

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 113
THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010
8:30 A.M.**

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

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

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

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF THE STAFF MEETING MINUTES, THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010

Stevens asked that the seventh sentence in seventh paragraph on Page 3 of the minutes be corrected to read as follows:

Currently, the County does not provide a match.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Workman seconded approval of the April 1, 2010 Staff Meeting minutes, with the noted correction. Hudkins, Workman, Stevens, Schorr and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Dedication of Memorial for Juvenile Court Judge Nuernberger
- B. Report on Meeting with Lori Griggs, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, and Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, to Discuss Space Needs
- C. Request from the Lincoln Police Department's Victim/Witness Unit for a Letter of Support for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Application (Exhibit A)

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

3 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Gordon Kissel and Joe Kohout, Kissel/E&S Associates (Legislative Consultants)

Joe Kohout, Legislative Consultant, gave a legislative update (Exhibit B).

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

A. Dedication of Memorial for Juvenile Court Judge Nuernberger

Schorr said she attended the dedication of a memorial for Juvenile Court Judge Nuernberger, who the first Juvenile Court Judge in Nebraska, on April 2nd.

B. Report on Meeting with Lori Griggs, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, and Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, to Discuss Space Needs

Hudkins said he, Schorr and Don Killeen, County Property Manager, met with Lori Griggs, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, and viewed space in the 233 Building to see whether it could meet the needs of her department (see March 4, 2010 Staff Meeting minutes). He said parking appears to be a problem and suggested the Chair and Vice Chair ask the Mayor whether three metered parking stalls on the east side of the building could be converted into a loading zone.

Hudkins also reported that he and Killeen informed a group of protesters who had placed a banner on the lawn of the County-City Building that they would have to move it to the area between the sidewalk and curb. He said they were also distributing leaflets that targeted a construction company that is working in the community (Exhibit C).

Schorr reported it will cost the Human Services Department \$3,000 more in rent to move back to the County-City Building.

C. Request from the Lincoln Police Department's Victim/Witness Unit for a Letter of Support for Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Application (Exhibit A)

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded to authorize the Chair to sign a letter of support for the grant application. Hudkins, Workman, Stevens, Schorr and Heier voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

EMERGENCY ITEMS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Heier asked that Board members forward names they would like considered for appointment to the committee that will look at the Comprehensive Plan to him (see April 1, 2010 Staff Meeting minutes).

Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center Director, appeared and said the Governor has given the South Street Business and Civic Association an award for the best use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. **NOTE:** Settle serves on that body as the County's representative.

4 YOUTH SERVICES CENTER (YSC) MEDICAL SERVICES AWARD RECOMMENDATION - Sheli Schindler, Youth Services Center (YSC) Director; Bob Walla, Assistant Purchasing Agent

Sheli Schindler, Youth Services Center (YSC) Director, recommended the County contract with Correctional Healthcare Management (CHM) of Colorado for medical services at YSC.

Bob Walla, Assistant Purchasing Agent, said he checked CHM's juvenile references and said they were very favorable.

Schindler said YSC will receive less nursing services under the contract than the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) is currently providing. **NOTE:** LLCHD informed the County it will no longer provide the service. She said CHM will provide 56 hours of nursing services, with 24-hour coverage each day of the week, for \$169,600 and will reimburse the County at a rate of 110 percent for any nursing shortages. A nurse practitioner and mental health nurse will be made available weekly and a doctor will be on-call. Schindler said CHM will also provide on-site testing and analysis, distribute medications, and has a plan for responding to non-English speaking residents.

Hudkins asked how much LLCHD was being paid for nursing services.

Schindler said the adjusted budget was \$147,240. She said LLCHD will assist with the transition, adding the new services will be in place by July 1st.

Hudkins asked the Chair and Vice Chair to inform the Mayor that the County will be incurring additional costs because LLCHD is eliminating the service.

In response to a question from Stevens, Walla said both of the companies that responded to the Request for Proposals (RFP) are reputable. He said the recommendation to go with CHM was based on services and their willingness to provide an hourly rate for the doctor and nurses, should it become necessary to adjust the staffing levels.

Heier suggested the Board look into having CHM provide nursing services to the County's adult correctional facility, as well.

5 TRAINING SESSION FOR JAIL PHARMACY SERVICES - Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney

Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney, said the Corrections Department would like to have Dr. Edward DeSimone, Director of Continuing Education at Creighton University School of Pharmacy, provide training to its management staff on the handling of pharmaceuticals. He said Dr. DeSimone charges \$250 per hour and estimated the training session will last two hours. Fox said Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, has indicated there are sufficient funds in his training budget to fund the expense.

In response to a question from Bob Walla, Assistant Purchasing Agent, Fox said the training is different than that provided by PharMerica, the provider of pharmacy services to Corrections, the Youth Services Center (YSC) and the Community Mental Health Center (CMHC). He said the training is specific to correctional facilities and will address a new law that provides for the relabeling and redispensing of prescription drugs at certain correctional facilities.

Walla said PharMerica's contract may need to be amended to meet the new requirements.

Heier suggested the training may also be beneficial for YSC staff.

Fox said PharMerica and Douglas County representatives will also be invited to attend. He also indicated Dr. DeSimone may not have the required general liability insurance and said the Board may be asked to waive the requirement.

6 LEASE OF COUNTY-OWNED LOT - Don Killeen, County Property Manager

Don Killeen, County Property Manager, noted the County has purchased 13.87 acres near the City of Waverly for the Bypass and said the County is required to either farm or seed the land. He said the land had been leased to a farmer on a 60/40 basis and asked whether the Board wants to continue those lease terms.

Board consensus was to cash rent the land instead.

7 A) REVIEW OF JUVENILE PROGRAM FUNDING; AND B) APPLICATION FOR TITLE V GRANT THROUGH NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION - Sara Hoyle, Juvenile Justice Coordinator

A) Review of Juvenile Program Funding

Sara Hoyle, Juvenile Justice Coordinator, gave an overview of Juvenile Justice Program Funding (Exhibit D), noting the Nebraska Crime Commission approved 18 of the 20 grant applications the County submitted. She said the total amount of funding is \$590,844, with a County match of \$40,000.

In response to a question from Hudkins, Hoyle said the County's match of the Malone Center's Talented Tenth Program was increased because it was anticipated that the Crime Commission would "step-down" its funding of the program. She said she will see if the County's match can be reduced back to the 2009-2010 funding level (\$5,000) since the Crime Commission's funding remained level.

Hudkins noted the County's match for the Cedar's Skills & Asset Building Program was reduced and asked if it was a "tradeoff".

Hoyle explained that funding for the program was "stepped-down" because she and Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, felt it should be part of the Pre-Trial Diversion Program.

Hudkins asked whether that will increase Pre-Trial Diversion's request for funding.

Hoyle said not at this point. She also reported that Pre-Trial Diversion has started an early assessment process to help reduce the number court filings.

Sheli Schindler, Youth Services Center (YSC) Director, appeared and said she believes the programs have helped to keep the juvenile detention population numbers down.

B) Application for Title V Grant Through Nebraska Crime Commission

Hoyle requested authorization to submit an application for a Title V grant that would target minority youth entering the juvenile justice system (Exhibit E), explaining there is a meeting scheduled later in the day that may change the parameters of the program.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the grant application, provided there are no substantial changes to the program as it was outlined. Schorr, Stevens, Workman, Hudkins and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

8 ACTION ITEMS

- A. Reimbursement of Doug Cyr (\$265.90) and Kerry Eagan (\$214.90) from Pension Reimbursement Account for Cost of Air Fare to Prudential Retirement Client Conference

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, explained there is a difference in airfare costs because he and Cyr are taking different return flights.

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

- B. Microcomputer Request C#61780, \$15,362.73 from County Assessor's Budget for 15 Computers; 10, 22" Monitors; Etc.

Norm Agena, County Assessor/Register of Deeds, appeared and said his intent is to rotate out his department's older computers and monitors. He said he had planned to do so next year but has sufficient funds in his budget this year to fund the expense. Agena said this should keep his department current for the next five years and assured the Board he will not make further computer requests until that time.

MOTION: Workman moved and Schorr seconded approval. Hudkins, Workman, Stevens, Schorr and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

9 CONSENT ITEMS

There were no consent items.

10 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. County Website Committee

Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, recommended that composition of the committee be as follows: Three (3) representatives from elected officials' departments; Two (2) representatives from appointed officials' departments; One (1) representative from a joint City/County department and Thorpe.

Schorr said she would prefer to implement the new County website before the County is forced to do so.

Thorpe estimated that implementation will take at least a month and a half.

Schorr suggested that the County's cities and villages be contacted and asked to update their information on the website.

