

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007
8:30 A.M.**

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

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Dan Nolte, County Clerk
Melissa Koci, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES FROM THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2007 AND TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2007

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded approval of both sets of Staff meeting minutes. Stevens, Schorr, Heier, Hudkins and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Letter from Norris School Superintendent
- B. Motor Sports Task Force Thank You Letter

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

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

Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant, distributed documentation regarding the *Legislative Update* (Exhibit A) and indicated LB 502 would increase the tax rates for beneficiaries from 6% to 10% and the exempt amount would increase from \$2,000 to \$25,000 per individual with the estimated impact on counties somewhere in the 15% range for inheritance tax. He noted the impact on Lancaster County could be from \$400,000 to \$500,000.

Kissel also discussed LB 334, which would merge the Department of Property Assessment and Taxation and the Property Tax Administrator and would create a Property Assessment Division within the Department of Revenue; and LB 305, which is the sales tax from the General Fund to Highway Trust Fund for leased vehicles.

Kissel said LB 335 is a change to the provisions relating to civil protective custody which includes an amendment to LB 578. He also noted LR 6CA is a constitutional amendment to provide for investment by political subdivisions. It would provide the Legislature with the authority to authorize the investment of the public endowment funds of cities, villages, school districts, public power districts and other political subdivisions.

Kissel also noted the appropriations will not have an increase of more than 4%.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

A. Letter from Norris School Superintendent

Heier distributed documentation regarding a letter from the Norris School Superintendent (Exhibit B) and indicated they would like to have the speed limit lowered around the area of the Norris School campus.

Schorr indicated the speed limit on a road cannot be lowered until a full engineering study is done and she will be helping by counting cars with the County Engineer.

B. Motor Sports Task Force Thank You Letter

MOTION: Schorr moved and Heier seconded to send a thank you letter to the Motor Sports Task Force signed by the County Board and enclose a copy of the editorial that was printed in the newspaper. Schorr, Heier, Workman, Stevens and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

9 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

A. Lancaster Manor Appraisal

Eagan reported Kay Lacey would be able to do the appraisal for \$3,500.

Workman said Lancaster County is now required to report all of their assets and in order to do that an appraisal should be done on the Manor to see what it is worth since it is one of Lancaster County's highest assets.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded to authorize Kerry Eagan to work with Purchasing and prepare a contract with Kay Lacey for appraisal services. Schorr, Hudkins, Heier, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Letter from BryanLGH Regarding Emergency Protective Custody

Eagan reported there is going to be a meeting on April 10th at 8 a.m. with Brad Sheridan and several others to discuss the Emergency Protective Custody cases.

C. NACO Legislative Day (April 12, 2007)

Eagan indicated to the Board that the NACO Legislative Day is set for April 12, 2007.

D. Claim for Review:

1. Payment Voucher #11652 from Community Mental Health Center (\$171.40)
2. Payment Voucher #11656 from Community Mental Health Center (\$178.45)

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded to forward the claims to a Tuesday's agenda at the approved lower amounts. Hudkins, Stevens, Schorr, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

E. Agenda Items for LPS/City/County Meeting and Common Meeting (April 2, 2007)

Schorr indicated she would like to discuss the Safe Route to Schools Program with Lincoln Public Schools.

The Board agreed to schedule and discuss the Motor Sports Task Force report along with Motocross and the jail at the Common meeting.

4 PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE (EXECUTIVE SESSION) - Don Killeen, County Property Manager; Mike Thurber, Corrections Director

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

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to exit Executive Session at 10:12 a.m. Heier, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Hudkins and Schorr were absent from voting. Motion carried.

Hudkins and Schorr returned at 10:13 a.m.

5 FAMILY DRUG COURT SUPPORT - Honorable Linda Porter

Honorable Linda Porter appeared and indicated she would like to access some funding that is available through the Supreme Court for the Family Drug Court Coordinator. She would like to access part of the funding for her Bailiff I, who has been performing most of the functions of the Family Drug Court Coordinator for several years with no compensation at all. She said the Court Administrator's Office has indicated to her that it would be no problem on their end and she would like to know what the County Board thinks of the idea.

Heier asked what would happen if the funding stops.

Judge Porter indicated if the funding stops, the increment will also stop, but she is hoping it will continue.

Don Taute, Personnel Director, appeared and indicated there are 11 bailiffs in the Unclassified service that are all at the same rate of pay, with the exception of Judge Thorson's bailiff that does administrative and supervisory duties and they receive an additional \$3,000 for the extra duties. He believes Judge Porter's bailiff's is a similar justification because of the extra duties involved with regard to the Drug Court. Taute noted there is not an evaluation done on the bailiff's, their compensation is adjusted on an annual basis, nor is there a job description or class specification for the bailiff classes.

Eagan said a grant contract might be needed with the Court Administrator through Lancaster County to get the extra monies, which would be applied to the administration of the Family Drug Court.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded to ask Judge Porter to pursue the grant and work with the Personnel Department and Kerry Eagan to figure out how the grant is going to work and come back to the Board with the documents for approval.

Tom Fox, Chief Deputy County Attorney, appeared and indicated Bailiff I's and Bailiff II's do not have any type of job description and now might be the time to do a general job description.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded to offer a friendly amendment to develop a job description for the Bailiff I's and Bailiff II's. Stevens, Schorr, Hudkins, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

6 PENSION PLAN REVIEW RFP - Doug Cyr, Chief Deputy County Attorney; Terry Adams, Chief Deputy Treasurer; Tim Genuchi, County Clerk Accountant

Eagan reported there was only one proposal submitted for the pension plan review and Purchasing was unable to get in touch with a few companies to find out why they didn't bid and a few other companies simply didn't know about the RFP.

Doug Cyr, Chief Deputy County Attorney, appeared and indicated they received one bid from Segal Advisors, however the fee is very high and the committee has nothing to compare the proposal to.

Vince Mejer, Purchasing Agent, appeared and said the second time around they will be more pro-active by calling the companies to let them know the rfp is coming in the mail along with a follow-up call to see if they have received it.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded to reject the proposal from Segal Advisors for pension consultation services because it exceeds pricing expectations and have Purchasing reissue a request for proposal.

Cyr suggested taking out the pension policy review from the rfp so people don't think they are taking on a huge task.

Eagan suggested adding PEHP to the request for proposal, so that both plans are together.

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

9 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT CONTINUED

F. Advanced Board Training Seminar (Boesch)

Eagan reported Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, has money in her budget because of a vacant position and would like to attend an advanced board training seminar.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded to authorize Boesch to attend the conference and for the monies to come out of the Human Services budget. Hudkins, Heier, Stevens, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

G. Public Defender Microcomputer Budget

Eagan reported the Public Defender is requesting several upgrades, which has already been budgeted for and will need to be budgeted for next year, for the new case management system.

H. Revised Women's Commission Mission

Workman indicated he is opposed to any funding for the Women's Commission.

Stevens reported he would like the Board to consider adopting a new interlocal agreement with the new mission statement be effective July 1, 2007 so that it is based on Lancaster County's fiscal year. He also suggested changing the 30-day termination provision to a 90-day termination provision.

Hudkins indicated he likes the 30-day termination provision.

The other Board members indicated they like the new mission statement.

I. Surplus Property (Parcel ID 10-22-205-003-000)

Eagan distributed documentation regarding Parcel ID 10-22-205-003-000 (Exhibit C) and reported he received a request from an individual who is interested in purchasing three surplus property lots which are under some power lines. He said he spoke with the County Engineer, who indicated 2 of the lots are still in use, however he does not need the 3rd lot. Eagan noted a public hearing would need to be set to take evidence for and against declaring it surplus and its fair market value, which would also need to be established.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to set a public hearing and begin the appraisal process on the piece of surplus property. Stevens, Schorr, Hudkins, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

4 PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE (EXECUTIVE SESSION) CONTINUED - Don Killeen, County Property Manager; Mike Thurber, Corrections Director

MOTION: Schorr moved and Heier seconded to enter into Executive Session at 10:50 a.m. with regards to the earlier item on the purchase of real estate. Schorr, Hudkins, Heier, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: Heier moved and Schorr seconded to exit Executive Session at 11:15 a.m. Stevens, Heier, Hudkins, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

9 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT CONTINUED

J. Hearing Date for Special Permit No. 06051 (Drag Strip)

This item was held until the Change of Zoning Ordinance is discussed next week.

K. Alternatives to Ease Jail Overcrowding

Stevens reported he and Commissioner Schorr met with Kim Etherton, Community Corrections Director and Kit Boesch, Human Services Director, and discussed two different approaches in examining alternatives to ease jail overcrowding. Stevens said they have specific ideas about people who are at the Correctional Facility in Airpark that are within days of being released who could possibly be released, with the Judge's concurrence, and could be set up on electronic monitoring, which might open up about 10 to 15 beds. He believes the District Court Judge's would have to go along with the idea, and they have been very cooperative with working with Kim. Stevens also noted that Boesch believes a committee needs to be formed to examine alternatives to ease jail overcrowding, which would include the Probation Officers, Judges, representatives from the County Board, Public Defender and several others.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Schorr seconded approval of sending the letter to the County Attorney. Schorr, Stevens, Hudkins, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

L. Proposed Keno Prevention Fund Awards

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

11 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. **Region V Governing Board Meeting** - Schorr

Schorr said Region V is still receiving 5 referrals a day for sexual offender treatment. She said they were going to have a certain number of beds at the Regional Center, which was to go into effect on January 23rd, then March 1st and now it has been delayed again.

Schorr also reported on the Board of Health meeting and indicated there was some discussion regarding County kennels in the City if they are annexed into the City limits and if the County would still have control, but it still needs to be voted on by the City Council and Planning Commission.

B. **LIBA Budget Monitoring Committee Meeting** - Stevens

Stevens did not attend the meeting because of the Motor Sports Task Force meeting.

C. **Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee Meeting** - Hudkins

Hudkins reported they have had 3 vacancies since October and the bylaws state there is a 2 to 3-year term limit and then a person can't participate, so the bylaws were amended to say that after a vacancy of at least 3 months, a person can serve again. Hudkins also noted Lincoln's air quality has changed at Lancaster Manor and the committee has recommended that the media be informed that there is some new machinery at the Health Department that can do air quality measurements if needed.

12 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Schorr moved and Heier seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:37 a.m. Stevens, Hudkins, Heier, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk