

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

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:30 Jamie Giellis to discuss the revitalization of the World's Wonder View Tower in Genoa
- 11:00 Andrew Lorensen, Human Services Director, to present the Department of Human Services monthly report
1. Approve the minutes from the September 15, 2021, meeting
 2. Approve the minutes from the September 23, 2021, budget meeting
 3. Review and act upon a Committee Member Appointment for the CCI 2021 Legislative Committee
 4. Review and act upon a memorandum of understanding for control of confidential data regarding sales and use tax and lodging tax for 2022
 5. Review the 2022 preliminary Road and Bridge Budget
 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 September 29, 2021. Chairman Steve Burgess, County Administrator Jacob Piper, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel attended in person. Commissioners Doug Stone and Ed E. Schifferns attended via Zoom.

Chairman Burgess called the meeting to order and asked Human Services Director Andrew Lorensen to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Lorensen then gave the monthly Department of Human Services report. Mr. Burgess reviewed the financials, employee timesheets, Income Maintenance, Child Welfare & Adult Protection, and director's reports while the other commissioners connected to the Zoom call. One of Mr. Lorensen's employees who had a child with COVID-19 had to quarantine and was out of sick time. He asked if the commissioners were still reviewing such cases individually. Kit Carson County adopted a policy to give quarantined employees with no sick or vacation time the necessary time off with pay. Mr. Piper said Lincoln County could do something similar on a case-by-case basis if the commissioners wanted. Another option would be for other employees to donate time or choose to give leave without pay. Mr. Burgess said he would discuss it with the other commissioners and let Mr. Lorensen know.

Centennial Mental Health is having difficulty keeping clinicians, and Mr. Lorensen said the organization has historically been unable to meet its clients' needs. They will also no longer accept private pay. Mr. Burgess suggested contacting Lincoln Community Hospital to see if they had clinicians available via telehealth.

Before leaving, Mr. Lorensen reminded Mr. Burgess that the Family First implementation starts this Friday, October 1.

Mr. Stone and Mr. Schifferns were still having problems connecting to the meeting, so Mr. Burgess offered to renew his appointment as the CCI 2021 Legislative Committee member.

Since the town of Limon plans to use their American Rescue Plan allocation for the water line on the east end of town, Mr. Burgess again mentioned helping them by using around \$100,000 of the county's ARP funds. Mr. Piper commented that he'd have a list of possible expenditures put together for the October 7 meeting.

Instead of giving his report aloud, Mr. Burgess gave the written version to the clerk for the minutes: Mr. Burgess got a call from Mark McMullen on September 15. Mr. McMullen needed to get started on designing the landfill cells, so Mr. Burgess told him to go ahead, and he would let the other commissioners know, which he did. On September 16, Mr. Burgess and Bruce Walters looked at roads; they have a bridge on County Road 4C that needs cleaning off. The estimate for repairs on the pickup damaged by the employee was \$7,000. They will look into other options for fixing it. Mr. Burgess took two calls from residents upset with the hospital's COVID-19 mandate. He said the road crew was still hauling gravel and mowing. On September 17, Mr. Burgess went to the landfill and discussed the gate alarm they wanted. They also considered going to half-days when Daylight Savings Time ends. Mr. Burgess received another

call from a resident upset with the hospital, so he talked with Keven Stansbury about the COVID-19 mandate. On September 20, Mr. Burgess went to Genoa and looked at the pickup involved in the accident and asked Mr. Walters to get another estimate on the damages. NAPA in Flagler had some take-off beds, so they agreed to see if one would fit. Mr. Burgess checked on the bridge on County Road 4C; they still need to check for asphalt damage. He also called Eric Bergman with CCI about the bridge on County Road 33. It is on the list for eligible funding, so he thought they should proceed with those opportunities. The road crew was mowing, helping District 3 haul asphalt, and grading roads. Logan County Commissioner Byron Pelton called Mr. Burgess on September 21 regarding Mr. Burgess's question about the motivational speaker, Bobby Jones. Logan County used \$170,000 of the COVID-19 funds to get Mr. Jones' program in some of their schools. Mr. Burgess contacted Bobby Jones, who said it would be similar in Lincoln County if the commissioners wanted him to go to several schools. Mr. Burgess told him he'd speak with the other commissioners about it. Mr. Burgess attended the Resources Unlimited meeting and the Public Health Zoom call. He and Mr. Walters also went to Flagler to see if NAPA had a used pickup bed that would fit the damaged vehicle, but they didn't. The road crew continued with mowing and helping District 3 with asphalt. On September 22, Mark McMullen called about using the dams on the west side of the property, and on the Twenty-third, Mr. Burgess dropped off the gate alarm at the landfill. He met with Bart O'Dwyer on September 24 to discuss the estimate for enclosing the alcove off the Clerk's office and found out why the concrete drain was so high. Per NAPA in Flagler, pickup boxes were \$5,000 - \$6,000 for a used one, so they decided to go with the estimate and have the vehicle fixed. Mr. Burgess picked up parts for District 2 at Mack and John Deere on September 27. He spoke with CDOT about the bridge on County Road 22; they would have to do environmental and drainage studies, which couldn't be done by October 29, and Mr. Burgess felt it would be costly. He also took parts to Mr. Walters and spoke with Andy Lorensen about Centennial Mental Health taking clients. Mr. Burgess participated in the Public Health Zoom meeting on September 28. He talked to Liz Hickman at CMH; they are short-staffed and gave Mr. Burgess a phone number for Mr. Lorensen to call.

At 9:15 a.m., Mr. Stone finally connected to the Zoom meeting and moved to approve the minutes from the meetings held on September 19 and September 23, 2021, as submitted. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried.

Mr. Stone reported talking with Rick Ashcraft on September 16. One of their tractors broke down, so they were working on it. They also discussed 2022 budget items. Mr. Stone checked roads that afternoon. The road crew got a late start with their overlaying project on September 20 due to another equipment breakdown. He checked the new pavement and oil on September 22 and got a call about trucks tearing up roads. Mr. Stone referred the caller to the proper district. He attended the budget meeting on September 23 and checked roads south of Karval on the Twenty-fourth. While doing so, he ran into Tony Hagans, so he asked about the tower south of Hugo. Mr. Hagans said he still planned on doing something with it; he's just been extremely busy. Mr. Stone was sick, so he missed the Recovery and Resiliency meeting on September 27 as well as the Public Health Zoom call on the Twenty-eighth. He also talked to

Rick Ashcraft, who was going after a tire and rim in Rocky Ford. The road crew was still mowing and hauling gravel.

Mr. Piper explained that the commissioners signed the Memorandums of Understanding for Control of Confidential Data for lodging tax and sales and use tax annually. Mr. Stone moved to appoint Mr. Piper as the party to receive confidential information for Lincoln County for 2022. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried.

Mr. Burgess let Mr. Stone know that he'd signed the retirement checks and that September would be the last month he had to do so before they started using direct deposit.

Mr. Schifferns joined the meeting at 9:25 a.m., and the group agreed to wait until the next meeting to further discuss the Road & Bridge budget. Mr. Burgess said he'd told Mr. Piper that they might have to take a mill or more from the General Fund.

At 9:30 a.m., Jamie Giellis gave a Zoom presentation regarding the revitalization of The World's Wonder View Tower in Genoa. Property owners Chandler Romeo and Keven Kearney joined via Zoom, and Economic Development Director Troy McCue attended the discussion in person.

The landowners purchased the tower and property about five years ago, intending to repurpose and renovate it. There are currently no water or sewer connections, so it will be expensive to remedy that, but they are working on grant applications and other fundraisers to come up with the money. However, the tower itself is still structurally sound. They parceled off the land where the tower sits and established a non-profit, but it is crucial to have Lincoln County and the town of Genoa demonstrate support for the project. Ms. Giellis said there is quite a bit of funding available now in grants and federal monies, so they are actively applying for as much as they can. Because it's in an Enhanced Enterprise Zone, has local and global recognition, and is on the state historical registry, they feel there is an excellent chance of receiving financing.

They are working on what Ms. Giellis termed "the 4 C's": community, culture, camping, and catalyst, which included reopening the old Indian Café, and developing a museum and local artisan shops, providing unique camping experiences, and launching small business enterprises. They've completed a structural assessment and submitted a US EDA grant, which is pending, and an Arts in Society grant application. The application for a \$1.5 million Colorado Creative Industries Revitalization grant is due Friday, and Ms. Giellis asked for a letter of support from the county. It does require a match. She said they hoped to also submit a DOLA EIAF grant for the water and sewer infrastructure and would like to hold discussions with the county for support, possibly with some of its American Rescue Plan dollars.

Mr. Piper read the letter of support for the commissioners on the call, and then Mr. Stone moved to sign the letter. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

When the call ended, Mr. Piper gave his report, first asking Mr. Stone and Mr. Schifferns for their opinion on following Kit Carson County's guidelines regarding employees in COVID-19 quarantine. All three agreed to allow the Human Services employee to work part-time from home and receive regular pay for the other hours. They also decided to discuss future instances on an individual basis.

Mr. Piper had received a call from Gary Ensign about the roundhouse. He suggested a four-inch pipe for the waterline instead of three-inch, especially if they planned to install a sprinkler system. Bart O'Dwyer had said the same thing and even recommended a six-inch pipe if they wanted to put in a hydrant, and Mr. Piper noted that was also Mr. Ensign's opinion.

Mr. Piper asked if all three commissioners planned to attend the CCI winter conference, which they did. He and the road foremen will also go.

Mr. Schifferns had not heard back from Wil Bledsoe about an appointment on the Republican River Water Conservation District board and said he would contact him again.

Mr. Piper provided the monthly Veterans Service Officer's report sent in by Laurie Rodgers.

Mr. McCue asked if the commissioners had any questions regarding his 2022 budget requests, but no one did. He also gave a quick update on the Foreign Trade Zone applicant.

There was no other business to discuss, so Mr. Burgess approved the September payroll and then adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on October 7, 2021.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Steve Burgess, Chairman