

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County  
Agenda for November 17, 2021

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:30 Jamie Giellis to request American Rescue Plan funding for the World's Wonder View Tower in Genoa
- 10:00 Kari Linker with Senator Hickenlooper's Office to provide a legislative update
- 10:30 Troy McCue, Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director, to present the LCEDC monthly report
1. Approve the minutes from the November 8, 2021, meeting
  2. Review the October 2021 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
  3. Review the October 2021 reports from the County Assessor, County Clerk & Recorder, County Sheriff, and County Treasurer
  4. Review and act upon an employee credit card request for JaLisa Newcomb
  5. Review and act upon a lease agreement from the Limon Fire Protection District regarding the Limon Fire House
  6. Review a letter regarding the American Rescue Plan Act funding for the Republican River Water Conservation District
  7. Review board appointments for 2022
  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 November 17, 2021. Chairman Steve Burgess, Commissioners Doug Stone and Ed E. Schifferns, County Administrator Jacob Piper, County Attorney Stan Kimble, and Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel attended in person. Limon Leader/Eastern Colorado Plainsman editor Will Bublitz attended until 12:15 p.m.

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

Mr. Stone moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on November 8, 2021, as submitted. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the October 2021 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.

The commissioners also reviewed the October 2021 reports from the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Sheriff, and Treasurer.

At 9:30 a.m., Paul Tamburello, Patti Calhoon, and Kevin Kearney met with the Board to request American Rescue Plan funding for the Wonder View Tower in Genoa. Jamie Giellis joined the discussion via Zoom. The group provided a handout outlining their funding requests and grant application submissions, and project goals and components. They asked for \$350,000 from the county's ARPA allocation to expand water, sewer, broadband, and electricity to the Tower property. Mr. Burgess said it was a substantial request and suggested they contact Candace Payne with the Council of Governments to set up an Enterprise Zone. Mr. Piper asked when the group would need an answer, and Ms. Giellis said they'd like to know by December 1 and, at the latest, December 31. Mr. Burgess said the Board would discuss it and let them know.

As the group was leaving, Kari Linker with Senator John Hickenlooper's office arrived to give a legislative update. Lincoln County Economic Development Executive Director Troy McCue arrived at the same time.

Senator Hickenlooper helped negotiate and pass the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which should give Colorado funds for roads, bridge replacement and repairs, public transit, and the expansion of internet access and electric vehicle charging. Ms. Linker wasn't sure how the money would be distributed but said the agencies would send out notices. Mr. Schifferns asked how they decided each state's allocation, and Ms. Linker said each state has a formula process for receiving funding. The White House estimates were summaries based on the allocation of funds in prior legislation, so the current piece of legislation could change the formulas determining how much a state or city receives. Current White House estimates also leave out competitive grant programs for specific, one-time projects. Local entities often use those grants to help finance isolated projects if the federal government determines that a particular bridge or tunnel has outsized economic impact on a region. The best part of the bipartisan bill meant no one making less than \$400,000 per year would see a tax increase.

Ms. Linker asked if the commissioners had any issues or questions she could take back with her, and Mr. Burgess said something had to be done about the high fuel prices.

Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Troy McCue gave his monthly report at 10:45 a.m. There is possible interest in the Veris Environmental site, the Denver Cutlery housing project is progressing nicely, and they are still working to reach the December 11 deadline for reinstatement/activation in the Foreign Trade Zone. The Arriba Wind Farm project might get underway late in the first quarter of 2022, and the town of Hugo asked him to work up an AmeriCorps VISTA proposal to share a VISTA volunteer's grant-writing services across several county entities.

After Mr. McCue left, Mr. Schifferns moved to approve the request to issue JaLisa Newcomb a county credit card with a \$500 limit. Mr. Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Kimble informed the Board they would have to look at the lease for the Limon firehouse as a ten-year lease rather than one for ninety-nine years. The fire district board members didn't want a mutual termination agreement but agreed to prorate a portion of the county's \$30,000 contribution if they ended the lease early. He added that the town deeded the property to the fire district, but the land goes back to the town if the district dissolves. When Mr. Burgess and Mr. Schifferns said they wanted the lease longer than ten years, Mr. Kimble told them they would have to justify paying \$250 a month for the facility. Mr. Stone felt it was worth it and moved to approve the lease agreement for the Limon firehouse between the Limon Fire Protection District and Lincoln County. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stone moved to sign a letter of support to Governor Jared Polis regarding the American Rescue Plan Act funding for the Republican River Water Conservation District. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed board appointments for 2022, and then Mr. Burgess reported that on November 9, he signed the contract with Structures Unlimited for water and sewer at the roundhouse. He also spoke with Mrs. Lengel about installing accessibility door openers on several other offices and restrooms in the courthouse. He then called Mr. Stone to see if he'd check the accessibility on the fairgrounds' restrooms. Mr. Burgess attended the Public Health Zoom meeting and talked to Bruce Walters about road crew activities. On November 10, Mr. Burgess went to Genoa and spoke with Mr. Walters about year-end expenses. He stopped at the landfill, where they were working on an alarm system, and talked about Power Equipment bringing the compactor out for a demo. Mr. Burgess received phone calls from Troy McCue and Taylor Henderson and went to Stratton for the COG meeting. On November 15, Mr. Burgess stopped by the Gaede gravel pit where the road crew was putting in a cattleguard. He let Mr. Walters know about the hazard pay and that employees could pick up their Christmas hams at the sheriff's office. After taking the John Deere tractor to Flagler for repairs, he spoke with the representative from Power Equipment about the landfill compactor demo. They had the unit in

