Limon, provided the realtor added that the intended use of the property was for a dental facility or other medical facility deemed appropriate by Lincoln Health. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Kimble stated for the record that county commissioners are authorized under 30-11-107, C.R. S. to buy and sell county property if found to be in the best interest of the citizens.

After Mr. Stansbury left, the commissioners approved the July 2021 payroll.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on August 6, 2021.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

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Steve Burgess, Chairman