

**MINUTES  
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010  
COMMISSIONERS HEARING ROOM, ROOM 112  
FIRST FLOOR, COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
9:30 A.M.**

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

Others present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney  
Dan Nolte, County Clerk  
Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk  
Angela Zocholl, County Clerk's Office

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

1) **MINUTES: Approval of the minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting held on Tuesday, February 9, 2010.**

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded approval of the minutes. Hudkins, Stevens, Schorr, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

2) **CLAIMS: Approval of all claims processed through Tuesday, February 16, 2010.**

Schorr exited the meeting.

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded approval of the claims. Hudkins, Workman, Stevens and Heier voted aye. Schorr was absent for vote. Motion carried 4-0.

Schorr returned to the meeting.

3) **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- A. **Recognition of Hope Gress, 2009 Lancaster Manor Employee of the Year – Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer. (See Item 5A for correlating document.)**

Gwen Thorpe and Keith Fickenscher, Lancaster Manor Administrator, recognized Hope Gress as the 2009 Lancaster Manor Employee of the Year. Fickenscher reported the current Manor census at 214. Gress praised the residents and her job at the Manor. The Board commended Gress for her work.

### 3) **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED:**

- B. Visitors Improvement Fund grants to the Lincoln Children’s Museum for the Wonders of Sound Exhibit, Lincoln Parks and Recreation Foundation for the renovation of Sherman Field, and the Lincoln Arts Council for web site improvement – Darren Macfee, Executive Director of the Lincoln Children’s Museum; Steve Hiller and Susan Larsen Rodenburg, Lincoln Parks and Recreation Foundation; Jeff Maul, Executive Director of the Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau; and Deb Weber, Executive Director of the Lincoln Arts Council. (See Items 5B-D for correlating document.)**

Jeff Maul discussed the Visitors Improvement Fund grants, which support a wide range of local projects regarding visitor attractions.

Deb Weber gave an overview of the Lincoln Arts Council web site update. The web site [www.artscene.org](http://www.artscene.org) posts events, allows artists and organizations to maintain their own pages, and includes a section on visiting Lincoln. Weber said the arts generate \$36,000,000 in economic activity each year with about 19% from people outside Lincoln.

Darren Macfee expressed his appreciation for the grant funding for the Lincoln Children’s Museum. He explained most of the museum stays the same year round, but an area on the lower level will be used for the new exhibit, “The Wonders of Sound”, which opens in mid May.

Steve Hiller and Susan Larsen Rodenburg discussed the renovation projects at Sherman Field, including restrooms, equipment storage, athletic training room, umpire changing room and dugout area. If fundraising is successful, the current lighting system will be replaced with an energy efficient lighting system. The historical characteristics of the field will be maintained, and a history of Sherman Field will be built under the grandstand. Hiller said there are currently about 285 baseball games played in a season, including large tournaments that bring in outside teams who stay at hotels and generate tax money. Larsen Rodenburg expressed her appreciation for the County’s assistance in raising nearly \$10,000,000 for the Lincoln Parks Foundation.

### 4) **PUBLIC HEARING:**

- A. Amendment of the Lancaster County General Assistance Guidelines. (See Item 5E for correlating documents.)**

The Chair opened the public hearing.

Gary Chalupa was administered the oath.

Chalupa noted a change in the identification requirement; two forms of identification are now required for General Assistance clients, including one with a picture.

Chalupa said General Assistance could not be used as a supplement payment in cases involving insured individuals. Tom Fox explained if someone was involved in an accident and had auto insurance, they could be indigent but still be ineligible for assistance. Chalupa said he is working on revising the wording of the guidelines to help clarify this matter.

#### 4) **PUBLIC HEARING CONTINUED:**

Chalupa discussed other changes, including issuance of personal need vouchers and low income bus passes, referencing food stamps as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and increasing rent allowance. Rent allowance would be changed to \$375 for a family of one, \$400 for a family of two, \$475 for a family of three, and \$550 for a family of four. The Housing Authority, the State, and the Lincoln Realtors Association do an annual study of rent to determine these amounts.

Chalupa said primary health care is another issue. ED Connections, an organization through BryanLGH that deals with emergency room visits for people with no means of payment, tries to connect people with their primary care provider. Currently all General Assistance clients must obtain their primary care through the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. Chalupa said provisions have been written for ED Connections clients to allow them to go to another primary care facility. Andrea Mason, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department Clinic Manager, was administered the oath and explained the difficulty for emergency rooms to connect with a primary care provider. Sometimes clients are already established with another health facility, and because of trust issues with the system, the clients want to stay with their established health facility. Mason said they would like the opportunity to review clients on a case-by-case basis.

Chalupa questioned Agenda Item 50 regarding primary care and health integration. He was concerned about General Assistance being listed as a payment source in one section of the document. Fox explained the section refers to reporting, not billing. Schorr discussed the project, saying it is an initiative by Region V to provide mental health services in a primary care setting. She said once funding runs out, care should be taken to not allow transfer of billing to other entities.

Hudkins inquired about burial funds. Chalupa said \$1,108 is paid toward cremation. He said when an irrevocable burial trust in effect it is considered exempt in payment for the funeral.

The Chair closed the public hearing.

#### 5) **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **A one-time cash award, in the amount of \$200, for Hope Gress, due to exceptional circumstances.**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the award. Stevens, Workman, Schorr, Hudkins and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- B. **A Visitors Improvement Fund grant contract, in the amount of \$10,000, from Lancaster County to the Lincoln Children's Museum for the Wonders of Sound Exhibit. The grant period is from January 1, 2010, to January 1, 2011. (C-10-0070)**

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the contract. Workman, Schorr, Hudkins, Stevens and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

5) **NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

- C. **A Visitors Improvement Fund grant contract, in the amount of \$10,000, from Lancaster County to Lincoln Parks and Recreation Foundation for renovation of Sherman Field. The grant period is from January 1, 2010, to January 1, 2011. (C-10-0071)**

Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney, asked the contract to be approved subject to receiving the insurance certificate. Stevens asked for clarification on who would provide the certificate of insurance. Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, said the City should provide the certificate since they own the field.

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded approval of the contract subject to receipt of the certificate of insurance. Schorr, Hudkins, Stevens, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- D. **A Visitors Improvement Fund grant contract, in the amount of \$10,000, from Lancaster County to the Lincoln Arts Council for improvement and update of the Lincoln Arts Council web site. The grant period is from January 1, 2010, to January 1, 2011. (C-10-0072)**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Stevens seconded approval of the contract. Hudkins, Stevens, Schorr, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- E. **Adoption of the revised Lancaster County General Assistance Guidelines.**

Item was held per request of the County Attorney's Office.

- F. **Acceptance of the Keno Human Services Prevention Fund Round 31 funding recommendations: CPIN, \$5,000; Community Crops, \$2,500; Big Brothers/Big Sisters, \$3,750; Lancaster County Medical Society, \$3,750; Lighthouse, \$2,454; Lincoln Children's Zoo, \$7,000; Lincoln Kids against Hunger, \$1,875; Lincoln Literacy Council, \$2,800; Matt Talbot Kitchen, \$3,750.**

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded approval of the recommendations. Schorr, Hudkins, Workman, Stevens and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- G. **Applications for Special Designated Licenses submitted by Ken's Liquor to provide liquor beverage service at Country Pines, 6305 West Adams, Lincoln, Lancaster County, on Saturday, April 3; Saturday, April 24; Saturday, May 8; and Sunday, May 30.**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Schorr seconded approval of the special designated licenses. Workman, Schorr, Stevens, Hudkins and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- H. **A recommendation from Property Management and the Purchasing Agent to award a bid, in the amount of \$10,099, to Midwest Floor Covering, for lobby carpet replacement in the Department of Motor Vehicles. (B-10-0014)**

5) **NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Workman seconded approval of the recommendation. Schorr, Stevens, Hudkins, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

I. **A resolution in the matter of adopting the updated Lancaster County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). (R-10-0018)**

Doug Ahlberg, Emergency Management Director, said changes were made for 2008 and 2009. Since 192 copies of LEOP are issued in the County, only elected officials received a printed copy; the remaining copies were issued on a disc to reduce printing costs.

Workman discussed with Ahlberg the inclusion of terrorism in the document.

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded approval of the resolution. Stevens, Workman, Schorr, Hudkins and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

J. **A contract between NCS Equipment, Inc., the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County and the Lincoln-Lancaster County Public Building Commission for the annual requirements for equipment and accessory rental. The County will pay for products and services according to the pricing as provided in the contractor's proposal. Term of the contract is two years from the date of execution. (C-10-0066)**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Schorr seconded approval of the contract. Workman, Schorr, Hudkins, Stevens and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

K. **A contract between Murphy Tractor & Equipment Co., Inc., the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County and the Lincoln-Lancaster County Public Building Commission for the annual requirements for equipment and accessory rental. The County will pay for products and services according to the pricing as provided in the contractor's proposal. Term of the contract is two years from the date of execution. (C-10-0067)**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the contract. Schorr, Hudkins, Stevens, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

L. **A contract between Hamilton Equipment Co., the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County and the Lincoln-Lancaster County Public Building Commission for the annual requirements for equipment and accessory rental. The County will pay for products and services according to the pricing as provided in the contractor's proposal. Term of the contract is two years from the date of execution. (C-10-0068)**

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the contract. Hudkins, Stevens, Schorr, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

5) **NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

- M. **A grant contract between Lancaster County and the City of Lincoln to provide funding for the Lincoln Police Department's Domestic Violence Specialist position (08-VW-713). Lancaster County will expend \$33,887 from the Federal Violence Against Women fund and the City of Lincoln will contribute \$11,296 in matching funds. Term of the grant contract is June 1, 2009, to May 31, 2010. (C-10-0069)**

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded approval of the contract. Hudkins, Stevens, Schorr, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- N. **An interlocal agreement between the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County and the Village of Bennet to provide for sales outlet locations for the Lincoln/Lancaster County keno lottery within Bennet. The agreement is for a period of five years, effective upon execution. The proceeds shall be distributed in the following manner: (1) 2% of the gross keno proceeds to Bennet; (2) 2% of the gross proceeds to pay the state lottery tax; (3) 1% of the gross proceeds to Lincoln for administrative costs; (4) 30% of the remaining proceeds to Lancaster County; and (5) 70% of the remaining proceeds to Lincoln. (C-10-0073)**

Schorr noted the Bennet Village Board approved the document with a 3-2 vote. Stevens said his understanding was the request came from a single establishment in Bennet but the agreement would be for an unlimited number of outlets in Bennet. Bill Harvey, Attorney for Big Red Keno, said the interlocal agreement would allow for as many locations as are in Bennet and approval of the Bennet Square location will be placed on an upcoming agenda.

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded approval of the agreement. Schorr, Hudkins, Workman, Stevens and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- O. **A memorandum of understanding between Lancaster County, on behalf of the Community Mental Health Center, and People's Health Center concerning medical appointments for Mental Health Center clients. Term of the memorandum is three years from the date of execution. There is no cost to the County. (C-10-0074)**

Tom Fox said approval of the memorandum of understanding would be acceptable since it did not pose a billing issue for General Assistance as earlier mentioned by Gary Chalupa.

Stevens noted the waiting list at People's Health Center of a month or more. He explained this memorandum would give Region V providers an opportunity to see people the next day.

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Stevens seconded approval of the memorandum. Workman, Schorr, Stevens, Hudkins and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

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 the following:**

1. **County Engineer quarterly report for October, November and December, 2009.**
2. **GIS quarterly report for October, November and December, 2009.**
3. **Management's Discussion and Analysis, Financial Statements and Supplementary Information regarding the City of Hickman for the year ended September 30, 2009.**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the consent items. Schorr, Stevens, Hudkins, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

7) **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

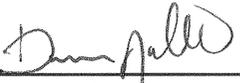
No comment was offered by the public.

8) **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. **The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners will hold a Mid-Year Budget Retreat on Thursday, February 18, 2010, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at BryanLGH West in Classroom 1. The next staff meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 2010, at 8:30 a.m., in Room 113 on the first floor of the County-City Building.**
- B. **The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners meeting is broadcast live at 9:30 a.m., on Tuesdays and rebroadcast at 1:30 p.m., and 6:30 p.m., as well as on Saturday afternoon on 5 City-TV, Cable Channel 5. In addition, this meeting may be viewed on Nebraska On Demand Time Warner Channel 101 and is available on the internet 24 hours a day at [www.lancaster.ne.gov](http://www.lancaster.ne.gov). Click on 5 City-TV Video on Demand.**

9) **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded to adjourn the Board of Commissioners meeting at 10:37 a.m. Stevens, Workman, Schorr, Hudkins and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

  
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Dan Nolte  
Lancaster County Clerk



**MINUTES**  
**LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010**  
**COMMISSIONERS HEARING ROOM, ROOM 112**  
**FIRST FLOOR, COUNTY-CITY BUILDING**  
**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

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

Others present: Scott Gaines, Deputy County Assessor/Register of Deeds  
Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney  
Dan Nolte, County Clerk  
Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk  
Angela Zocholl, County Clerk's Office

The location announcement of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was given and the meeting was called to order at 10:37 a.m.

1) **MINUTES: Approval of the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting held on Tuesday, February 9, 2010.**

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded approval of the minutes. Hudkins, Stevens, Schorr, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

2) **ADDITIONS AND DEDUCTIONS: Approval of 62 additions and deductions to the tax assessment rolls per Attachments "A" and "B".**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Stevens seconded approval of the additions and deductions. Schorr, Hudkins, Workman, Stevens and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

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

**Lux Center for the Arts**  
**NET Foundation for Television**  
**University of Nebraska Foundation**

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Schorr seconded approval of the motor vehicle tax exemptions. Workman, Schorr, Stevens, Hudkins and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

4) **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to adjourn the Board of Equalization meeting at 10:39 a.m. Schorr, Stevens, Hudkins, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.



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**Dan Nolte**  
**Lancaster County Clerk**

