

Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County
Agenda for September 18, 2023

- 9:00 Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
- 9:30 Andrew Pellet to discuss a potential flooring project
- 10:00 Andrew Lorensen, Human Services Director, and Levi Miller, Human Services Financial Administrator, to present the 2024 Human Services preliminary budget
- 10:30 Ty Stogsdill, Land Use Administrator, to discuss land use matters
- 11:00 Kevin Stansbury, Lincoln Community Hospital CEO, to provide an LCH report

-To be completed as time permits-

1. Approve the minutes from the September 8, 2023, meeting
2. Review August 2023 reports from the County Assessor, County Clerk & Recorder, County Sheriff, and County Treasurer
3. Review August 2023 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 August 2023 reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property Pool and Workers' Compensation Pool
5. Review and act upon an electrical pole release form for Mountain View Electric Association, INC.
6. Review and act upon Resolution #1104; a resolution certifying costs of prosecuting crimes alleged to have been committed by persons in the custody of the Department of Corrections
7. Discuss the renewal of the Lincoln County employee health insurance plan
8. County Commissioner reports
9. County Administrator's report
10. Old Business
11. New Business

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on September 18, 2023. Chairman Doug Stone, Commissioners Steve Burgess and Wayne Ewing, County Administrator Jacob Piper, Clerk to the Board Corinne M. Lengel, and Limon Leader reporter Stephanie Zwick 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 September 8, 2023, as submitted. Mr. Ewing seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed the August 2023 reports from the Assessor, Clerk & Recorder, Sheriff, and Treasurer, and the August 2023 statements of revenues and expenditures for the General, Public Health, Capital Projects, Conservation Trust, E911, Landfill, Library, Lodging/Tourism, Human Services, Road & Bridge funds, and individual road districts.

While the commissioners reviewed the August 2023 reports from the Colorado Counties Casualty and Property and Workers' Compensation Pools, Mr. Piper said there were several claims, including one reopened, on the Workers' Comp report. The sheriff's department motor vehicle accident and the District 2 hail claim were on the CAPP report, but Mr. Piper said the District 3 claim wasn't yet. He noted that several counties were leaving the pool and switching to Pinnacle, which was something the Board might want to consider or discuss with their peers at the winter conference.

The Board reviewed an electrical pole release form for Mountain View Electric Association. Andrew Pellett arrived for his appointment as Mr. Stone noted they would go from overhead poles to underground lines.

Mr. Burgess moved to sign the Mountain View Electric Association electrical pole release form, and Mr. Ewing seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Pellett said the company he spoke with about fixing the courthouse lobby floor suggested stripping the old tile, polishing the concrete, and putting down epoxy. He asked if anyone had talked to a floor cleaner to see if they could remove and replace the old grout, but Mr. Stone said the commissioners discussed removing the tile and replacing it with large tiles. Mr. Burgess commented that he'd seen polished concrete floors that were very nice but worried about numerous cracks in the concrete.

Mr. Pellett said epoxy flooring would fill most cracks and advised against larger tile that wouldn't hold up over time. The company suggested waiting to decide on a replacement until they got the old tile off and saw the concrete underneath. It would take ten to fifteen laborers to demolish and replace it with minimal disruption.

Mr. Burgess asked if regular household tile was an option, and Mr. Pellett said it was if they found something that handled high traffic, such as industrial-style vinyl. It would be much

cheaper since the labor to replace ceramic tile would cost \$10 to \$18 per square foot, whereas vinyl would be \$3 to \$6. He added it would cost roughly \$5-\$7 a square foot for demolition and \$3-\$5 a square foot for the tile. Mr. Pellett estimated 1,500 to 1,800 square feet in the lobby.

Mr. Ewing asked what would be better for cracks, and Mr. Pellett recommended vinyl. He again cautioned against larger tiles since they didn't hold up as well as smaller ones. Repairing vinyl would also be much easier for the maintenance person.

The Board thanked Mr. Pellett for the information, and he left.

