

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for March 30, 2023

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:00 Phone Call with Greg Etl from the Department of Local Affairs to discuss bridge repair funding opportunities
- 9:30 Sealed bid opening regarding the Fairgrounds Arena Light project
- 10:00 Andrew Lorensen, Human Services Director, to present the Department of Human Services monthly report
- 10:30 Ken Stroud, Emergency Management Director, to present a monthly report

-To be completed as time permits-

1. Approve the minutes from the March 17, 2023 meeting
2. Review and act upon an employee credit card request for Steve Ryan
3. Review and act upon a lease agreement between Lincoln County and Robert Safranek
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 in the jury assembly room at 9:02 A.M. on March 30, 2023. Chairman Doug Stone, Commissioners Steve Burgess and Wayne Ewing, County Administrator Jacob Piper, Acting Clerk of the Board Ryan Davis, Limon Leader reporter Stephanie Zwick, and Land Use Administrator Ty Stogsdill attended. County Attorney Stan Kimble would arrive later in the meeting, and Clerk of the Board Corinne M. Lengel was absent and excused.

Chairman Stone called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Ewing to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

The board made a phone call to Greg Etl, the regional manager for Colorado Department of Local Affairs' Northeastern Region. Mr. Burgess said that he had been told by Mr. Etl during their winter conference that there were CDOLA grant opportunities available to finance bridge repairs on South Highway 109. Mr. Etl said that CDOLA funding was an option but that the county should apply for Colorado Department of Transportation grants first. He suggested that the county should compare the cost associated with building a bridge to CDOT specifications with the cost of a bridge without these additional requirements. He thought that even with CDOT funds, the county might pay more than they would if they built a simpler bridge and used CDOLA funding. Mr. Stone commented that they should have RockSol Consulting group provide an estimate for repairs that conformed with state regulation and one that did not. Mr. Etl said that the deadline for the CDOT grant was in August and that they could apply for the CDOLA grants in either August or December, stating that applications made in December would face more competition from other projects but that an August application would have a lower readiness score. He said the county should decide when to apply and discuss again in June or July, closer to the application deadline. Mr. Stone said that they would be able to talk to Mr. Etl again at the summer conference. The board then disconnected their call.

Mr. Ewing said that he had checked with the assessor's office and the recorder but was unable to locate an existing easement for the shoe-fly detour. He said that County Assessor Jeremiah Higgins thought that the only easement was for the existing bridge and would not help with a detour route.

The board then reviewed the minutes from the meeting held on March 17, 2023. Mr. Ewing said that there was an error in his commissioner report. He said that at the Fair Board meeting he attended on March 14th, the board approved "interview judging" via zoom, not "livestock judging". The minutes were amended, and Mr. Burgess moved to accept the minutes with corrections. Mr. Ewing seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The board then reviewed a request for an employee credit card with a \$2,000.00 limit for Sheriff's Deputy Steve Ryan. Mr. Burgess motioned to approve the request. Mr. Ewing seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Piper suggested that due to the large number of active credit cards, the board might gather a list of credit cards from each department at budget time and review the list to ensure that each one was still necessary. Mr. Burgess asked Mr. Piper to put the issue on the agenda for the next meeting when County Clerk Corinne Lengel could be present.

The board then reviewed the lease agreement for the landfill ground between Lincoln County and Robert Safranek. Mr. Burgess said that he had informed Mr. Safranek that the lease rate would increase to five dollars per acre. Mr. Burgess motioned to accept the lease agreement. Mr. Ewing seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Fairgrounds manager John Palmer entered at 9:26 AM. He said that Farm Bureau was considering leaving their booth in the grandstands. He thought that if they did leave, it would be a good opportunity for the county to restrict the use of propane in the booths. He thought that the way the propane appliances were set up right now posed too much of a fire hazard. Mr. Ewing asked if the tanks and lines could be set up in a safer way, but Mr. Palmer said the grandstands were just not set up for propane. Mr. Palmer said that he spoke to Josiah Higgins who said that they intended to build a new structure altogether.

Mr. Palmer thought it would be nice to get Farm Bureau out of their booth so that they could rent it to someone else. He said he could not rent out their current space due to all the equipment and supplies stored there. Mr. Stone said that if they did build something, it needed to be a temporary structure built on skids otherwise it would have to go on the county's building insurance. Mr. Ewing commented that they needed more information to say whether they could support a new building. Mr. Palmer said he would ask for more details.

Andrew Pellett arrived at 9:31 AM. The board reviewed the sealed bids for the Fairgrounds Arena Light project. Mr. Piper said that they had only received one bid from Daniel Electric Inc out of Burlington. Mr. Palmer added that two other companies had participated in the walkthrough but did not put in a bid. Mr. Burgess said that he thought the cost was high considering they had already purchased the lights and asked if the funds could come out of the Conservation Trust Fund. Mr. Piper said that only the materials were eligible and that the rest would have to come out of Capital Projects. Mr. Burgess thought it would not be fair to rebid the project since three companies attended the walkthrough and had the opportunity to bid. Mr. Palmer noted that the project needed to be done by the middle of May, and Mr. Piper said that they should put that deadline in the contract. Mr. Burgess added that they were short on time and that no one else seemed interested. He moved to accept the bid from Daniel Electric Inc in the amount of \$43,540.00. Mr. Ewing seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Pellet then discussed the renovations for the secure election and commissioner rooms. He said that they had passed their asbestos test and that he had closed the walls. He closed out a change order concerning work done by Plains Heating and AC, changes to electrical work done by Dryland Electrical Services, structural welding to accommodate the glass wall's partition bracketing done by Brent Welding and Machine and drop ceiling removal and repairs done by Pellett Carpentry. The total increase in cost for the change order was \$22,282.50. He said he

would be receiving cabinets and trim shortly and said he planned to install carpet on April 4th after the painter had left. He then said that he was still waiting on glass and thought he would have it installed between the 10th and 15th of May. He said that materials for the drop ceiling would be delivered on April 7th. He said that he would wait to do the drywall and paint for the enclosure doorway until the door arrived. Mr. Pellett left the meeting.

Department of Human Services Director Andrew Lorensen and DHS Finance Director Levi Miller arrived at 9:50 AM. Mr. Lorensen gave the DHS Income Maintenance Report. Mr. Lorensen said that other County DHS offices had been receiving threats because of the Public Health Emergency Medicaid Unwind and the end of Full Allotment SNAP benefits. He said that he was planning to apply for a physical security grant through Health Care Policy and Financing to reinforce his office's windows for increased security. He mentioned applying for another grant that would help his office provide homelessness assistance but said he expected it to be very competitive.

County Attorney Stan Kimble arrived at 10:08 AM. Mr. Lorensen then gave the Child Welfare and Adult Protection report. He said that Caseworker Melissa Gossett had been hard at work preparing for DHS's Elder Fraud and Scam Prevention Conference at the Limon Community building on April 21st. He announced that they would have presenters from the AARP and invited the commissioners to attend the conference to show their support.

Mr. Lorensen then gave the Director's Report. He said that the Colorado General Assembly was discussing House Bill 23-1249: Reduce Justice-involvement For Young Children. The bill would increase the age of children under the Juvenile Court's Jurisdiction to 13 for almost all crimes and require that the county form a Collaborative Management Program to handle situations not handled by the courts. Mr. Lorensen said that if it passed, it would significantly alter the way his agency handled children, and he wanted to make sure the commissioners were aware.

Mr. Miller announced that he intended to move the department's books from their current accounting software to the Tyler accounting system so that they were consistent with the rest of the county. Mr. Lorensen said that they would be taking a trip to another county that currently utilized Tyler to see it in action and ensure the transfer went smoothly.

Office of Emergency Management Director Ken Stroud arrived at 10:14 AM to give his monthly report. He said that the generator for the Genoa radio site was delivered and that he had moved the light plant from the Limon Emergency Operations Center to Wagner Rents for repairs. He said that the service tech thought it was an issue with the fuel sensors.

Mr. Stroud mentioned an email he had sent to the commissioners concerning the Colorado Emergency Preparedness Assessment. He said that all Colorado counties were participating and that he would file a public document with the commissioners when the assessment was complete. He then asked the commissioners to sign a Letter of Acknowledgement stating that they had received an electronic copy of the county's updated Continuity of Operations plan,

Emergency Operations plan, and Recovery plan. Mr. Burgess moved to accept and sign the LOA. Mr. Ewing seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Mr. Stone asked when the Weather Spotters meeting would be, and Mr. Stroud told him it would be at 6:30 PM at the Limon EOC on April 25th.

Mr. Stroud then said he would be giving a CPR class in April for the town of Genoa and their fire department. Mr. Stroud left at 10:46 AM.

Mr. Burgess gave his commissioner report. On March 18th he investigated a property that needed to be cleaned up. On the 20th, he went to Genoa to give retirement papers to Road Foreman Bruce Walters and to let him know that a farmer had called asking that a field approach be made so that he could get feed to his cattle. His crew hauled gravel to the east side of his district, and he had the road graders out working roads. He had a zoom call with Senator Rod Pelton and Representative Ty Winter to discuss legislation targeting rural counties on the issues of gun control, rural hospitals, abortion, and housing. He later received a call from Mr. Piper about the lease agreement for the landfill ground. He spoke to Mr. Safranek and informed him the lease rate would increase to five dollars per acre.

On the 21st he took the county's Chevy truck to Danny Jacques to get the door handle fixed. Road Foreman Chris Monks called about a payment due for crushed asphalt. Mr. Burgess received a \$7,200 bill for repairs on the dozer from Nathan Seymore. On the 22nd he called Mr. Piper to figure out how much the indirect costs would be for the property cleanup on Road 3K. He would supply Mr. Piper with a list of employees involved in the project so that he could figure out a cost per hour. His crew hauled material into the yard and changed oil in their equipment. He later had a Prairie Development Corporation meeting to discuss a loan for a business in Elbert County.

His crew worked on the 3K cleanup project from March 23rd to the 29th. Mr. Burgess received a phone call from a resident north of Genoa asking that highway 109 be plowed and let Mr. Walters know. He reported the crew plowed road 4D west of Highway 109. Landfill manager Allen Chubbuck called and said that a customer was not separating material being dumped in the landfill. Mr. Burgess said that dumping in this manner would be charged at four times the normal rate and that the county would enforce this rule.

Travis Miller from RockSol called Mr. Burgess on the 28th and let him know that he would send an email with the requirements to get the bridge project into a 'shovel ready' state so that it would qualify for grant funding. Mr. Monks called and said that the crushers wanted 25 percent down to start crushing road material. Mr. Burgess said that he would not give him anymore until he began work since they had already been paid \$5,000.00 from District One and another \$9,000.00 from the Town of Limon.

On the 29th, he met with Mr. Walters to get employee hours for the 3K cleanup project to give to Mr. Piper. He then went to the landfill to pick up tickets for the five loads they had dumped at the landfill.

Mr. Ewing gave his commissioner report. On the 20th, he spoke with Mr. Monks about a new Road and Bridge hire. On the 21st, he attended a Resources Unlimited meeting where he heard several reports. Melody Bolton reported on Limon Chamber of Commerce business, Angela Barry reported on Kit Carson County homes, Ashley Clement from NE Health Partners gave a report on Medicaid renewals, and Beth Hubbell gave a report from Lincoln Health. Troy McCue reported he would be going to look at housing in Kit Carson County and in Eads. Courtney Keenan reported on the Independent Disability Center. Julie Witt reported on the Universal Preschool Program and online enrollment. The next meeting will be on April 18th.

Later that day, he attended the Town of Genoa Board meeting where they discussed dog ordinances, unsafe lots, the acquisition of the old filling station, town plumbing issues, zoning regulations, vaccinations, fixing the pump well house, the town's sewer lines, conducting a hydrology study, and how to pay to paint the water tower. They said that the winter had been particularly tough on the town's paved roads and talked about how to fix the potholes. Mr. McCue talked about researching housing in Kit Carson County and Eads and said that the annual Economic Development meeting would be held at the Limon Community Center on April 19th at 6:00 PM.

On the 22nd, Mr. Ewing went to the shop to discuss roads with Mr. Monks. He later paid a visit to the feedlot in Boyero. On the 23rd he attended a NextEra dinner where the company addressed landowner concerns. He thought the company was a little vague as to what would happen with the towers and generators once they had reached their life expectancy.

On the 27th he spoke with Mr. Monks about pursuing new road crew employees and on the 28th, Mr. Monks reported that they would now have a full crew. He said that two new hires would start the 3rd of April and one would start later in the month. Mr. Ewing visited with John Palmer who said that he thought the electricians who installed the new lights at the fairgrounds should be the same ones to take down the old lights so that they know how much cable to leave.

Mr. Ewing later received a text message from a Lincoln Health employee stating that the Lieutenant Governor would be visiting the hospital and inviting the commissioners to attend. He let Mr. Stone know. He later received another text from Mr. Monks letting him know the fuel dispensers at the shop were installed and working.

On the 30th, Mr. Ewing spoke with Mr. Monks about the employee restrooms at the shop.

Mr. Stone gave his commissioner report. On the 19th he checked roads east of Karval. On the 20th, two of his employees went to Pueblo and passed their CDL tests. Mr. Stone visited the shop and checked the roads where they recently put down material. On the 21st he received a call about people dumping trash in the ditches, so he called Road Foreman Judd Kravig to send some guys down to clean it up.

On the 22nd, Mr. Stone called Mr. Kravig to have him call a locksmith to fix the door locks. Casey Weirsman called Mr. Stone with questions about his application for a feedlot permit. Mr. Stone said that his application would need to go before the Land Use Board. He later spoke to Land Use Administrator Ty Stogsdill and Mr. Kravig about the Brewer gravel pit. He said that he thought the new owners would let the county continue to use the pit. Mark Andersen called to thank the commissioners for waiving the permit fees for the Edison Fire District's new firehouse.

On the 23rd, Mr. Stone went to the shop to talk to Mr. Kravig about the new oil change kits offered by CAT. On the 29th, he visited the bridge project site where they were installing tubes. Mr. Kravig called with questions about telephone and fiber optic lines. Mr. Stone spoke to Mr. Monks and Mr. Kravig about oil change kits some more and then checked roads to the east and south of Karval.

Mr. Kimble gave his attorney's report. Mr. Burgess asked Mr. Kimble to review the cost figures he and Mr. Piper came up with for the property cleanup project on Road 3K. Mr. Kimble said that he would work up a Statement of Costs and file it with the courts. Mr. Kimble said that the Union Pacific Railroad and Colorado Department of Transportation were interested in having a meeting with the commissioners concerning Crossing Construction Maintenance Agreements. He said he would contact Union Pacific to ask for more specific information.

Mr. Piper gave the administrator's report. He said he had received a letter from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs concerning Karval Water Users that stated they required a more comprehensive agreement. He said that to receive Department of Water Resources funding through the county, the project needed to be wholly county owned. Mr. Piper commented that he thought they were pushing for the formation of a water district.

Mr. Piper said that he would not be attending his summer conference as many other administrators would not be there either.

Mr. Piper said that he needed the commissioners to go to the bank and sign new signature cards for the pension account. The commissioners decided they would go after the meeting adjourned.

The board moved on to old business. Mr. Burgess said that the county needed to get rid of two vehicles (2000 Ford F250 and old Chevy pickup) and asked what they should do. The commissioners decided to sell them via a sealed bid.

Mr. Kimble said that the county would need to go through a title company to find a record of the easement for the bridge detour since the engineer would require one. Mr. Kimble and Mrs. Zwick left at 11:41 AM.

The commissioners approved the March 2023 payroll, and then, with no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on April 7, 2023.

Ryan Davis, Acting Clerk of the Board

Doug Stone, Chairman