

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for May 16, 2022

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 10:00 Kelly Meier, Public Health Director, to discuss a Public Health internship opportunity
- 11:00 Marilyn Wagner with County Technical Services Inc. to present a five-year loss analysis and Property Pool update
- 11:45 John Mohan, Maintenance Director, to discuss matters regarding the grounds and buildings

-To be completed as time permits-

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1. Approve the minutes from the May 6, 2022, meeting
2. Review the April 2022 reports from the County Assessor, County Clerk & Recorder, County Sheriff, and County Treasurer
3. Review the April 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 April 2022 reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and Workers' Compensation Pool
5. Review and act upon a Lincoln County Landfill Charge Account application for Colorado Trash Pickup, LLC
6. County Commissioner reports
7. County Attorney's report
8. County Administrator's report
9. Old Business
10. New Business

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on May 16, 2022. Chairman Doug Stone, Commissioners Ed E. Schiffers and Steve Burgess, County Administrator Jacob Piper, and Clerk of the Board Corinne M. Lengel attended (until 10:55 a.m.) Acting Clerk of the Board Mindy Dutro took over the minute-taking at 11:00 a.m. and stayed until the meeting ended. Commissioner candidate Wayne Ewing and Limon Leader/ Eastern Colorado Plainsman reporter Stephanie Zwick also attended.

Chairman Stone called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Burgess moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 6, 2022, as submitted. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the April 2022 reports from the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Sheriff, and Treasurer and the Statements of Revenues and Expenditures from the County General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, Human Services, and Road & Bridge funds and individual road districts. The commissioners also reviewed the April 2022 reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property and Workers' Compensation Pools.

Upon deciding they needed more information before approving the application from Colorado Trash Pickup, LLC, to charge at the county landfill, Mr. Burgess called the landfill and spoke with Brenda Howe. The company had replaced the shingles on the roof of one of the outbuildings at the Karval School and planned to begin picking up trash in the area. Ms. Howe didn't know how much business the company would do but said the charge account should be fine if the owners understood the rules, at least on a trial basis. She added that the county wanted their charge accounts to be active and offered to contact the owners and get more information.

Mr. Burgess asked if they had numbers from the free landfill day, but Ms. Howe said she hadn't gotten them together yet. She mentioned that they had around 140 loads, almost double the previous year and that the landfill averages twenty loads on a typical workday.

Mr. Stone called for commissioner reports. Mr. Burgess stated he'd contacted Chris Richardson about Senate Bill 22-230, the collective bargaining bill, and then texted the other elected officials about opposing it. The clerk and coroner were against it, as were all three commissioners. One of the amendments that passed in the final hours of the bill benefitted Lincoln County in that it increased the population requirement from 5,000 to 7,500. Mrs. Lengel commented that she would need to leave the meeting at 11:00 as the Colorado County Clerks' Association planned to vote on whether or not to oppose the bill, even though it had already passed. If the association agreed to oppose, they would ask the governor to veto the bill.

Mr. Burgess reported that Wayne Ewing called him about blowing dirt and asked who to contact. Mr. Burgess directed him to the ASC office first and then the commissioners if he had no luck there. On May 12, Mr. Burgess found out the farmer causing the issue had moved in

equipment to take care of the problem. That morning, Bruce Walters called Mr. Burgess to let him know the Mack truck was out of warranty by two months. It would cost them \$8,700 to repair the transmission, among other issues. Mr. Burgess attended the Centennial Mental Health meeting in Fort Morgan, where they offered the CEO position to someone. Mr. Burgess attended the hospital board meeting in Limon and said they showed a small profit in April. They are still working on opening the Byers office and finding funding for the new hospital. The joint meeting requested by hospital administrator Kevin Stansbury wouldn't work on June 7, so Mr. Burgess said they would have to look at other dates. On May 13, Mr. Burgess met with County Attorney Stan Kimble to discuss the pending court case regarding section lines. Allen Chubbuck called to let him know the heat sensor on the loader might be going out. Mr. Burgess checked roads north of Arriba, including County Road 40. Mr. Burgess went by the landfill on May 14; they'd had 80 customers bring in their trash by 11:00 a.m. While there, he learned the Gator was having electrical problems, so he told Allen Chubbuck to contact Chris Monks about it and the loader.

Mr. Schifferns reported that the road crew hadn't been able to do much with the roads because of the high winds. He was frustrated with losing more employees and said he might have to operate a mower if they couldn't find help. Mr. Schifferns reported that the county had a successful free landfill day.

Mr. Stone reported talking with Mr. Burgess on the phone a couple of times after the meeting on May 6. He stopped at the Karval shop on May 9, and he and Judd Kravig then checked on a cattleguard, mowing operations, and some roads. Mr. Stone went by the shop again on May 10, where he and Mr. Kravig went over the budget and overlay projects. He flagged for the road crew on May 11 and 12.

Mr. Piper reported speaking with Greg Etl, who was setting up a REDI grant meeting for the Genoa Tower. Mr. Piper asked for permission to attend the meeting without the commissioners, which they said was fine. The Friends of the Genoa Tower representatives would answer most of the questions anyway. Mr. Piper said the county was only involved because the commissioners agreed to be the pass-through agent for the funding.

Mr. Piper reported on the new Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act (FAMLI) program passed by voters in 2020. Counties can choose to decline participation provided they follow specific procedures and allow employees to participate individually. The commissioners would have to hold a public hearing and notify all employees beforehand, which Mr. Piper had already done. He set the hearing for 11:00 a.m. on May 27. Because the county would still have to register, even if the commissioners decided to opt out of the program, Mr. Piper thought assisting employees by allowing them to go through payroll would better track the participants. Mrs. Lengel asked if the employees opting in would pay into the program monthly, similar to the current AFLAC benefit, and Mr. Piper said he thought so but needed more information.

The commissioners gave Mr. Piper optional dates for the joint meeting with the hospital board since they could not do it on June 7.

Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting as the Board of County Commissioners at 10:00 a.m. and reconvened as the Board of Public Health to meet with director Kelly Meier. Mrs. Meier asked the Board to approve the annual Immunization CORE contract, and Mr. Burgess moved to approve the contract. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Since the Public Health Improvement Plan and Community Health Assessment is due again in 2022, Mrs. Meier wanted to give a Public Health student, who is completing their master's degree, the opportunity for an internship. The intern would spend three months helping with the assessment, mostly remotely, but Mrs. Meier said the student would come out periodically to meet with her. Although it wasn't necessary to pay the intern, Mrs. Meier commented that she had COVID money to cover the cost if they agreed to pay a stipend.

Lastly, Mrs. Meier expressed frustration with the housekeeping department, stating that they'd given Teena Ludwig a list of jobs six months ago, but she wasn't doing them, and she and the staff had to clean the office themselves. Mr. Burgess assured her they would speak with Ms. Ludwig.

Brenda Howe called back to let the commissioners know she'd spoken with someone from Colorado Trash Pickup, LLC. They were aware of the county's regulations regarding out-of-county trash, understood that they had to sort the loads, and knew about prohibited items. They planned to haul bagged trash and pallets but didn't know how many loads they would have or how often they would need to take them to the landfill. Ms. Howe said the company worked with Castle Rock Construction and hoped to get some business from the wind tower companies. Their plan was also to help clean up motor vehicle accidents with S&M Repair and Towing from Burlington. Ms. Howe noted that the application requested paperless billing, and she wasn't sure how the treasurer's office handled it. The Board thanked Ms. Howe for the information.

Mrs. Meier had nothing further for the commissioners, so she left, and Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting as the Board of Public Health and reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Burgess asked if Mr. Piper had heard anything more about the acceptable uses for the roundhouse, but Mr. Piper hadn't received any updates. Jamie Giellis had looked into another funding source but learned the money was already allocated for other purposes.

Treasurer's office employee Ashley Erwin stopped by at 10:15 a.m. because Brenda Howe had called and asked her to let the commissioners know if the treasurer could provide paperless billing to charge customers. Mrs. Erwin explained that she merely emailed them an invoice if someone requested paperless billing. The Board had no other questions for her, and Mrs. Erwin left.

Mr. Burgess moved to approve the landfill charge account application from Colorado Trash Pickup, LLC. Mr. Schiffers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Schifferns asked Mrs. Lengel if she'd received any bids or updated information on remodeling the alcove for the VSPC relocation. She responded that Tony Wernsman had called on Friday and wanted to take measurements, which he did late in the day. He said he'd get back to her the following week.

The subject of salaries and the fact that no one could find help resurfaced, and Mr. Burgess suggested meeting with the other elected officials to try and formulate a plan for the 2023 budget year.

Mr. Stone informed the group that at the previous week's Karval Fire Protection District board meeting, the current board fired Patrick Leonard as the EMT before swearing in their new board members. Without an EMT, Hugo would have to cover any calls east of State Road 71, and Limon would handle anything west of 71.

Since the commissioners were ahead of schedule, Mr. Piper sent a message to John Mohan to see if he could meet earlier than 11:45 a.m. Mr. Mohan arrived a few minutes later, as did Marilyn Wagner with CTSI. Mr. Mohan brought up housekeeping issues as Kelly Meier had and stated that the commissioners should consider making him the department head and allowing him to supervise the housekeeper. He said Ms. Ludwig should be more accountable and let someone know when she wasn't going to be at work, and he also mentioned several areas that he felt weren't getting cleaned.

Mr. Mohan then asked to hire another person for the maintenance department, stating that he could use help with several projects. Although they'd discussed hiring summer help, Mr. Mohan said he'd prefer a 35-hour per week person who would receive benefits. Mr. Burgess said they could discuss it during the budget sessions but asked if he knew of anyone to help him out in the meantime during the summer months. Mr. Mohan did not and suggested placing an ad in the paper.

Lastly, Mr. Mohan asked the Board to consider building him a shop with an office. There are several different places where he stores maintenance items and equipment, and he would like to have it all organized in the same place. He looked at a 20' x 20' Tuff Shed with a walk-in door and a garage door for \$17,000. The county would have to pour the cement pad. The commissioners asked where he planned to put it, and Mr. Mohan suggested tearing down the building on the west edge of the parking lot since the floor was rotting away. He could then move the dumpster and put the building in the open space. Mr. Burgess said he should plan on \$20,000 to \$25,000 with the cost of the cement, electricity, and heat, and Mr. Mohan said he had an A/C and heating unit that he could use. The Board asked him to get an updated quote for the shed and cement and let them know what it would be.

Mr. Mohan left, and Marilyn Wagner with County Technical Services, Inc. met with the Board at 11:00 a.m. to provide a five-year loss analysis and Property Pool update. She explained they were back to in-person meetings and courses after the COVID-19 shutdowns. Even though they added several online classes, there were still in-person options available to counties.

Ms. Wagner explained that the county's loss factor was only .77, which was good when realizing that 1.00 was the "break-even" point. She added that Lincoln County pays \$266,000 annually for liability insurance.

Most claims were weather-related, including hail and wind damage, and the entire pool saw an increase of \$18 million more in claims than the previous year. If the county could train their drivers and hire good drivers, it would help decrease the number of claims regarding motor vehicle accidents and damage, about 20% of the claims submitted. Ms. Wagner noted that it benefits all pool members when counties do everything possible to prevent claims in the first place, including providing training and classes to their employees. Before leaving, Ms. Wagner said the commissioners should look into the "youth law" before hiring anyone under eighteen for summer help because there were limitations on what equipment underage workers could operate.

The commissioners discussed the housekeeping issues and agreed to have Ms. Ludwig come and talk about it at the next meeting. The Board also considered placing an ad for part-time maintenance help in the paper.

The Board called County Attorney Stan Kimble at 11:45 a.m. to see if he had any trial updates. He did not but said it was supposed to start at 1:00 p.m. on May 17. He agreed to call Mr. Stone and Mr. Burgess if he heard anything, and the call ended at 11:55 a.m.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting at noon. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on May 27, 2022.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk of the Board

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Doug Stone, Chairman