

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2007
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Bob Workman, Chair
Ray Stevens
Deb Schorr

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier, Vice Chair
Larry Hudkins

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Kristy Bauer, Deputy County Attorney
Dan Nolte, County Clerk
Melissa Koci, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:38 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES FROM THURSDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2007

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

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

A. Meeting With Governor Regarding Mental Health

MOTION: Stevens moved and Schorr seconded approval of the addition to the agenda. Schorr, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

3 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Gordon Kissel and Amy Prenda, Kissel/E&S Associates

Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant, distributed documentation regarding the *Legislative Update* (Exhibit A) and briefly discussed LB 248, LB 292, LB 439, LB 587 and LB 502.

Eagan indicated he wrote a Letter of Support for LB 502 that the Board needs to sign.

Stevens reported he went to a Public Policy Forum and Mike Flood was the speaker. He questioned whether there was a commitment to continue the funding of mental health reform. He said Mr. Flood has an extreme amount of knowledge about mental health and what it takes and that there aren't any community alternatives in place for mental health reform. Mr. Flood is well aware of what it is going to take to fully implement the mental health reform.

4 (A) POTENTIAL LITIGATION; AND (B) GENERAL ASSISTANCE GUIDELINE AMENDMENTS - Kristy Bauer, Deputy County Attorney; Gary Chalupa, Veterans Affairs and General Assistance Director

Gary Chalupa, Veterans Services and General Assistance Director, appeared and distributed documentation regarding the General Assistance Guideline Amendments (Exhibit B). He indicated there were several things amended in the General Assistance Guidelines and now they need to go through the general process of getting them approved by the County Board. Chalupa said they are looking more closely at assisted living clients who need assistance with their activities of daily living, which are very costly to the County.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to enter into Executive Session at 9:08 a.m. for the purpose of discussing potential litigation. Stevens, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to exit Executive Session at 9:25 a.m. Schorr, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

5 SELF-HELP CENTER PILOT PROJECT IN DISTRICT COURT - Sue Kirkland, District Court Clerk; Honorable Karen Flowers

This item was held.

6 BLOOD CHEMISTRY PROFILES FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES - Sue Eckley, County Risk Manager; Sara Ondracek, Risk Management Office; Deb Selix, Nebraska Occupational Health Clinic

This item was held.

7 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PENSION PLAN REVIEW - Doug Cyr, Chief Deputy County Attorney

Doug Cyr, Chief Deputy County Attorney, appeared and indicated Segal Advisors was the only company that submitted a proposal for the pension plan review, which does not include PEHP. Cyr said it would be nice to have another proposal to compare it to.

Eagan noted the proposal is not a bad proposal, however the price might want to be negotiated. He said they want \$12,000 to review the investment plan, which does not need to be done.

Cyr said the PEHP plan is rolled into a plan which involves a national trust where all of the PEHP participants are together nationwide in the same investment array. He said Lancaster County wants to break the PEHP plan out so that the County has control of it and the fees and investments can be negotiated.

Cyr also noted he would like to see something more to compare the proposal against and he has dealt with a gentleman from the Milliman office in Omaha who might be able to give the County a proposal.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to authorize Eagan and Cyr to contact Milliman and pursue their interest in submitting a proposal and to continue to search out Rod Crane.

Bob Walla, Assistant Purchasing Agent, appeared and asked the Board for their permission to ask Milliman why they did not respond to the original rfp.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Workman moved and Schorr seconded to contact Milliman after Purchasing has talked with them and other entities as to why they did not submit an rfp. Schorr, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

8 (A) PART-TIME PSYCHIATRIST SALARIES; AND (B) COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER VEHICLE FLEET - Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center Director; John Cripe, Classification and Pay Manager

Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center Director, appeared and indicated he is requesting that his three part-time Psychiatrist salaries be raised from \$95 per hour to \$100 per hour.

John Cripe, Classification and Pay Manager, appeared and reported the part-time psychiatrist's haven't had a pay increase in several years nor do they receive any benefits.

Eagan indicated the item would go on Tuesday's agenda.

Settle also followed up on questions addressed to him by the County Board regarding the Mental Health Center's vehicle fleet and noted that it cost him around \$118,770 to manage most of his transportation needs annually. After doing some calculations, if they were to move to predominately paying mileage to all staff, the cost would be \$139,680. Settle also noted that none of his case managers have a business rider for their car insurance, which could be a big issue if someone were injured while being transported.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

A. Meeting With Governor Regarding Mental Health

Schorr reported Senator Johnson's focus was the lack of certified case workers in the State serving those with mental health needs. He said they are going to get more people trained so they can reduce caseloads and waiting lists. Schorr said they had a meeting with all of the Regional Administrators across the State and she left the meeting feeling like the Governor is committed to the level of funding for mental health that was previously stated. She believed the Governor and his staff were unaware of the impact of the sex offender bill on the mental health budget.

Settle said the Mental Health Center is getting 5 referrals a week for outpatient sex offender treatment and they have been treating sex offenders by using mental health monies and he believes it is an inappropriate use of the funds.

9 GRANT FOR IN-CAR CAMERAS - Sheriff Terry Wagner; Chief Deputy Sheriff Bill Jarrett

Bill Jarrett, Chief Deputy Sheriff, appeared and indicated the grant for the in-car cameras is exactly like the one that was approved in August, 2006. Jarrett noted the total cost is \$29,370, however the Highway and Safety Department will reimburse the County \$21,000 on the amount, but the Sheriff has to come up with all of the monies first.

Bob Walla appeared and indicated the item will still need to go out for bid.

10 TEMPORARY EASEMENT FOR HARRIS OVERPASS PROJECT - Clint Thomas, City Real Estate Broker and Relocation Agent

Eagan reported there is going to be some road widening on West O Street which will cut Lincoln Action Program's property and damage some trees and the sprinkler system.

Clint Thomas, City Real Estate Broker and Relocation Agent, appeared and reported they are asking for a temporary easement to do some grading work on the Harris Overpass Project. He said it will impact sprinklers that are not only along the right-of-way line, but actually in the right-of-way in the parkway area. Thomas also said there are two trees that will definitely be removed because of the project, however there is a third tree that is within the temporary easement, but outside the limits of construction. Thomas is asking the County for a temporary easement, in the amount of \$4,839 to cover the costs of the damages, which will be paid to Lincoln Action Program, so the City can do grading, sidewalk and driveway construction.

Eagan indicated the temporary easement needs to be approved in the amount of \$4,839, for damages which are not Lancaster County's, because we agreed to donate the temporary easement. He said the County is the legal title holder of the property, however Lincoln Action Program is the equitable owner until the bonds are paid off.

Thomas said if he received a letter from the County explaining that Lancaster County is the owner of the IDA Bonds and ask the City to issue the check to LAP, it could be done. Eagan noted he will get in touch with the Lincoln Action Program to let them know what is going on with the Easement, and the item will go on Tuesday's agenda.

11 ACTION ITEMS

- A. Affidavit Accepting \$1,693 for Full Settlement and Release for Loss of Mental Health Center Vehicle

This item was held.

- B. Microcomputer Request, C#2007078, \$1,161.34, for Four (4) Label Printers and Four (4) HP Jet Directs from the Public Defender's Budget

MOTION: Stevens moved and Schorr seconded approval of the Microcomputer Request. Stevens, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

13 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Request from Dean Settle for Reimbursement of Expenses Related to National CARF Surveyor Training Conference

Settle reported he usually pays for the expenses himself, but this year there was a big increase in the hotel accommodations so he is requesting reimbursement for half of the expenses and he will pay the other half.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded approval of a \$777.47 reimbursement to Dean Settle for expenses relating to the CARF Surveyor Training Conference. Schorr, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

- B. Permanent On-Call Position for Records Management

Eagan indicated Dean Settle will speak with Brian Pillard about using Settle's part-time employee to move records instead of hiring a permanent on-call position.

- C. East Campus Food Sciences Lab Tour (Thursday, March 22, 2007)

The Boards consensus was to have the tour on Thursday, March 22, 2007.

- D. Motorsports Task Force

Eagan said the Motorsports Task Force decided to not send out the survey and the report was to be completed by March 1st. He said the discussion of their conclusions will be scheduled on the Thursday, March 15th staff meeting agenda.

- E. Employee Recognition (Tuesday, May 15, 2007)

Eagan said the Employee Recognition is going to be on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at Windsor Stables and they are looking at serving breakfast instead of lunch because of the early Board meeting.

F. Legal Opinion Regarding Soil Mining

Workman noted the County Attorney submitted a legal opinion regarding soil mining and he would like to forward it to the Neighborhood Association.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to allow the legal opinion regarding soil mining be public information. Stevens, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

15 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. **Visitors Promotion Committee Meeting** - Stevens

Stevens reported there are 41,000 room nights reserved for 2007 through the Convention and Visitors Bureau. He said they also discussed the Motorsports Task Force, legislative issues dealing with State Fair Park and they introduced the Public Relations Director for the Chambers.

B. **LIBA Monthly Meeting** - Hudkins, Schorr

Schorr reported they discussed the jail and how the community will never go for another bond issue. She said they also talked about moving prisoners to Omaha.

C. **Monthly Meeting of the Mayor, County Board Chair and Vice Chair Meeting** - Workman, Heier

Workman reported the Motorsports Task Force was discussed.

D. **Community Mental Health Center Advisory Committee Meeting** - Stevens

Stevens reported there were some University interns that are Ph.D. candidates who are dedicated to working with people who have mental health problems. He also said they talked about the overload at the Crisis Center and not having enough beds for the people who have been committed.

16 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. Stevens, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk