

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES  
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
ROOM 113  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2000  
10 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Larry Hudkins, Vice Chair  
Linda Steinman  
Bernie Heier  
Bob Workman

Commissioners Absent: Kathy Campbell, Chair

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Dave Johnson, Deputy County Attorney  
Bruce Medcalf, County Clerk  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy County Clerk  
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

**AGENDA ITEM**

**1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2000 AND THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2000**

Steinman asked that Item 2B on Page 8 of the Staff Meeting minutes of August 31, 2000 be corrected to reflect Hank Balters, rather than Hank Walters.

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Steinman seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes of August 29, 2000 and the Staff Meeting minutes of August 31, 2000, with the noted correction. Heier, Steinman and Hudkins voted aye. Workman was absent from voting. Motion carried.

**2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

A. Holiday Calendar

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Steinman seconded approval of the addition to the agenda. Heier, Workman, Steinman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

**3 STAFFING FOR FAMILIES FIRST & FOREMOST - Sheryl Schrepf, Families First & Foremost (F<sup>3</sup>) Grant Director**

Sheryl Schrepf, Families First & Foremost (F<sup>3</sup>) Grant Director, requested that Renee' Dozier, Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator, be appointed to the position of Special Grants Administrator, at a salary of \$50,000 (Exhibit A). She said Dozier would serve as the director for the grant program and would supervise the three County employees. Schrepf would move into a consulting role (systems planning and sustainability) for the duration of the grant. Child Guidance Center will assist with infrastructure staffing.

In response to a question from Heier, Schrepf said hiring Dozier will provide a smooth transition, whereas hiring someone from the outside would set the grant program back a number of months.

Schrepf indicated that she is also seeking an increase in salary from \$60,000 to \$75,000 for the remainder of the year, as her salary was based on 20 hours per week but has increased to 30-40 hours per week. She said she could work on an hourly basis from that point forward. Schrepf said the proposed changes in leadership will also need to be brought before the Conveners Group, as it also has a say in the grant program's leadership and staffing.

Eagan said the federal site visit had identified leadership conflict as an issue and the proposed changes seem to address that.

Schrepf agreed and said she does not want the families to perceive that she is leaving the grant.

Workman suggested that the Special Grants Administrator title be changed to better describe the position.

The Board concurred.

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Steinman seconded to approve the process of hiring an individual to fill the position of Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator. Workman, Steinman, Heier and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

## ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

### A. Holiday Calendar

The Board set the following schedule (Exhibit B):

- O No Staff Meeting on December 21, 2000. A Staff Meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on December 19, 2000 instead.
- O No County Board of Commissioners Meeting or Staff Meeting the week of December 25, 2000.
- O No County Board of Commissioners Meeting or Staff Meeting the week of January 1, 2001.

#### **4 COUNTY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS FOR KAWASAKI** - Don Thomas, County Engineer; Larry Worrell, County Surveyor

Don Thomas, County Engineer, said road improvements will be necessary for the Kawasaki plant expansion:

- O Off-ramp will be built off Highway 34 to Northwest 27<sup>th</sup> Street
- O On-ramp will be built east off of Northwest 27<sup>th</sup> Street and back onto Highway 34
- O Improvements to West Fletcher Avenue and Northwest 27<sup>th</sup> Street

Thomas said the City should have a say in what type of roadway is used on West Fletcher Avenue, as it is within the City limits, and on Northwest 27<sup>th</sup> Street, which is scheduled for annexation. He said if the City expresses a desire for urban section, which has a much greater cost, it would be expected to help pick up those costs.

Hudkins said the Kawasaki plant makes up 26 percent of the operating budget of the Malcolm School District and annexation will increase the City's revenues by \$416,000. The Malcolm School District would make up \$390,000 of this loss through a State education allocation after a one year delay. He said the City has agreed to delay annexation until December 6, 2001 unless legislation that addresses this problem is passed.

Thomas said Kawasaki is currently experiencing sewage problems and may be required to hook up to the City's sewer system at an earlier date. He said if annexation is moved up, the County would be working within the City limits.

Thomas indicated that his department will contract for survey and design work. This will be paid for and tracked in the department's budget until an agreement that defines the duties and financial participation of all parties involved is completed.

Hudkins said Kawasaki has received tentative commitments of \$200,000 from the State of Nebraska for a ramp and \$300,000 - \$350,000 from the State Department of Economic Development for job training. He said the County has been asked to contribute \$200,000 for the other ramp and for road improvements to Northwest 27<sup>th</sup> Street.

Thomas noted that Wild Rose Lane will be relocated to solve problems with the intersection and to provide for a free flow of traffic once this project is complete.

**5 INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR JOINT PUBLIC AGENCY WITH LANCASTER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY** - Lauren Wismer, Bond Counsel; Bill Austin, Lancaster County Agricultural Society; Eric Bergquist, Cline Williams Law Firm

Lauren Wismer, Bond Counsel, reviewed a draft of *Joint Public Agency Agreement Creating the Lancaster County Joint Public Agency* (Exhibit C), noting additional participants may be added by amending the agreement. The following changes were requested:

- O Article III, Section (d) - In the statement that reads "that no bonds may be issued or other indebtedness may be incurred" remove the clause "without the concurrence of not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the votes which the representatives are entitled to cast" and indicate that the concurrence of the full County Board at a regular County Board of Commissioners meeting is needed
- O Article III, Section (f) - Clarify that the secretary and treasurer do not need to be members of the board
- O Article III, Section (g) - State that all meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law, but at least seven (7) days notice must be given for all meetings
- O Article V, Section (r) - State that taxes may only be levied for the payment of bonds
- O Article VII, Levy Authority - Change "0.75" to "seventy-five hundredths"

Steinman noted concern about a contract the Lancaster County Agricultural Society recently entered into with Sunrise Equi-Therapy and asked for clarification of the relationship of the Joint Public Agency to an agreement that has been signed by the Ag Society, but may not be advisable.

Bill Austin, Lancaster County Agricultural Society, said the Joint Public Agency will not have control over the day-to-day activities of the Ag Society or its leases.

Dave Kroeker, Budget & Fiscal Officer, asked whether there is anything in the agreement that would prevent the Ag Society from proceeding with a second building and finding themselves in a similar situation.

Wismer said no, adding it may be advisable for the Board to meet with the Ag Society and clearly indicate to them that the County Board does not want to see a reoccurrence of this situation.

The Board authorized Wismer to proceed with formulation of the agreement with input from Mike Thew, Chief Deputy County Attorney, and Bill Giovanni, Ameritas Investment Corporation.

Austin noted that the Ag Society will also need an opportunity to review the document.

**6 LABOR NEGOTIATIONS** - Georgia Glass, Personnel Director; Diane Staab, Deputy County Attorney

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Workman seconded to enter Executive Session at 11:45 a.m. for discussion of labor negotiations. Workman, Steinman, Heier and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Heier seconded to exit Executive Session at 12:17 p.m. Workman, Heier and Hudkins voted aye. Steinman was absent from voting. Motion carried.

**7 ACTION ITEMS**

A. Special Purchase of Transport Van for Sheriff

Bill Jarrett, Chief Deputy Sheriff, appeared to request authorization to purchase a 2000 Plymouth Grand Voyager van for transport, not utilizing the State contract (Exhibit D). He said the van's cost is less than last year's State contract price of \$19,548 and not all of the options listed on contract that are necessary.

Eagan said Nebraska Revised Statute §23-3109 provides a mechanism to waive the bidding requirements of the County Purchasing Act, if the County can save a significant amount of money by entering into a special purchase. He said the County Board would need to publish notice of its intention to make such a special purchase five days prior to the purchase, stating the items considered and inviting informal quotes.

Dave Johnson, Deputy County Attorney, added that the statutes are not clear on what constitutes a significant savings.

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Workman seconded to proceed with the purchase of the van, pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute §23-3109. Heier, Workman, Steinman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

## 8 CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Vacation Request for Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, for September 15-18, 2000

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Workman seconded approval. Heier, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Steinman was absent from voting. Motion carried.

## 9 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Replacement of Air Conditioning Compressors at Lancaster Manor

Eagan said he had authorized Larry Van Hunnik, Lancaster Manor Administrator, to proceed.

- B. Representative for City's Public Assembly Request for Proposals (RFP)

**MOTION:** Steinman moved and Heier seconded to appoint Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, to serve as the representative. Workman, Steinman, Heier and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

- C. Use of Interlocal Agreements for Budget Lid Computation

Dave Kroeker, Budget & Fiscal Officer, reviewed the following documents:

- Computation of Limit for Fiscal Year 2000-2001*
- Lid Computation*
- Calculation of Restricted Funds*
- Lancaster County Interlocal Agreements*
- A copy of Nebraska Revised Statute §13-520

Kroeker said including the interlocal agreements in the unused restricted funds authority carry forward will increase that amount from 1,415,804 to \$15,324,735.

Board consensus to include the full amount in the budget.

## 10 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

- A. Joint Budget Committee - Campbell, Steinman

Steinman reported that three responses were received to the Request for Proposals (RFP) for implementation of the Human Services Plan. One proposal was deemed preferable, but costs will need to be negotiated.

B. Corrections Needs Assessment Review Committee - Heier, Steinman

Steinman said selection of a firm to perform the Corrections Needs Assessment has been narrowed to two and interviews will be conducted.

Heier reported that the jail is currently overpopulated. Double bunking is occurring and consideration is being given to reinstating "good time". He said it was suggested that a large facility be built between Omaha and Lincoln to address overpopulation in both jurisdictions.

C. Ecological Advisory Committee - Heier

Heier reported on a meeting held with Glenn Johnson, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District General Manager. He said it was reported that the amount of open space (parks) needed nationwide is 20 acres for each 1000 individuals and Lincoln's rate is 24 acres per 1,000. The green necklace, development taxes and prioritization of bridges in Wilderness Park were also discussed.

Heier said Johnson had assured him that meetings on the proposed conservation easements have been held with the landowners, but said he disagrees with this statement.

**11 ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Steinman seconded adjournment. Heier, Steinman, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

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Bruce Medcalf  
Lancaster County Clerk