

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for December 19, 2022

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:30 Open and Review sealed bids for chemicals for the Lincoln County Weed Control Department
- 10:00 Chris Monks, District 1 Road Foreman, to discuss fuel pumps for the Hugo Shop
- 10:30 Ken Stroud, Emergency Management Director, to provide a monthly report

-To be completed as time permits-

1. Approve the minutes from the December 8, 2022, meeting
2. Review the November 2022 reports from the County Assessor, County Clerk & Recorder, County Sheriff, and County Treasurer
3. Review the November 2022 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 November 2022 reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and Workers' Compensation Pool
5. Review and act upon intergovernmental agreements with the Town of Hugo and the Town of Limon regarding Landfill rates
6. Review and act upon the 2023 Lincoln County Employee Pay Schedules
7. Complete a Performance Evaluation for Ty Stogsdill, Land Use Administrator
8. County Commissioner reports
9. County Attorney's report
10. County Administrator's report
11. Old Business
12. New Business

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on December 19, 2022. Chairman Doug Stone, Commissioners Ed E. Schifferns and Steve Burgess, County Administrator Jacob Piper, County Attorney Stan Kimble, Clerk of the Board Corinne M. Lengel, commissioner-elect Wayne Ewing, and Limon Leader reporter Stephanie Zwick attended.

Chairman Stone called the meeting to order and asked Mrs. Zwick to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Weed Coordinator Patrick Leonard arrived shortly afterward.

Mr. Burgess moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 8, 2022, as submitted. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the November 2022 reports from the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, and Sheriff. Mr. Piper hadn't yet received the Treasurer's report. The commissioners also reviewed the November 2022 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. Lastly, the Board reviewed the November 2022 Colorado Counties Casualty and Property and Workers' Compensation Pool reports.

As the commissioners looked over the intergovernmental agreements with the town of Hugo and the town of Limon regarding annual landfill rates, Mr. Kimble commented that Town of Limon Administrator Greg Tacha had expressed his gratitude to the Board for not increasing the fees. Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the MOUs with Hugo Limon regarding 2023 landfill rates. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

At 9:20 a.m., Terry Saffer with Try-Me Spraying arrived for the sealed bid opening. His was the only document received, which wasn't a bid but a letter explaining why he hadn't submitted a bid listing prices for each item. Supply challenges in the chemical arena continue to affect availability and price, and suppliers couldn't guarantee either as they'd done in the past. Mr. Saffer asked to provide products as needed and said he would deliver them as he'd always done. Mr. Burgess wanted to know if it was better to stockpile chemicals, but Mr. Saffer told him buying as needed was much easier than returning unused items.

Mr. Burgess moved to accept Try-Me Spraying's proposal to supply weed-spraying chemicals for 2023. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone noted that he'd called Chad Maranville and left him a message that the county was seeking bids, but Mr. Maranville hadn't returned his call.

Mr. Piper provided the updated pay schedules for 2023, reminding the group they'd decided to remove three-year step raises and change them all to two-year steps. Department heads had also agreed they'd prefer the option of not dropping an employee back a step when promoting them a level, which made little sense when the employee already worked in their office. Mr. Piper also adjusted the various job titles requested by department heads and elected officials.

Mr. Burgess moved to approve the 2023 pay schedules, including the option to grant a level promotion without dropping the employee back a step. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

District 1 Road Foreman Chris Monks met with the Board at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the fuel pumps at the Hugo shop. He'd spoken with an Eaton Sales and Service representative, who told him the pumps wouldn't come in until August. Mr. Monks wasn't sure the county wanted to wait that long and checked with J8 Equipment, now known as Acterra Group, Inc. They could order a different brand with a February or March delivery. The commissioners asked Mr. Monks to get a quote.

Mr. Burgess checked the budget and asked the others if they wanted to prepay more on the 2023 fuel contracts since they had roughly \$120,000 left among the districts. Mr. Monks said District 1 discussed spending \$20,000. Mr. Stone and Mr. Burgess decided on \$40,000 each for Districts 2 and 3.

Mr. Piper had talked to Cody Fry with Southeast Colorado Enterprise Development regarding the CDL testing, and they wouldn't have a trainer available until sometime in February. They hoped to get a second trainer; if so, Lincoln County would be at the top of their list. The \$600 per employee the county paid covered four hours of driving time, but Mr. Piper said if the employee needed additional time, it would cost more, which he guessed was about \$100 per hour. He added that the driving test would also be an extra cost. If the employees obtained their permits, they could all be part of the same testing group.

Emergency Manager Ken Stroud arrived for his 10:30 a.m. appointment at 10:05 a.m.

Mr. Burgess suggested hiring Dean Simpson for a few hours to help the new road crew members with the pre-trip portion, which, to Mr. Burgess, was the most challenging part of getting a CDL, especially if the employees were shy or afraid to speak up.

Mr. Kimble mentioned masking and said the commissioners would probably hear more about it in the future. The Federal Safety Act was a system of rules and regulations regarding CDL drivers and put pressure on states violating the rules by withholding highway users' funding. He added that prosecutors weren't supposed to offer plea bargains to any CDL drivers, even though, in the past, he'd done so if the driver had a good attitude. Many jurisdictions now refuse to reduce tickets unless the attorney claims they can't prove the case, although some still offer reductions if the violation is speeding. Even CDL holders driving their personally owned vehicles weren't given breaks and might lose points, so Mr. Kimble said the county must emphasize speed limit laws to its drivers. He also felt that many drivers might start taking their cases to court anyway if they knew they would lose points no matter what.

The group took a short break, and when Wayne Ewing returned, he told Mr. Stone he'd spoken with Chad Maranville, who thanked Mr. Stone for the phone call and agreed with Terry Saffer's statements regarding weed chemicals.

Mr. Stroud handed out copies of his monthly report and answered several questions regarding his meetings and activities. When Mr. Stroud left, the commissioners agreed they'd complete Land Use Administrator Ty Stogsdill's evaluation after the meeting.

Mr. Burgess reported attending the hospital board meeting on December 8. The facility only showed a small monthly profit, which concerned him. He'd heard that Representative Rod Pelton considered sponsoring a bill for the four county-owned hospitals in the state. On December 9, Mr. Burgess talked to District 2 foreman Bruce Walters. He also toured some roads around Limon. From December 12 through December 14, Mr. Burgess signed a contract for an IHC tractor and attended the commissioners' winter conference in Westminster. He also contacted Representative Pelton and Gini Pingnot, CCI's Director of External Affairs, about the possible legislative bill for county-owned hospitals. The county had a snowstorm on December 13 that closed roads, the landfill, and the courthouse. Mr. Burgess attended the county employee appreciation and Christmas party at the courthouse on December 15. Afterward, he stopped at the hospital and gave Dr. John Fox his twenty-year pin and then went by the landfill and gave Brenda Howe her five-year pin and JP Juranek his one-year certificate. The road crew worked on clearing county roads of the drifted snow on December 15 and 16. Mr. Burgess checked out the security lights they put in the Genoa shop yard on December 17 and said they looked good.

Mr. Stone reported that District 3 took out a bridge and replaced it with tubes, so he checked it out on December 9. He attended the commissioners' conference from the Twelfth through the Fourteenth. Mr. Stone attended the courthouse Christmas party on December 15 and stopped at the Karval shop. They took their CAT loader to the Springs for repairs. Former Land Use Administrator John DeWitt called Mr. Stone about the land use regulations on December 16, and Chris Monks called him on the Seventeenth to discuss crushed asphalt. Mr. Stone also checked roads on the Seventeenth. On his way to the meeting earlier, Mr. Stone called county surveyor Keith Westfall to let him know the commissioners would not reappoint him in January. Scott Kimble will take the job.

Mr. Schifferns reported checking roads on December 8. He attended the commissioners' conference from the Twelfth through the Fourteenth and checked roads after the snowstorm.

Mr. Kimble spoke a little more about the masking he'd mentioned earlier and then said the trial with the resident charged with damaging a county road in District 2 was set for January 26 in county court. He also reported receiving an email from the Arriba town clerk regarding the sheriff acting on the town's behalf concerning municipal ordinances. While Mr. Kimble believed the sheriff had the right to enter into agreements with municipalities that provided law enforcement coverage in those instances, Mr. Stone didn't think Sheriff Nestor felt he had the manpower for it. Mr. Burgess said it would also set a precedent if he did it for one town. Mr. Kimble commented that the town council might just want a law enforcement presence when taking action against ordinance violators. He added that Flagler, Stratton, and Seibert couldn't afford police departments either.

Mr. Piper reported receiving a request for a letter supporting the Hugo Main Street program's pursuit of a T-Mobile Hometown Grant to put in a dog park in Hugo. Mr. Schifferns moved to sign the letter of support, and Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mrs. Lengel hadn't heard back from Robert Safranek regarding plans for the election security room, so Mr. Burgess called him. Mr. Safranek had planned to come to the meeting but had an emergency and couldn't make it. He said he had the plans finished and asked if it were necessary to enclose the north window, which was one of the most expensive parts of the project. Mr. Burgess told him it was.

The group briefly discussed the 18th Judicial District plans to split into the 18th and 23rd Judicial Districts, and then, with no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on December 29, 2022.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk of the Board

Doug Stone, Chairman