

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

8:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance

-To be completed as time permits-

1. Approve the minutes from the May 18, 2023 meeting
2. Old Business
3. New Business
4. Approve Payroll

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 8:00 a.m. on May 30, 2023. Chairman Doug Stone, Commissioners Steve Burgess and Wayne Ewing, County Administrator Jacob Piper, Acting Clerk of the Board Ryan Davis, and Limon Leader reporter Stephanie Zwick attended. County Attorney Stan Kimble and Clerk of the Board Corinne M. Lengel were absent and excused.

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

Mr. Burgess reported that Andrew Pellett from Pellett Carpentry said that the renovations to the commissioner room were nearly complete and that they would be working on the door between the commissioner room and the secure election room next week.

The board reviewed the minutes from the meeting held on May 18, 2023. Mr. Ewing pointed out an error on page 11 where the minutes referred to a meeting on May 8th instead of May 30th. Mr. Stone also asked to change the wording in the section of his commissioner report concerning a complaint he received from a resident about Viaero activity. Mr. Ewing moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 18th, 2023, with corrections. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Burgess gave his commissioner report. On May 18th, he spoke with Travis Miller from Rocksol Consulting Group and told him to proceed with the design for the bridge repair project on Highway 109 South (County Road 32). He then spoke with Duffy Hinkle with the Ports to Plains Alliance and told him that the county and the Town of Limon would be contributing \$250.00 each for the annual meeting. He reported significant rainfall in his district.

On May 19th, he spoke with Land Use Administrator Ty Stogsdill concerning his building code test. Mr. Stogsdill said that he would be taking the test again on Monday, May 22. Mr. Burgess told him that the commissioners would call if he needed help getting the test completed. He later spoke to Mrs. Lengel about the county van, asking how frequently it was used. She said that they only used the van to pick up mail. He was later informed that Veteran's Service Officer Joy Johnson had resigned.

On May 22nd, Mr. Burgess spoke with Road Foreman Bruce Walters who reported going to Denver to get more bars for the grizzly that would support two-to-three-inch spaces for the removal of rocks from the gravel. He toured roads north of Arriba and reported his crew was fixing bad road spots following the heavy rains. He spoke with Mr. Ewing and Mr. Stone about the basket for their summer conference.

Mr. Burgess attended the Colorado Emergency Preparedness Assessment meeting with Office of Emergency Management Director Ken Stroud on the 23rd and said that he would have a report of what was discussed at a later meeting. He reported that his crew was helping District One with a chip sealing project. Mr. Burgess then spoke with Sheriff Tom Nestor about the emergency vehicles at the Limon EOC. He had Mr. Nestor purchase a new set of tires for

\$2,000.00 since the tires that they had were showing wear and they did not have any spares. Later he went to a CDOT 4P meeting where they discussed future county road and bridge needs.

Later that day, Mr. Burgess made a phone call to Mr. Stogsdill while he was taking his building code test. He said that the test proctor stopped the test and made Mr. Stogsdill show him his phone and explain what the phone call was about, which took away from the amount of time Mr. Stogsdill was able to work on the test. Mr. Burgess said that Mr. Stogsdill would retake the test in three days. Mr. Burgess then got a phone call from Landfill Manager Allen Chubbuck who said that they had lost the key to the landfill's Dodge Charger.

On the 24th, Mr. Burgess reported his crew was repairing rain damaged culverts while road crew employee Ord Miller was helping at the landfill. Mr. Burgess said that they had found a spare key for the landfill's car. He reported more heavy rain in his district.

On the 25th, he went with Mr. Stone and Road Foreman Chris Monks to Denver to pick up the new county pickup trucks while his crew worked on roads. He had the commissioners' pickup serviced while they were in town.

Mr. Ewing gave his commissioner report. On the 19th he spoke to Mr. Monks about a Road and Bridge employee and the current road conditions. The next day, he spoke with Mr. Monks again about chipping and paving projects. He checked out State Highways 71 and 94 before he went to get his DOT physical. On the 23rd, Mr. Ewing and Mr. Monks discussed a Road and Bridge employee who was retiring after 18 years of service and what they were going to do for him. Mr. Ewing later went to the CDOT 4P meeting with Mr. Burgess and Mr. Stone.

On the 24th he talked with Mr. Monks about advertising for a new Road & Bridge position and discussed issues they were having with a current employee. He then went to the hospital board meeting where they discussed property taxes. On the 25th, he talked with Mr. Monks about current road projects.

Mr. Stone gave his commissioner's report. On the 23rd, he went to the CDOT 4P meeting with Mr. Burgess and Mr. Ewing. He said he was happy with the amount of attention Lincoln County got as CDOT normally placed more emphasis on bigger counties. On the 25th, he went with Mr. Burgess and Mr. Monks to Denver to help bring back the new county pickup trucks.

The board then moved on to new business. Mr. Burgess said that Chief Deputy Renita Thelen would attend the meeting on June 16th to provide the commissioners with an update on the statewide changes made to real property valuations following new legislation under SB 23-303. He mentioned that its effect on valuation could significantly impact property tax. Mr. Ewing mentioned that he thought the change in real property taxes was limited to five percent per year. Mr. Piper said that it was, and that he received a letter each year explaining the county's position relative to that rule.

Mr. Burgess said Sheriff Nestor had informed him that the sheriff's office would be losing two employees. Mr. Piper said that he thought the office's high turnover could be due to the low competitiveness of their retirement plan, especially when compared to plans at other counties' law enforcement agencies. He mentioned having previously spoken with Sheriff Nestor about adopting a retirement plan specifically built for law enforcement to attract better staff. Mr. Burgess voiced his concern about the added complexity of having two separate retirement plans.

Mr. Burgess said he anticipated the topic of four-day workweeks to be brought up during the upcoming Eastern Region meeting. He said that if the county were to adopt them, that it would apply to the whole county, not just Road and Bridge employees. He said that he spoke with the department heads, including Mrs. Lengel, who opposed changing the workweek. Mr. Burgess said that he thought that it could work but that departments would need to stagger shifts to keep their doors open to the public.

Mr. Burgess proposed contacting a dealership like Limon Auto Solutions to get a lump sum offer for the county's van and the two old pickups they had previously considered selling by sealed bid. He also said that they had started buying DEF from NAPA because it was much cheaper than buying it from MHC Kenworth.

Mr. Stone said that he had received a \$5,415.25 quote for carpet cleaning from Kevin Harris. He said it would take him a day to clean the tile and two days to clean the carpet. Stanley Steamer's bid for the same work was \$1,427.75 more at \$6,844.00. Mr. Ewing said he liked the idea of hiring a local company and moved to accept the contract with Kevin Harris. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Ewing asked Mr. Piper if there had been any applicants for the Seasonal Grounds and Buildings Maintenance position. Mr. Piper said that they had one applicant, but that he had applied for both that position and for the Part Time Clerk position at the treasurer's office. He added that the treasurer's office had received several other applicants and if they went with someone else, he would be available for the Grounds and Buildings job.

Mr. Burgess said he could not find his copy of the plans for renovations on the courthouse parking lot and asked if anyone had theirs. Mr. Stone said that he thought he would be able to find his plans and could get him copies of the pages he needed. Mr. Burgess added that he thought it was time to do something about the parking lot since they kept putting it off.

The commissioners approved the May 2023 payroll, and then, with no further business to come before the board, Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on June 8th, 2023.

Ryan Davis, Acting Clerk of the Board

Doug Stone, Chairman