

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2006
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Deb Schorr, Chair
Bob Workman, Vice Chair
Bernie Heier
Ray Stevens

Commissioners Absent: Larry Hudkins

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

**1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING & DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET
MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2006**

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes dated May 18, 2006. Stevens, Workman, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: Workman moved and Heier seconded approval of the Departmental Budget Meeting Minutes dated May 18, 2006. Workman, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Stevens abstained. Motion carried.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Girls State
- B. June 20, 2006 LIBA luncheon
- C. Addition of an Economic Development agenda item to a future staff meeting agenda

MOTION: Heier moved and Steven seconded approval of the three additions to the agenda. Workman, Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Girls State-

Schorr indicated that due to Girls State, the Board will lose their quorum in the afternoon for the departmental budget hearings.

B. June 20th, 2006 LIBA luncheon-

Schorr reported that she has been asked to speak at the June 20th, 2006 LIBA luncheon on the County Budget. She indicated a list of questions had been submitted by LIBA and requested the Board's input when compiling her answers.

C. Economic Development Agenda Item-

Stevens indicated that he would like to see a future staff meeting include a presentation from Richard Baier (Nebraska Department of Economic Development Director) on economic development issues facing the State of Nebraska. A suggestion was made that this might be a good Common's agenda item.

3 BOARD OF EQUALIZATION UPDATE - Tom Kubert, Great Plains Appraisal; Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk

Tom Kubert indicated that the planning for the Board of Equalization process is near completion and that the Board would be seeing individual Referee contracts coming before them next Tuesday. Kubert briefly discussed security and procedural issues indicating he would return to brief the Board in mid-June.

4 LABOR NEGOTIATIONS - Don Taute, Personnel Director; John Cripe, Classification and Pay Manager; Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney

MOTION: Heier moved and Stevens seconded to enter Executive Session at 9:05 a.m. for purposes of labor negotiations and pending litigation. Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Workman seconded to exit Executive Session at 9:27 a.m. Workman, Stevens, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

5 AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY EVENTS CENTER UPDATE -Ron Snover, Ag. Society Chairman; Wayne Venter, Events Center Manager; Alan Wood, Attorney for Ag Society

Ron Snover indicated that planning for the Lancaster County Fair was progressing well, indicating that they will also be having a demolition derby this year. Snover also reminded the Board of the Watermelon Feed which will be held on August 3rd.

Snover briefly touched on the work of the Lancaster Event Center Advisory Panel (Exhibit B).

Wayne Venter distributed copies of the Lancaster County Agricultural Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 Marketing Plan, discussing the report and indicating the need for additional web site development, sales/marketing staff and solicitation of untapped market potential within Lancaster County. Schorr indicated that the report should be presented to the Visitor's Promotion Committee at their next meeting and encouraged their attendance at that meeting.

Heier asked a question of Darl Naumann, City of Lincoln Economic Development Coordinator regarding the City's current position on commercializing the corner by the Event Center. Naumann indicated he did not have any current information but encouraged the Event Center management to work in greater partnership with the Convention Visitors Bureau.

Venter indicated the bottom line to all of the planning was a need for a portion of the lodging tax to be utilized by the Event Center.

6 SPECIAL PERMIT NO. 06017, MEADOWLARK HILLS, COMMUNITY UNIT PLAN, 25TH AND MARTELL ROAD - Mike DeKalb, Planner

Mike DeKalb appeared and briefed the Board on Special Permit # 06017, Meadowlark Hills C.U.P. (Exhibit C). DeKalb indicated that conditional approval was given by the Planning Staff and that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Special Permit with a 9-0 vote. A public hearing will be held on May 30th, 2006 at the Tuesday Board meeting.

7 CHAMBER ESTATES, COMMUNITY UNIT PLAN REVIEW, SOUTH 54TH AND WITTSTRUCK ROAD- Jim Chambers; Mike DeKalb, Planner

Jim Chambers, applicant, appeared and distributed a Chambers Estate Site Plan Exhibit (Exhibit D), an aerial of the proposed area (Exhibit E), and a worksheet of the Chamber Estates C.U.P Density Calculations (Exhibit F).

Chambers and DeKalb briefed the Board on the applicants desire to add a seventeenth lot to the C.U.P., DeKalb indicated that the density calculations and code only allowed for 16.98 lots. It had been hoped that through an Administrative Amendment the seventeenth lot could be added, however the calculations did not allow for the extra lot.

DeKalb indicated, after questions by the Board, that a County Attorney's opinion on rounding up of density calculations would be recommended.

MOTION: Heier moved and Workman seconded to defer this item until June 29th, 2006 when all County Commissioners can be in attendance for discussion of legal options with the County Attorney's office. Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Various other options to enable the addition of the seventeenth lot were discussed. Eagan will write a request for a legal opinion.

*Update provided later in the meeting by Mike DeKalb indicated that due to a recent City of Lincoln annexation and the corresponding expansion of the City's 3-mile zoning jurisdiction, this was now a City issue and no longer a County issue.

8 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS - Dave Kroeker, County Budget and Fiscal Officer

Dave Kroeker appeared and distributed the Lancaster FY06 Projected Additional Appropriations Final Year End Adjustments (Exhibit G).

Discussion was held on departmental needs and additional fund requests. He indicated that \$359,127 is attributable to the Retirement Incentive Program. Kroeker indicated that adjustments in funds that are not part of the general fund will require a public hearing during the June 6th, 2006 Tuesday Board meeting, other adjustments may be made through a resolution. Kroeker indicated it was his desire to transfer the required additional appropriations to their respective funds to cover the needed amounts.

9 SPECIAL POPULATION GRANT (REGION V)-Kit Boesch, Human Services Director

Kit Boesch appeared to request approval of the submission of a letter of intent for a \$1000 grant, to be used for materials production. The grant to be used to address the special needs of Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender youth. Additional funding through other grant resources would be looked at in the future.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Workman seconded to allow the submission of a letter of intent requesting grant funding. Stevens, Heier, Workman and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

10 UPDATE ON FINANCIAL SYSTEM CONSULTING AND TRAINING-
Dave Kroeker, County Budget and Fiscal Officer; Terry Lowe, Systems Development Coordinator

Dave Kroeker and Terry Lowe appeared to discuss problems that have occurred since the installation of the new financial system. Lowe indicated that due to an accelerated installation schedule, the needed support training had not occurred. This has led to an inordinate amount of time and money being spent on problem solving and support services. Kroeker and Lowe indicated that Oracle's schedule does not allow for in-house training. A subcontractor to Oracle is able to meet that need with a significant cost savings. Permission to arrange this training was requested with the corresponding contracts to follow at a Tuesday Board meeting.

11 ACTION ITEMS

- A. Case Level Mass Exchange/Mix Change Forms for Nationwide Retirement Solutions (Case's 013-60001 and 013-80001) and Notice of Funds Changes

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to approve the Notice to Plan Participants and the payroll insert for June 1st, 2006. Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

- C. Support Letter for Recreational Trails Program Set-Aside Request for Abbott Motocross Track

Discussion was held on a request to accelerate the funding schedule from three years to two years, \$240,000 per year, for the Abbott Motocross Track. Eagan will also request a legal opinion regarding the allowed uses for Visitor's Promotion Funds.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to authorize the Chair to sign a letter of support for an accelerated funding schedule. Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

- D. Microcomputer Request C#2006201, \$1531.42 from the Corrections Budget for a Laptop and Software

MOTION: Stevens moved and Workman seconded to approve the Corrections Microcomputer request for a laptop and software. Workman, Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

12 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Motocross Update

Eagan distributed the Abbott Moto-Cross Facility Site Plan (Exhibit H) He stated that at a recent meeting the project to start Arbor Road this fall was discussed.

B. Request from Dr. Sanford Kaplan to Meet with Board Regarding Address Change

A request from Dr. Kaplan to meet with the Board was discussed with the Board suggesting Dr. Kaplan attend a Tuesday Board meeting and speak under the Emergency Items and Other Business portion of the agenda.

C. Jamaica North Trail Ribbon Cutting on June 8, 2006

Stevens will visit with the Planning Committee regarding the date of the ribbon cutting and Commissioner representation.

D. New Billboard for Illegal Dumping Education Program

Eagan indicated that the funds for the billboard are currently budgeted and that the billboard will be reusable.

MOTION: Heier moved and Stevens seconded approval to purchase a billboard for the Illegal Dumping Education Program. Heier, Stevens, Workman and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

E. June 1, 2006 Staff Meeting Start Time

The Board agreed by consensus to move the start time of the June 1st, 2006 Staff Meeting to 10:00 a.m.

F. Work Release Coordinators

The Board discussed the issue of work release coordinators and their oversight. The creation of a committee was recommended with possible participants being Mike Thurber (Corrections), Steve Rowoldt (Adult Probation), Kim Etherton (Community Corrections), a representative from the County Board and Personnel.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to request a committee be formed to discuss the issue of work release coordinators. Stevens, Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

G. Update on Claim from Melvin Moore for Replacement of Glasses

The Board examined the eye glasses submitted by Melvin Moore. The Board requested the item be placed on a Tuesday Board agenda.

14 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. Visitor Promotion Committee Meeting-Stevens

Stevens indicated the budget to be submitted to the County Board was discussed. He indicated the VPC is estimating revenue generation from the room tax to be \$887,000 for next year with an additional \$290,000 generated on their own. A discussion of bid fees was also held.

Stevens reported that the VPC would like to add an additional sports marketing position utilizing \$116,000 of additional lodging tax dollars.

B. Downtown Lincoln Association Board of Directors Meeting-Stevens

Stevens discussed a presentation on a new downtown condominium facility to be located near the downtown post office building. He also discussed the 12th Street "Art Zone" project of painting the skywalk that crosses between 'N' and 'O' Streets with fourteen foot human walking figures on both sides of the skywalk. The funding will be partially from the DLA Maintenance Improvement District, Urban Development and from private sector donations. Stevens also discussed their desire to hire a consultant to discuss the creation of a retail corridor on 'P' Street.

C. Community Mental Health Advisory Committee-Stevens

Stevens stated that meeting participants discussed the new sex-offender legislation.

D. Public Policy Committee-Chamber of Commerce-Stevens

Stevens reported that one of the presentations was with State Senator Ron Raikes on the Omaha School District consolidations, the other presentation was with Steve Hubka, City of Lincoln Budget Officer, on the City of Lincoln's budget.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 12: 10 p.m.

Patricia Owen
Chief Deputy Lancaster County Clerk