Mr. Ewing moved to adopt a resolution certifying the costs of prosecuting crimes alleged to have been committed by persons in the custody of the Department of Corrections. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County, Colorado, held in Hugo, Colorado, on September 18, 2023, there were present:

Douglas D. Stone, Chairman	Present
Steve Burgess, Vice Chairman	Present
Wayne Ewing, Commissioner	Present
Stan Kimble, County Attorney	Absent & Excused
Corinne Lengel, Clerk of the Board	Present
Jacob Piper, County Administrator	Present

when the following proceedings, among others, were had and done, to-wit:

**A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING COSTS OF PROSECUTING CRIMES
ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN COMMITTED BY PERSONS IN THE CUSTODY
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

RESOLUTION #1104 It was moved by Commissioner Ewing and seconded by Commissioner Burgess to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, C.R.S. § 16-18-101(3) provides that the Colorado Department of Corrections (CDOC), from annual appropriations made by the general assembly, shall reimburse the county or counties in a judicial district for the costs of prosecuting any crime alleged to have been committed by a person in the CDOC; and

WHEREAS, C.R.S. § 16-18-101(3) provides that the county or counties shall certify these costs to the CDOC; and

WHEREAS, C.R.S. § 16-18-101(3) provides that the provisions of C.R.S. § 16-18-101(3) shall apply to costs that are not otherwise paid by the State; and

WHEREAS, Exhibit A to this resolution summarizes the costs of prosecuting crimes alleged to have been committed by persons in the custody of the CDOC, in matters prosecuted by the Office of the District Attorney for the Eighteenth Judicial District, which serves Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the District Attorney for the Eighteenth Judicial District has confirmed the accuracy of these costs to Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln Counties, and the Counties are now forwarding and certifying such costs to the CDOC relying on such District Attorney confirmation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Lincoln, State of Colorado, as follows:

1. The costs in Exhibit "A" are certified to the CDOC.
2. The costs in Exhibit "A" have not otherwise been paid by the state.

Upon roll call the vote was:

Commissioner Stone, Yes; Commissioner Burgess, Yes; Commissioner Ewing, Yes.

The Chairman declared the motion carried and so ordered.

Board of County Commissioners
of Lincoln County

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

The Board discussed renewing the employee health insurance plan, and Mr. Piper said the Benefit Health Advisor group expressed interest in bidding again. However, CHP's deadline for online enrollment was September 29, the day after the next commissioner meeting. Mr. Piper said CHP might extend it to October 30 if the Board wanted to explore other options, but Mr. Burgess said he wanted to stick with the County Health Pool.

Human Services Director Andrew Lorensen and DHS Financial Administrator Levi Miller arrived as Mr. Ewing commented that it wouldn't hurt to hear the other group's presentation if they had time.

Mr. Piper said he wasn't advocating either way but wanted the Board to know that Montezuma County changed to the Benefit Health Advisor group but requested a bid from the health pool this year. However, CHP wouldn't let them bid because their claims increased drastically. Mr. Stone said they could allow the group to give the presentation again but felt it might be a waste of time; he preferred to continue enrollment with CHP. He noted it was the commissioners' responsibility to watch spending and manage taxpayer dollars, but it was also their responsibility to take care of county employees. Mr. Piper commented that one hundred percent of the ninety percent of employees who responded to the health insurance survey gave positive feedback for CHP.

The commissioners asked for Mr. Lorensen's opinion, and he said the county's insurance had done well for him and his family. He didn't recommend changing it and said that although the county might save money in the first year, it might pay for it later on by not being able to return to the health pool. Mrs. Lengel voiced the same opinion, adding that she had listened to previous boards over the years, hoping each time it wouldn't change health insurance providers; CHP was that good.

Mr. Piper said if the Board wanted to consider it, they should take enough time to learn all they could before making the decision.

Mr. Ewing said the county should stay in the health pool based on all he'd heard in the past few minutes. He moved to continue using the County Health Pool for employee health insurance benefits through 2024. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Before presenting the 2024 budget request, Mr. Lorensen wanted the commissioners to know that their timekeeping system hadn't tracked an employee's admin leave since 2021. Mr. Miller found and corrected the error, but it left 86.75 hours that the employee couldn't take off. Mr. Lorensen asked if he could pay her for the time, and the Board said it was fine. Mr. Ewing asked what caused the problem, and Mr. Miller said their three newest employee profiles weren't set up correctly in the system.

Mr. Miller then presented the 2024 Human Services budget requests, which resulted in two mills, or \$258,917.55. Mr. Piper noted that assessed values would change if Proposition HH passed in November, but the commissioners had until January 15, 2024, to adopt the budget if it did.

Mr. Burgess asked if the state fiscal year affected the DHS budget, and Mr. Lorensen told him they have to guess what they'll spend between January and June next year. Mr. Miller added that they'd already spent some of their FY allocations. They use the amounts the state appropriated this year and plan on them being the same next year.

Land Use Administrator Ty Stogsdill arrived at 10:20 a.m., and Economic Development Executive Director Troy McCue arrived shortly after.

Mr. Lorensen asked to promote Child Welfare Supervisor Melissa Gosset to Protective Services Administrator, a level promotion to Level 10, Step 3. He also planned to move Levi Miller from an Account Clerk II to an Account Clerk III, a promotion to Level 2. Mr. Piper told him to make sure he submitted the justification sheets.

The department also requested a Capital Outlay expense they would split between county funds and state programs. Mr. Miller said the programs would depend on who drove the car and how much time they spent driving it. They budgeted \$30,000 but should get back around \$24,000 in state settlement revenue. Mr. Lorensen had priced a 2024 Hyundai Elantra between \$26,000 and \$27,000. He said they could use the 2014 Dodge Avenger as a trade-in, or they have a family they could give the car to if the Board thought it a better option. Mr. Burgess said they had discussed trading in the van the clerk's office occasionally uses and keeping the Avenger instead. Mrs. Lengel said two of her employees recently took the van to Yuma for training and had no issues, so she would prefer to keep it over the car.

Mr. Burgess thanked Mr. Miller and said he'd done an excellent job; his presentation was straightforward and made a complicated budget much easier to understand. Mr. Lorensen said he'd planned to present his coroner budget, but since the commissioners were running behind schedule, they could call him when they were ready. Mr. Piper told him to return at 11:30.

The Board attended a Zoom meeting with James Copeland and Todd Meyers with Maverick, Inc. and Jenny Cooper. Mr. Meyers said the Maverick C-stores wanted to buy approximately eight acres of state property at the intersection of Hwy 40/287 and I-70 to build a 6,000-square-foot gas station/convenience store. Since they were in the preliminary stages, Mr. Meyers said they needed information regarding the county's zoning regulations and approval process.

Mr. Stogsdill explained they needed to file a development permit that the Land Use Board would review and discuss in a public meeting. They would then have another public meeting with the commissioners, after which they would have to apply for a building permit if the Board approved the project. He said it was roughly a two-month process.

Lincoln Health CEO Kevin Stansbury arrived at 10:45 a.m.

Mr. Copeland asked if they had to survey the property to obtain new legal descriptions. Mr. Stogsdill told him all the information would be on the development permit application, which they could find on the county's website. He also told him in-person meetings were best if they could make it work. The project would proceed to building plans and a building permit if approved. Mr. Stogsdill said they would have to obtain electrical, septic, and plumbing permits through the state and should discuss fire mitigation with the town of Limon since the property was in the Limon fire district. The state would issue the well permit and handle environmental health and commercial traffic studies.

Mr. Copeland asked for local contacts regarding power, gas, fiber, and phone installation and admitted he had concerns with single-phase power. He wondered if the county required other

permits, and Mr. Stogsdill told him it would be designated as a special use, although the permit applications remained the same. He informed Mr. Copeland that Lincoln County is zoned agricultural, which wouldn't change, but the assessor's tax assessment rate would be commercial.

Mr. McCue noted the county allowed specific business incentives, but it was too early for those discussions.

The group had no further questions, and Mr. Piper disconnected the call. Mr. Stogsdill left at 11:30 a.m. as Mr. Lorensen returned to present the 2024 coroner budget.

Mr. Stansbury gave the hospital report. They updated their insurance policy amount from \$18 million to \$31 million, costing an additional \$50,000, but Mr. Stansbury felt it was worth it. He also discussed the Congressionally Directed Spending funds, the Affordable Housing Technical Assistance grant award, and state legislative priorities. That evening, Mr. Stansbury planned to travel to Washington, D.C., for a week of legislative discussions on the Hospital Revitalization Act, Farm Bill, and Medicare Advantage reimbursement. Lastly, Mr. Stansbury said he'd talked to Mr. Piper and Stan Kimble and that allowing a county hospital to hold the property title was permissible. He asked if the commissioners cared if they started the transfer process or preferred to discuss it further. He said it wouldn't mean that the county gave up the title to the property; it would just be easier for Lincoln Health to borrow money. The commissioners agreed he could start the transfer process, but Mr. Burgess said to ensure county residents understood what they were doing.

Mr. Stansbury and Mr. McCue left, and Mr. Lorensen presented the 2024 coroner's budget request. He had increased his Operating Supplies line item to replace his portable and vehicle radios, his Travel line item due to rising fuel costs, and his Support Staff line item to reflect pay raises. Mr. Lorensen also slightly increased the Education and Training line item. He had checked the Kelly Blue Book value on the 2014 Dodge Avenger and said it listed \$2,300 to \$3,200. Mr. Burgess told him to check with Sheriff Nestor regarding the radio replacement so everyone was on the same page.

Mr. Lorensen left, and Mr. Stone called for commissioner reports.

Mr. Burgess reported that from September 8 through September 16, the District 2 road crew mowed and worked on wash-outs north of Limon in the Breaks. They had problems getting the John Deere mechanic to do warranty work on their road grader and dozer. Allen Chubbuck called about allowing possibly five hundred tons of salt-contaminated soil in the landfill, but Mark McMullen told him they could use it for daily cover. They agreed to charge the customary rate of \$21/ton. Mr. Burgess attended the Ports-to-Plains annual meeting in Texas, which had an exceptional turnout. There were numerous presenters discussing work on I-27 through Texas and New Mexico. Texas, New Mexico, Nebraska, and North and South Dakota congress members also gave presentations. Oklahoma had improved its section of highway, while Colorado repaired sections of Highway 287 and worked through Lamar. Mr. Burgess expressed

his disappointment that Colorado would not get involved with the project by studying freight traffic at the very least.

Mr. Ewing reported discussing an employee with Chris Monks on September 11. He attended an ETPR meeting in Akron and noted they discussed not having bylaws and Gary Beedy's replacement on the commission. The new commissioner didn't attend the meeting. They talked about Mainstreet projects (a 10% match with a maximum of \$250,000) and 2024 asphalt projects: eastbound I-70 from the state line to Burlington and westbound from Bethune to Burlington. They asked counties to email Scott Weaver and Chris Richardson any potential projects. Mr. Ewing attended the fair board meeting on September 12 and said he would let Mr. Stone give the details. He went to the Eastern District meeting at the Logan County courthouse on September 15. There was a report from the 13th Judicial District that Mr. Ewing found interesting; they have the same problems and costs as Lincoln County. They discussed 2024 CCI proposals and affordable housing because of Proposition 123. Mr. Ewing wasn't sure how it could help rural counties but said they could potentially commit to the funding process in the future. He listened to reports from CSU, who sponsored the event, Eastern Colorado Services, and Baby Bear Hugs. Mr. Ewing mentioned Lincoln County's concerns regarding the Farm Bill, Proposition HH, affordable housing, and high costs for employees, equipment, bridges, and the hospital. Lastly, Mr. Ewing said he'd reported at the last meeting that he signed up for the National Resources Energy Lab tour in October but had to cancel due to scheduling conflicts.

Mr. Stone reported that District 2 had rain on September 11. The PTO went out on the tractor they got from District 2 with only 260 hours on it. He attended the Colorado East Community Action Agency meeting on September 12 while the road crew members worked on equipment, mowed, and graded roads. Mr. Stone had a call on September 13 that A & S Construction wanted to sell asphalt, and since it was so close, they agreed to get some. They took a truck to Denver for transmission work on the Thirteenth, and Mr. Stone checked roads on September 14.

Mr. Stone didn't bring his notes from the fair board meeting, so Mr. Ewing reported what he remembered. No one expressed interest in running for queen, so the current queen planned to serve again next year. They want an additional horse judge, and there were too many wood shavings in the show ring, so they need to clean them out. The fair board also discussed extra trash pickup at the events building and releasing open class projects earlier on Saturday, maybe around 1:00 p.m.

Fair board members felt that horseback riders should carry the flags at the front of the parade, but the commissioners would have to make that decision since there might be some liability. Mr. Burgess commented that if they didn't present the flags on horseback, it should be a prominent vehicle or someone on foot displaying them. Mr. Stone asked Mr. Piper to contact CTSI and ask if the county's insurance covered the parade. Mr. Piper said it would be good to know since it wasn't on county property or done by county employees.

Mr. Ewing said the fair board also discussed the restrooms on the south side, and John Palmer told them it would cost \$45,000 for cement and a shell. He said he had booked the arena for 160 days in one year.

The fair board thought a fifty-foot addition to the west side of the show barn would pay for itself over time if they didn't have to rent the tent each year. Mr. Burgess said it would take a long time, estimating the addition would be at least \$200,000, while they only paid \$10,000 to \$12,000 per year for the tent.

Mr. Ewing noted they also brought up the Parent Code of Conduct and bringing back the demolition derby. They would not, however, hold the derby in the arena but east of the parking lot. Mr. Piper said John Palmer told him the derby would be the county's responsibility, not the promoter's, and Mr. Piper wasn't sure the insurance company would approve.

Mr. Piper reported it was time for a performance evaluation and step raise for maintenance man John Mohan and asked when the commissioners wanted to do it. They agreed there should be time after the budget hearings on Thursday afternoon.

Mr. Stone signed an amendment to the motor vehicle kiosk agreement after Mrs. Lengel explained a suggested change by Mr. Kimble and then adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m. The next meeting will be the annual budget hearing at 9:00 a.m. on September 21, 2023.

Corinne M. Lengel, Clerk to the Board

Doug Stone, Chairman