their shop, checking it over before they brought it out. Mr. Burgess attended the Resources Unlimited and Public Health Zoom meetings on November 16 and an Economic Development meeting at Mountain View Electric on November 17.

Mr. Stone reported attending the fair board meeting on November 9, stopping by the Karval shop and checking roads on the Tenth and, on the Fifteenth, talking to Rick Ashcraft about prepaying on their blade and mower. On November 16, Mr. Stone attended the Public Health Zoom meeting. Chris Monks asked him if there was money in the budget to pave the last town street that goes out to the fairgrounds. The county already put six-to-eight inches of rotomillings on it, and they'd like to pave it before the next fair. It would cost around \$20,000. Mr. Piper said he could add that much to the Road Oil line item. Mr. Monks also told Mr. Stone they'd need to fix the driveway into the front entrance of the courthouse, and Mr. Burgess said they could incorporate it into the courthouse parking lot/drainage project. Earlier this morning, Mr. Stone spoke with Rick Ashcraft about a bridge in District 3. Mr. Piper said the state planned to come out but then decided to send the report instead.

Mr. Schifferns reported that the District 1 road crew finished mowing and started some of their winter projects. He called Mr. Stone on November 10 to ask about the fair board meeting and checked roads on November 11. Mr. Schifferns talked to a person about a job on November 12 and said it was hard to find people who wanted to work.

Mr. Piper reported that the department heads chose December 15 for the employee appreciation/Christmas party, beginning at 12:30 in the jury assembly room. Offices will close for the day at that time. He asked if the commissioners wanted to continue giving employees their longevity pins, which they did. The hams Mr. Piper had ordered for the employees had already come in, and staff members could pick them up at the sheriff's office.

Mr. Piper said the assessed valuation came in about \$20,000 lower than the preliminary numbers showed, but he'd finished the 2022 budget and would advertise it the week after Thanksgiving. The county would have approximately \$90,000 in ARPA funds that the commissioners had not designated to use if they wanted to contribute to the Genoa Wonder View Tower. The commissioners agreed it would set a precedent if they contributed to one project but had no funding left for others. They decided not to donate any ARPA funds to the Genoa Tower but to keep the money for county projects instead.

Mr. Burgess called for old or new business, and Mrs. Lengel asked what they wanted to do about the accessibility buttons and adding parking spaces to the front parking lot since there were only two. Mr. Burgess said he would talk to John Mohan about it.

Mr. Kimble said his report would require an executive session, so Will Bublitz left, and Mr. Stone moved to go into executive session, per 24-6-402 (4) (b) C.R.S., to discuss and receive legal advice and instructions from the county attorney. Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. In addition to the three commissioners, those attending the

session were Mr. Piper, Mr. Kimble, and Mrs. Lengel. Mrs. Lengel recorded the meeting, and the recording will be kept on file in the county clerk's vault for the statutory ninety days.

When the Board came out of executive session at 12:44 p.m., Mr. Burgess called for a motion regarding the Bode/Brent land dispute. Mr. Stone moved to offer a set sum of funds to help settle the case, and Mr. Schifferns seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Stone and Mr. Burgess voting yes and Mr. Schifferns voting no.

At 12:50 p.m., John Mohan came in to discuss disabled accessibility buttons and parking spaces. He said he could order more signs and would contact Kenny Mills about the door buttons.

Mr. Mohan also informed the Board that Structures Unlimited finished the roof above the alcove. Mr. Piper said he'd gotten bills from the electrician and Plains Heating but not from the contractor.

Mr. Schifferns asked about the touchless water fountains, and Mr. Mohan said he can't get a plumber to call him back, so he's planning to start working on them himself.

With no other business to come before the Board, Mr. Burgess adjourned the meeting at 1:07 p.m. The next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on November 29 to approve the November payroll.

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Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

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Steve Burgess, Chairman