

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for July 28, 2022

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:30 Public Hearing on a request for an application for a Special Events Permit, Fermented Malt Beverage, for the Colorado Prairie Arts and Music Council's August 13, 2022, event at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds
- 10:00 Darlene Carpio, Regional Director for Congressman Ken Buck, to provide legislative updates
- 10:30 Andrew Lorensen, Human Services Director, to present the Department of Human Services monthly report
- 11:00 Kevin Stansbury, Lincoln Community Hospital CEO, to provide an LCH monthly report
- 11:30 Kelly Meier, Public Health Director, to discuss Public Health matters

-To be completed as time permits-

1. Approve the minutes from the July 18, 2022, meeting
2. Review and act upon the County Veterans Service Officer's Monthly Report and Certification of Pay
3. County Commissioner reports
4. County Attorney's report
5. County Administrator's report
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Approve Payroll

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on July 28, 2022. Chairman Doug Stone, Commissioner Ed E. Schifferns, County Administrator Jacob Piper, Clerk of the Board Corinne M. Lengel (until 10:15 a.m.), Deputy Clerk of the Board Mindy Dutro (from 10:15 a.m. until the meeting adjourned), Limon Leader reporter Stephanie Zwick, Randal Lewis, and Bernie Koch attended. Commissioner Steve Burgess and County Attorney Stan Kimble were absent and excused.

Chairman Stone called the meeting to order and asked Land Use Administrator Ty Stogsdill to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Stogsdill asked for an emergency subdivision regulation exemption on behalf of Mauricio Sanchez at County Road 34 west of Genoa. Mr. Sanchez has a five-acre parcel, split from a hundred-and-sixty-acre piece of property back in 1975. The well on the property either went out or caved in, and since the state requires the subdivision exemption to issue a new well permit, Mr. Stogsdill asked the commissioners for their approval.

Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the exemption from subdivision regulations for Mauricio Sanchez. Mrs. Lengel asked if it required a resolution, which was customary for subdivision regulation exemptions. Mr. Stogsdill said he'd contacted the county attorney, but Mr. Kimble hadn't gotten back to him yet. Mr. Stone told Mr. Stogsdill the commissioners would probably meet until noon, so he could come back if he learned anything further from Mr. Kimble, and Mr. Schifferns' motion died for lack of a second.

Bernie Koch and Randal Lewis arrived to observe the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on July 18, 2022, as submitted. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried.

The Board reviewed the county Veterans Service officer's monthly report and certification of pay, and then Mr. Stone called for commissioner reports.

Mr. Stone received a call from an employee about the county insurance on July 19, after which he spoke with Mr. Piper about it. He went by the Karval shop on July 25 and also talked to Chris Monks and Keith Simpson about the CDL requirements. Mr. Piper commented that he'd set up a time at the next commissioner meeting with the Yuma County Administrator to discuss their policy. Mr. Stone said District 3 planned to sell one of their belly dump trailers for \$15,000. He checked roads southwest of State Road 71, looked at the cattleguard Reids put in, and talked to Barney Burch about a fence. The road crew has kept busy mowing and sweeping roads, particularly the one they put a seal-coat on yesterday. They are also fixing some roads damaged by running water. Lastly, Mr. Stone said he checked roads east of Karval on July 27.

Mr. Schifferns reported talking to Chris Monks about the CDL regulations on July 19 or 20. They talked about the recent commissioner discussion regarding employees without CDLs operating mowers or graders. Mr. Schifferns checked roads on July 21. Bernie Koch called him on July 25,

reporting issues with buried culverts. Mr. Schifferns checked the roads and said they might have to replace some, or at the very least, remove them, clean them out, and reset them. However, since they are still shorthanded in District 1, Mr. Schifferns said he'd add it to their list. Mr. Schifferns had called Colorado Parks and Wildlife about Flagler Lake, asking if there was a way to keep it filled since there are very few recreational opportunities in the county, but he never heard from anyone.

Bernie Koch spoke up, saying he'd seen water running over the spillway, which was about two feet deep.

Emergency Manager Ken Stroud arrived at 9:20 as Mr. Piper reported the two of them worked on written policies for the EMPG grant. He thought they'd finished them and would wait for the state's review. Mr. Piper commented that Stan Kimble had concerns about the procurement policy.

Chris Fox, Darlene Carpio, Amy Vice, and Elisha Thompson arrived at 9:25 a.m.

Mr. Piper asked if the commissioners had decided if they wanted William Arthur to prepare the Attentive Preventative Care proposal. Mr. Stone had spoken with Kit Carson County Commissioner Dave Hornung, who told him they hadn't yet decided if they would offer their employees the benefit, even though about eighty-five percent of them felt like it would be a good deal. Mr. Hornung said the commissioners wanted to ensure they understood everything before agreeing to the proposal; however, they were getting a lot of pressure from Mr. Arthur. Mr. Piper said he'd had no such experience and asked if he should have Mr. Arthur proceed with the proposal using Lincoln County employee data. He commented that if Kit Carson County did choose to institute the program, it might be nice to see what they thought of it before deciding.

At 9:30 a.m., Mr. Stone opened the public hearing on a request for a Special Events Permit, Fermented Malt Beverage, for the Colorado Prairie Arts and Music Council's August 13, 2022, event at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds. Mr. Stroud said neither he nor Sheriff Nestor had any concerns about the group having a beer garden during the concert.

Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the Special Events Permit, and Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Vice and Mrs. Thompson left, and Mr. Stone asked Darlene Carpio if she minded starting her legislative updates early since it was only 9:35, but her appointment wasn't until 10:00 a.m. Ms. Carpio said Congressman Buck voted against the Obergefell same-sex marriage bill as well as the National Defense Authorization Act. He had concerns about the many additional provisions going into legislation, such as locking up approximately 1.2 million acres in Colorado for energy development.

Mr. Stone asked if she'd heard anything more on the 3030 bill, but Ms. Carpio had not. She mentioned attending a meeting where she heard cattlemen should watch their federal government contracts, particularly regarding water. Even though the government cannot take the water, they can restrict its use. Mr. Stone said it seemed the government continued to place overwhelming restrictions on its contracts.

Ms. Carpio said Congressman Buck supported the reversal of Roe vs. Wade; however, he denounced the violence against Pro-Life organizations and clinics. She attended the Resource Fair, where four federal agencies gathered and provided information and said August would be another busy month.

Mr. Schifferns said he'd heard Nebraska wanted more Colorado water and asked Ms. Carpio if she knew anything about it. She responded that the 1921 decree between the states allowed Nebraska to take the overflow. They built a canal in the 20s, but the sandy soil kept them from completing the project; however, they wanted to reinstate it and line the entire canal, even though the original project path would now run through the welcome center in Julesburg and areas of I-76.

Mr. Schifferns asked if they could do anything to keep Flagler Lake, explaining that there aren't many recreation areas in the county, and people still liked fishing there.

Economic Development Executive Director Troy McCue arrived as Ms. Carpio asked if it would endanger the public if the dam broke. Mr. Koch told her the water would go straight into the Republican River and soak in within a mile. Although people once boated and waterskied on the lake, too many trees stick out of the water for those activities now. Ms. Carpio commented that it seemed like a major project to obtain stream flow again in many areas.

Before leaving to tour the roundhouse with Mr. McCue and Chris Fox, Ms. Carpio said she'd met the new County Veterans' Service officer and had also attended a CML meeting.

Mr. Stone called for old or new business and, since they were still ahead of schedule, asked Mr. Piper to see if Andrew Lorensen could meet with them thirty minutes earlier. While they waited for Mr. Lorensen, Mr. Koch asked what a person should do if they saw a smashed culvert on a county road. Mr. Stone said he should call a road supervisor.

At 10:05 a.m., Human Services Director Andrew Lorensen met with the Board to give his monthly report. Robert Kraxberger came with him to present information on Utilities and SNAP. The commissioners reviewed the financial reports and employee timesheets, Mrs. Lengel left, and Mrs. Dutro took over the minute-taking.

Mr. Lorensen reported working on close-out funding with the state and said the Department of Human Services had applied for \$250,000 for welfare medication, but they have not heard back as to if they will receive the funding. Mr. Kraxberger stated that Commissioner Burgess had asked him questions regarding funding for people on welfare for costs associated with

electricity for running the air conditioning during the summer months. Mr. Kraxberger reported that while there isn't any funding directly for this, those people can submit their bills to receive credit through food stamps to help offset the cost. He also reported that the LEAP program that currently handles heating cost help through the fall and winter months is looking at helping through the summer months with costs associated with air conditioning; however, nothing has been finalized, and if it is, it may not go into effect for a few years. Mr. Lorensen told the Board that he was selected to be on the Colorado Human Trafficking Council, which is governor-appointed and meets monthly in the city. Mr. Lorensen and Mr. Kraxberger left the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

At 10: 50 a.m., Mr. Stone adjourned the county commissioners' meeting and reconvened as the Board of Public Health to meet with director Kelly Meier. She reported her office had ordered the new COVID-19 vaccination – NOVAVAX, and it should be here today. She stated that it is a two-dose, non-mRNA vaccine made from the spike proteins like other common vaccines and that she thinks it will be more appealing to people.

Next, Mrs. Meier reported that her communicable diseases employee is moving out of the state but wanted to know if she would be able to keep her working remotely since all her work is done online anyway. The position is 100% state-funded and temporary that will end in July 2023. Mrs. Meier stated that the employee is aware that her job will end in July 2023, and Mrs. Meier said if they did not want her to work remotely, her office would just have to absorb the work within her current employees. The Board agreed that they did not see an issue with the employee to finish out the job working remotely.

Lincoln Health CEO Kevin Stansbury and Linda Messer joined the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Mrs. Meier then said that her WIC Coordinator would soon begin to see clients in person again in the Limon office, and it was dirty and needed cleaning. Kit Carson County told her they wanted a "professional cleaner." Mr. Stansbury suggested she contact Lincoln Health's Director of Housekeeping, James Foster, to see if they had someone that would be able to do the job. Mrs. Meier thanked him for the suggestion, and Mr. Stansbury told her he would have Mr. Foster call her.

Last, Mr. Schifferns asked Mrs. Meier for information about the monkeypox and if her office was concerned. Mrs. Meier said that the state was not concerned for our rural area, but her office is ready to administer vaccinations if needed. Chairman Stone asked if rattlesnake anti-venom was available in the area, and Mr. Stansbury stated that the hospital has it, however, it is expensive and has a short shelf life. Mrs. Meier left at 11:00 a.m., and Mr. Stone adjourned the Board of Public Health meeting and reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Stansbury reported that Lincoln Health had net losses for April and May, mostly in large part due to needing to update their nurses' pay to be competitive with hospitals in the city. Their cash on hand is still sitting good at 7.3 million. Next, Mr. Stansbury reported that they are working with a strategic planner for the new hospital, who thinks Lincoln Health should be able

to qualify for USDA funding. They are looking to hire an architect and general contractor to move forward with grant applications. Mr. Stansbury reported they are scrambling to finish the new Byers clinic with the hopes of opening on January 1, 2023, and they are currently hiring for the new clinic.

Next, Linda Messer reported that Lincoln Health participates in Medicaid's five-year Hospital Transformation Program (HTP). Through HTP, Lincoln Health is a part of the Rural Support Fund, in which twenty-three rural hospitals across the state are eligible. Lincoln Health has used the funds to implement its electronic healthcare records system. Mrs. Messer stated that she must send reports to the state on meeting their milestones for the measure they chose and how they are using their funds. Mrs. Messer also reported she planned to have presentations during the fair to get community feedback for this program and Medicaid in general. Mr. Stansbury and Mrs. Messer left the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Mr. Stogsdill returned to the meeting at 11:30 a.m. and reported that he spoke with Mr. Kimble about the subdivision exemption for Mauricio Sanchez. Mr. Piper asked if it would require a resolution, and Mr. Stogsdill stated that Mr. Kimble was looking into it and would let them know. Mr. Stogsdill also said he didn't think it should because they weren't changing the deed, just giving the state exemption to drill the well. Mr. Stone stated they needed to wait to act on the issue until they found out what Mr. Kimble recommended.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting is at 9:00 a.m. on August 8, 2022.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk of the Board

Doug Stone, Chairman