B. Personnel Policy Board Appointment

It was noted that Jerry Sellentin and Jim Haszard's appointments are expiring. Eagan said Haszard, a local attorney, has declined reappointment. There was general consensus to appoint another attorney and Stevens offered Dennis Tegtmeier's name.

C. Resolution Regarding Impact of Lincoln Haymarket Arena

Schorr suggested the Board pass a resolution supporting the Haymarket Arena project.

NOTE: Information regarding the Lincoln Haymarket Arena bond issue was distributed (Exhibit F).

Eagan distributed copies of Nebraska Revised Statute §49-14,101.02, which governs what public resources can be used to support or oppose ballot question (Exhibit G). He said there is a specific provision in the statute that allows a public body to pass a resolution supporting or opposing a ballot question.

Schorr said she realizes three members of the Board live outside Lincoln and cannot vote on the issue but said the project will have a significant impact on the County, citing property tax revenue, lodging tax revenue and the ability to keep state tournaments and trade shows in the community as examples.

Workman, Hudkins and Heier indicated they would prefer to stay neutral on the issue.

Workman said the Board may be involved in public hearings on funding of the project in the future and said taking a position at this time would negate any arguments that would come forward.

Stevens said he is not aware of any plans to involve the County Board. He said facilities associated with the project will enhance the Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau's (CVB's) ability to "sell" Lincoln as a place for events, which will benefit the County through the lodging tax.

Schorr added the Board made a commitment to the project by allocating \$650,000 to fund the initial arena study.

Heier and Hudkins both remarked that the City Council did not take a position on the County's jail bond issue.

Heier said this is a City issue and said he does not believe the Board should try to influence the vote.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to direct Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, to draft a resolution in support of the arena bond issue on the May 11th primary election ballot.

Stevens said the Board will have an opportunity to review the resolution before it is placed on the regular County Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda for action.

Workman expressed concern that voting on the motion forces him to take a position on the project.

Stevens said that is the reason he made the motion.

Workman said he cannot give an opinion at this time and will abstain from voting.

ROLL CALL: Schorr and Stevens voted aye. Heier voted nay. Workman and Hudkins abstained from voting. Motion carried 2-1, with 2 abstentions.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded to reconsider the previous action. Hudkins, Workman and Heier voted aye. Stevens and Schorr voted nay. Motion carried 3-2.

NOTE: The Board's action to reconsider placed the question back before the Board.

Hudkins said he does not believe the Board should take a position on this issue and said he does not want his vote to be construed as such.

FINAL VOTE: Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Hudkins, Workman and Heier voted nay. Motion failed 3-2.

D. Food Bank Drive Picnic (July 9, 2010)

Informational only.

E. Commissioners' Award of Excellence Committee

The Board scheduled reappointment of Minette Genuchi to the Commissioners' Award of Excellence Committee on the April 13, 2010 County Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

11 PENDING

There were no pending items.

12 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission (NIZC) - Hudkins

Hudkins said the meeting was cancelled, due to the lack of a quorum.

B. Lincoln-Lancaster County Ecological Advisory Committee (EAC) - Heier

Heier said there was a presentation on the Comprehensive Plan. He also reported the following: 1) Bids for construction of a motocross trail will be opened; and 2) The Village of Davey and City of Hickman are experiencing high nitrate levels in water near their communities.

Stevens said he spoke to Reid Curtis, Executive Director of Wild Rose Woods, Inc., and said Curtis agreed to send a letter to the Board outlining their goals and objectives.

NOTE: Curtis recently sent letters to Board members seeking assistance in locating 20-30 acres of rough, wooded ground within 25 miles of Lincoln to provide children with nature-based education.

Heier said Terry Genrich, Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Manager, has some suggestions for Curtis.

Hudkins suggested an area of Wilderness Park may be suitable.

C. Chamber Coffee - Stevens

Stevens said the Lincoln Airport Authority is hiring a consultant, in conjunction with the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, to advise the Airport Authority on how to better utilize their land. He said City, County, Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) and University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL) representatives commented on their budget situations and said Congressional representatives discussed what they see at priority issues: Cap and trade (emissions trading), immigration reform, transportation, and extension of unemployment benefits. Stevens said he also reported on the difference in the City and County's matches of employee pension plans.

13 EMERGENCY ITEMS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Item was moved forward on the agenda.

14 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Schorr, Stevens, Heier, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk