

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2003
8:30 A.M.**

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

Others Present: Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Diane Carlson, Deputy County Attorney
Kristy Mundt, Deputy County Attorney
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

**1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23, 2003**

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Schorr seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes of September 23, 2003. Hudkins, Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Stevens abstained from voting. Motion carried.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

A. Discussion of General Liability Insurance

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

3 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 03004, ADOPTION OF SOUTHEAST UPPER SALT CREEK WATERSHED MASTER PLAN (REVIEW OF PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS) - Steve Henrichsen, Planning Department; Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Public Works/Utilities

Steve Henrichsen, Planning Department, gave a brief overview of what will be the public hearing process at a special joint public hearing of the County Board, City Council and Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (NRD) on October 1, 2003 regarding Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 03004, requested by the Director of Planning at the request of Public Works/Utilities and Lower Platte South NRD, to amend the 2025 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan to adopt the Southeast Upper Salt Creek Watershed Master Plan as an approved subarea plan and to amend the Land Use Plan to designate land as Green Space and Agricultural Stream Corridor along the 100 year flood prone corridor, on property generally located between Salt Creek and South 70th Street, from Yankee Hill Road to south of Saltillo Road.

Henrichsen noted that the Planning Commission recommends adoption of Master Plan Concept A, which preserves existing floodplain.

Hudkins said he believed there was consensus to merge parts of Concept C, which provides greater flexibility to development, with Concept A.

Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Public Works/Utilities, said the environmental community is not interested in formulating a compromise with the development community and landowner interests. She said compromise language will be drafted if that is the direction of the governing bodies.

4 BUILD THROUGH ACREAGES STUDY - Marty Shukert, RDG Crose Gurden Shukert in Association with The Schemmer Associates; Marvin Krout, Planning Director

Marty Shukert, RDG Crose Gardner Shukert, gave a Power-Point presentation and overview of Build Through Acreages, An Approach to Acreage Development in the Lincoln Jurisdiction (Exhibit A), noting the following:

- Comprehensive Plan Recommendation of a Build Through Concept for Development in Tiers II and III
- Approaches to Acreage Regulation
- Obstacles to Build Through
- Build Through Acreage (BTA) Concept for Lincoln
- Details and Standards
- Transitional Obligations & Financing

Brief discussion followed with a suggestion that more public education is needed.

NOTE: Additional discussion of performance based standards and overall acreage development strategy is scheduled on the October 8, 2003 City-County Common Meeting agenda.

Also in attendance were: Mike DeKalb, Kent Morgan and Tom Cajka, Planning Department; Don Thomas, County Engineer; Larry Worrell, County Surveyor; Roger Figard, City Engineer; Harold Roper, acreage owner; and Nate Jenkins, Lincoln Journal-Star Newspaper.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Discussion of General Liability Insurance - Tom Champoux, UNICO Group, Inc.; Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager; Gary Lacey, County Attorney; Mike Thew, Chief Deputy County Attorney; Doug Cyr, Deputy County Attorney; and Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer

Tom Champoux, UNICO Group, Inc., presented revisions to a renewal quote from Coregis (Exhibit B), noting a net reduction of \$60,000 (24% increase).

Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager, said a 20% increase was budgeted.

Hudkins said he and Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer, spoke to representatives of the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA) about the possibility of coverage and were told it would take a minimum of 90 days. He said NIRMA may be willing to provide claims administration, should the County elect to self-insure. It was noted that the deadline for accepting the renewal offer from Coregis has been extended to 11:59 p.m. September 30, 2003 and a decline of the offer would leave the County without coverage.

The Board asked whether there has been a problem with Coregis settling claims without the County's input or to the County's satisfaction.

Mike Thew, Chief Deputy County Attorney, said the County has experienced this sort of problem, but said it was with a different company.

Workman asked whether there would be a significant increase in administrative expense if the County self-insured.

Thew said yes, as it will increase the workload for Eckley and the County Attorney's Office. He noted that two of the companies declining coverage noted jail concerns and said the Board might want to look at self-insuring that portion.

Schorr asked whether any other counties are self-insured.

Eckley said she is not aware of any.

Schorr asked whether the County would be in compliance with State Statutes with regard to insurance requirements if it self-insures.

Thew said there is no statutory requirement that the County have insurance, other than workers' compensation.

Hudkins said the Board has a fiduciary responsibility to make sure that the County is properly indemnified and has assets to cover potential liabilities.

Kroeker recommended that the County continue the insurance coverage.

Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, suggested that additional time be given to reviewing claims history and assessing exposure.

Thew said he believes a minimum of a year is needed to set up a sufficient reserve and to weigh other alternatives.

Champoux added that it is difficult to get back into the insurance marketplace once you leave and become self-insured.

Board consensus was to schedule further discussion and appointment of an insurance advisory committee.

NOTE: The Board will take action on the renewal offer from Coregis at the 1:30 p.m. Board of Commissioners Meeting.

5 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 a.m. Workman, Schorr, Heier, Hudkins and Stevens voted aye. Motion carried.

Bruce Medcalf
Lancaster County Clerk