

**MINUTES**  
**LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2007**  
**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEARING ROOM, ROOM 112**  
**FIRST FLOOR, COUNTY-CITY BUILDING**  
**9:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Bob Workman, Chair  
Bernie Heier  
Deb Schorr

Commissioners Absent: Larry Hudkins  
Ray Stevens

Others Present: Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Dan Nolte, County Clerk  
Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk  
Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney

The location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was given and the meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m..

The Chair stated Commissioners Larry Hudkins and Ray Stevens were testifying before the Tax Equalization and Review Commission (TERC) and would be absent.

1) **MINUTES: Approval of the minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting held on Tuesday, December 4, 2007.**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded approval of the minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting held on December 4, 2007. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

2) **CLAIMS: Approval of all claims processed through Tuesday, December 11, 2007.**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of all claims processed through December 11, 2007. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

3) **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

**A. A one-time cash award, in the amount of \$350, for Rebecca Leapley, Lancaster County Grants Manager, due to exceptional circumstances.**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded approval of a one-time cash award, in the amount of \$350, for Rebecca Leapley, Lancaster County Grants Manager, due to exceptional circumstances. Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

4) **OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. A grant contract with Lincoln Action Program Inc. for funding of the following programs: Lincoln Action Program's Education Outreach, in the amount of \$20,084; Emergency Services, in the amount of \$72,373; and Project CHIRP, in the amount of \$5,000. Total amount of the grant contract is \$97,457. Term of the grant contract is July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. (C-07-0518)**

Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, appeared and explained that the CHIRP line is no longer available to the general public, agencies and clinics in Lincoln, however, the clients of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, clients of doctors from the Lincoln-Lancaster Medical Society and the Peoples Health Center will continue use of CHIRP free of charge. Those three agencies, she stated, are funded through the Community Health Endowment, the Lincoln-Lancaster Medical Society and the grant contract.

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of a grant contract with Lincoln Action Program Inc. for funding of the following programs: Lincoln Action Program's Education Outreach, in the amount of \$20,084; Emergency Services, in the amount of \$72,373; and Project CHIRP, in the amount of \$5,000. Total amount of the grant contract is \$97,457. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**B. Designation of official newspapers for Lancaster County for publication of transportation projects for 2008 as follows: Lincoln Journal Star, The Voice (Hickman), Seward Independent, Crete News and The News (Waverly).**

4) **OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of designating official newspapers for Lancaster County for publication of transportation projects for 2008 as follows: Lincoln Journal Star, The Voice (Hickman), Seward Independent, Crete News and The News (Waverly).

Bob Walla, Assistant Purchasing Agent, stated he visited with the State Department of Roads and explained the designation was for transportation projects which the State will perform within the County. He stated the designation would not pertain to the bidding of County road projects or bidding conducted by the Purchasing Department.

**ROLL CALL:** Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

5) **NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Four applications for Special Designated Licenses from Sons of American Legion Squadron #280 to provide liquor beverage service in connection with card tournaments to be held on Saturday, January 12, 2008; Saturday, February 9, 2008; Saturday, March 8, 2008 and Saturday, April 12, 2008 at the Bennet Legion Post, located at 970 Monroe Street, Bennet, Lancaster County, Nebraska. Hours of operation for the tournaments will be from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m..**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of four applications for Special Designated Licenses from Sons of American Legion Squadron #280 to provide liquor beverage service in connection with card tournaments to be held on Saturday, January 12, 2008; Saturday, February 9, 2008; Saturday, March 8, 2008 and Saturday, April 12, 2008 at the Bennet Legion Post, located at 970 Monroe Street, Bennet, Lancaster County, Nebraska. Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**B. A resolution in the matter of declaring projects under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-120, as amended, and imposing levy for the costs and indebtedness for such projects. (R-07-0108)**

Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer, stated that Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-120 allows for a levy of up to 5.2 cents for remodeling, purchasing and building of jails and courthouse buildings. He stated of the 5.2 cents, the County would be using approximately three-quarters of a cent in the coming tax year.

5) **NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of Resolution No. R-07-0108 in the matter of declaring projects under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-120, as amended, and imposing levy for the costs and indebtedness for such projects. Schorr, Heier and Work voted aye. Motion carried.

**C. A resolution authorizing the change of traffic signs at the following locations in Lancaster County: Install two, one-lane road signs on Bennet Road. One 800 feet west of South 25<sup>th</sup> Street for westbound traffic and one 1,650 feet west of South 25<sup>th</sup> Street for eastbound traffic. (R-07-0109)**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded approval of Resolution No. R-07-0109 authorizing the change of traffic signs at the following locations in Lancaster County: Install two, one-lane road signs on Bennet Road. One 800 feet west of South 25<sup>th</sup> Street for westbound traffic and one 1,650 feet west of South 25<sup>th</sup> Street for eastbound traffic. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**D. A prevention coalition contract for behavioral health services between the Regional Behavioral Health Authority (Region V) and Lancaster County on behalf of the Lincoln/Lancaster County Substance Abuse Action Coalition. Region V will pay the County \$151,294 to implement Region V substance abuse prevention plan and to provide substance abuse prevention services through subcontractors. The term of the contract is from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. (C-07-0540)**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of a prevention coalition contract for behavioral health services between the Regional Behavioral Health Authority (Region V) and Lancaster County on behalf of the Lincoln/Lancaster County Substance Abuse Action Coalition. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**E. An amendment to an agreement with L. A. Young, Inc. for professional services of a nurse practitioner to assist in the provision of psychiatric services at the Community Mental Health Center. The amendment increases the maximum hours of service provided to 32 hours per week and increases the rate paid for service to \$60 per hour. (C-07-0541)**

5) **NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded approval of an amendment to an agreement with L. A. Young, Inc. for professional services of a nurse practitioner to assist in the provision of psychiatric services at the Community Mental Health Center.

Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center administrator, gave a brief overview regarding the amendment.

**ROLL CALL:** Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**F. Recommendation from the Purchasing Agent and the Risk Manager to award a Request For Proposal (RFP) to Prudential Financial for Group Long Term Care Insurance at no cost to the County. (B-07-0066)**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded approval to award a Request for Proposal to Prudential Financial for Group Long Term Care Insurance at no cost to the County as recommended from the Purchasing Agent and the Risk Manager. Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**G. A request for Group Long Term Care Insurance with Prudential Financial. The request sets forth the 20 percent commission rate on premiums to be paid to the Producer of the Record. The effective date of the request is April 1, 2008. (C-07-0542)**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of a request for Group Long Term Care Insurance with Prudential Financial. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**H. An interlocal agreement between Lancaster County and the State of Nebraska, Department of Roads for future road improvements on South 68th Street from one-half mile south of Martell Road to 0.2 mile south of Roca Road; Project No STPE-3265(9). The County's estimated share of the project is \$248,280, which is 20 percent of the project. (C-07-0543)**

5) **NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of an interlocal agreement between Lancaster County and the State of Nebraska, Department of Roads for future road improvements on South 68th Street from one-half mile south of Martell Road to 0.2 mile south of Roca Road; Project No STPE-3265(9). Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**I. Addendum to an agreement with Ameritas Investment Corp. for financial consulting services with respect to financing debt of Lancaster County found at County Contract No. C-04-0009. The addendum renews the agreement for an additional four year term. The County will pay Ameritas in accordance with a fee schedule incorporated in the agreement. (C-07-0549)**

Blaine Spady, Vice President of Smith Hayes Financial Services, appeared and requested that the County open the financial consulting services agreement up via a request for proposal to allow other vendors the opportunity to bid on the agreement.

Scott Keene with Ameritas Investment Corp gave an overview of the agreement stating that they provide financial advisory services to the County on its various bond financings.

Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney, referred to Section 18 (Notice) on page six of the original contract (C-04-0009) indicating the name of the contractor and the County contact both need to be changed.

Discussion took place regarding the process used to obtain a request for proposal.

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded approval of an addendum to an agreement with Ameritas Investment Corp. for financial consulting services with respect to financing debt of Lancaster County found at County Contract No. C-04-0009. Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**J. An agreement with Murphy Tractor and Equipment Co., Inc. for two motor graders complete with trade-in allowance for the County Engineer, in the amount of \$304,410. Murphy Tractor will pay for all costs of repair, including parts and labor, in excess of \$4,500 per unit during the next seven years. (C-07-0550)**

5) **NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

Heier requested the item be held.

By direction of the Chair, the item was held.

**K. Recommendation from the Purchasing Agent and the County Sheriff to issue an order from State of Nebraska Contract No. 12047 OC, for one 2008 Chevy Trailblazer 4x4, in the amount of \$22,555. (B-07-067)**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded approval to issue an order from State of Nebraska Contract No. 12047 OC, for one 2008 Chevy Trailblazer 4x4, in the amount of \$22,555 as recommended by the Purchasing Agent and the Sheriff. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**L. Request from Patrick and Rhonda Dodson for a refund of real property taxes for 2005, 2006 and 2007.**

Scott Gaines, Deputy County Assessor/Register of Deeds, recommended approval of the request due to an error in the square footage. He stated the value differential is approximately \$14,000 in value for 2006 and 2007 and approximately \$12,000 for 2005.

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of a request from Patrick and Rhonda Dodson for a refund of real property taxes for 2005, 2006 and 2007. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**M. A political subdivision tort claim filed against the Lancaster County Corrections Department by Monroe Prater, in the amount of \$155, for lost property.**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded to accept the recommendation of the Corrections Director and approve a political subdivision tort claim filed against the Lancaster County Corrections Department by Monroe Prater, in the amount of \$155, for lost property. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

5) **NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

**N. A political subdivision tort claim filed against the Lancaster County Corrections Department by Calvin Williams, in the amount of \$15, for lost property.**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded to accept the recommendation of the Corrections Director and deny a political subdivision tort claim filed against the Lancaster County Corrections Department by Calvin Williams, in the amount of \$15, for lost property. Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

**O. A political subdivision tort claim filed against the Lancaster County Corrections Department by Bernard Johnson, in the amount of \$50,000, for alleged injuries sustained by plugging in an electric food warming table.**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded to accept the recommendation of the Corrections Director and deny a political subdivision tort claim filed against the Lancaster County Corrections Department by Bernard Johnson, in the amount of \$50,000, for alleged injuries sustained by plugging in an electric food warming table. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

6) **CONSENT ITEMS:** *These are items of business that are routine which are expected to be adopted without dissent. Any individual item may be removed for special discussion and consideration by a Commissioner or by any member of the public without prior notice. Unless there is an exception, these items will be approved as one with a single vote of the Board of Commissioners. These items are approval of:*

**A. Receive and Place on File:**

- 1. Clerk of the District Court's Monthly Report for November, 2007.**
- 2. County Assessor/Register of Deeds Monthly Report for November, 2007.**
- 3. County Clerk's Monthly Report for November, 2007.**
- 4. Records & Information Management's Monthly Report for November, 2007.**
- 5. Nebraska Department of Roads 2007 State Highway Needs Assessment Report.**

6) **CONSENT ITEMS CONTINUED:**

**B. Right-of-way contracts relating to road improvements between the Lancaster County Engineering Department and the following:**

- ▶ Richard W Sattler, in the amount of \$27.50, on W. Yankee Hill Road west of S.W. 56<sup>th</sup> Street; Project CP-N-127 (C-07-0544)
- ▶ Paul H and Susan Spieker, in the amount of \$181, on W. Superior Street one-half mile east of N.W. 140<sup>th</sup> Street; Project CP-M-79 (C-07-0545)
- ▶ Kipp S and Kristi S Haight, in the amount of \$223.50, on Roca Road west of S. 190<sup>th</sup> Street; Project No. CP-R-191 (C-07-0546)
- ▶ Kipp S and Kristi S Haight, in the total amount of \$1,167, on Roca Road west of S. 190<sup>th</sup> Street; Project CP-R-192 (2 contracts) (C-07-0547 and C-07-0548)

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded approval of the Consent Items. Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

7) **ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Schorr and Heier seconded adjournment of the Board of Commissioners meeting at 10:13 a.m.. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

---

Dan Nolte  
County Clerk

**MINUTES  
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2007  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEARING ROOM, ROOM 112  
FIRST FLOOR, COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING**

Commissioners Present: Bob Workman, Chair  
Bernie Heier  
Deb Schorr

Commissioners Absent: Larry Hudkins  
Ray Stevens

Others Present: Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Dan Nolte, County Clerk  
Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk  
Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney  
Scott Gaines, Deputy County Assessor/Register of Deeds

The location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was given and the meeting was called to order at 10:13 a.m..

1) **MINUTES: Approval of the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting held on Tuesday, December 4, 2007.**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded approval of the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting held on December 4, 2007. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

2) **ADDITIONS AND DEDUCTIONS:**

**Approval of 148 additions and deductions to the tax assessment rolls per Attachments "A" and "B".**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of the additions and deductions to the tax assessment rolls. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

3) **MOTOR VEHICLE TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS:**

**Gentle Shepherd Baptist Church  
Lincoln Christian School  
MOSAIC  
Nebraska Wesleyan University  
Pius X High School  
Rosemont Alliance Church  
Southeast Nebraska Mobile Diagnostic Services Inc.**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of motor vehicle tax exemptions for Gentle Shepherd Baptist Church, Lincoln Christian School, MOSAIC, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Pius X High School, Rosemont Alliance Church and Southeast Nebraska Mobile Diagnostic Services Inc.. Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

4) **APPEAL OF CHANGE IN TAX STATUS AND TAXABLE VALUATION:**

**Jim R. Shafer and Debra Shafer-Schrunk**

Scott Gaines, Deputy County Assessor/Register of Deeds, explained the property was previously owned by the Housing Authority and received a tax exemption. In October, 2004 it transferred to the Shafer's and became a taxable entity. He stated when they updated the ownership based on the deed being filed, they erred in not removing the exemption. Gaines stated it should have been on the tax rolls for 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Gaines stated the amended value for tax years 2006 and 2007 is \$69,338. The value for 2005 is \$58,700.

Debra Shafer, property owner, appeared and indicated she would like the Board to waive the taxes for 2005 and 2006.

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded to deny the appeal of change in tax status and set the value for 2005 at \$58,700 and at \$69,338 for 2006 and 2007. Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

5) **ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded adjournment of the Board of Equalization meeting at 10:29 a.m.. Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

---

Dan Nolte  
County Clerk