# MINUTES LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 112 TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018 9:00 A.M.

Advance public notice of the Board of Commissioners meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board and the Lancaster County, Nebraska, web site and emailed to the media on July 6, 2018.

Commissioners present: Todd Wiltgen, Chair; Jennifer Brinkman, Vice Chair; Roma Amundson, Bill Avery and Deb Schorr

Others present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer; Ann Ames, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Jenifer Holloway, Deputy County Attorney; Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk; and Monét McCullen, County Clerk's Office

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was announced.

# 1) MINUTES:

A. Approval of the minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting held on Tuesday, July 3, 2018.

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Amundson seconded approval of the minutes. Avery, Brinkman, Schorr, Amundson and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

# 2) <u>CLAIMS</u>:

A. Approval of all claims processed through July 10, 2018.

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Amundson seconded approval of the claims. Brinkman, Schorr, Amundson, Avery and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

# 3) **SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

A. Recognition of the services performed by Hunter Cherrington for the Lancaster County Records & Information Management Department through the Work and Gain Experience in the Summer (WAGES) program of the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired — Brian Pillard, Records & Information Manager; and Shane Buresh, Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Brian Pillard, Records & Information Manager, said that for over 15 years the County has partnered with the Work and Gain Experience in the Summer (WAGES) program and receives help every year from the students.

Shane Buresh, Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired Transition Coordinator, stated this is the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the program and it was created to try and reverse unemployment for disabled individuals. Buresh gave a brief overview of the program and the services they provide.

Wayne Saber, Lincoln Public Schools, said that he has personally seen the positive impact on the kids who participate in the WAGES program.

In response to Brinkman's inquiry, Buresh said there are currently 12 individuals involved and they are eligible from the age of 16 until after they graduate high school.

# 4) **NEW BUSINESS**:

A. Resolution in the matter of witness fees paid by Lancaster County which have remained unclaimed for six months or more. (R-18-0042)

**MOTION:** Brinkman moved and Schorr seconded approval of the resolution. Schorr, Amundson, Avery, Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Resolution in the matter of the emergency closure of Bridge E-117. (R-18-0043)

Pam Dingman, County Engineer, explained this bridge is located on Northwest 84<sup>th</sup> Street between West Bluff Road and West Waverly Road (as shown in Exhibit A). The bridge was damaged in the 2015 flooding and no longer meets the criteria to remain open. She said the bridge will be eligible for part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement and has already been designed and bid. Dingman stated that construction will begin as soon as they receive the Army Corps of Engineers permit and are out of bat pup season.

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Brinkman seconded approval of the resolution. Amundson, Avery, Brinkman, Schorr and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Contract with JJK Construction, LLC on behalf of the Lancaster County Engineer for scour repair at Bridge H-119. The cost to the County is \$334,496.28. Work is to be completed on or before August 1, 2018. (C-18-0373)

Dingman said the contract for this bridge had previously been awarded to another contractor. She stated that it is not being awarded to the second lowest bidder. She provided a map of the location of the bridge (Exhibit A) which is located on  $176^{th}$  Street north of Bluff Road. Dingman noted that the bridge is from the 1980's and was designed too short. She noted that construction can begin once the permit from the Army Corps of Engineers prove that the trees are free from bats.

Brinkman asked how the timeframe would be possible if the bridge was to be completed by August. Dingman explained the procedure is to award the contract first and then a change order would follow.

**MOTION:** Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded approval of the contract. Amundson, Schorr, Brinkman, Avery and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Change Order to County Contract C-18-0261 — Yost Excavating, Inc. for a value engineering study to use steel headwall in place of concrete headwalls, cost savings in material costs, and a reduction in number of days the road is closed thereby reducing sign and barricade costs by a minimum of three days per site for Project 18-05 for a decrease of \$10,668.63. (C-18-0395)

Dingman stated the change order will only reflect the pipes that will need to be replaced (Exhibit B).

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Brinkman seconded approval of the change order. Schorr, Brinkman, Avery, Amundson and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Agreement with Kissel, Kohout, ES Associates, LLC for legislative services. The term of the agreement is November 1, 2018 through October 31, 2020. The County will pay \$63,000 for each year of the agreement. (C-18-0374)

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Avery seconded approval of the agreement. Brinkman, Avery, Amundson and Wiltgen voted yes. Schorr abstained. Motion carried 4-0 with one abstention.

F. Cooperative Service Agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service — Wildlife Services for assistance in facilitating wildlife damage management. Per C-18-0263, The County will pay up to \$7,500 per year for the services. The agreement is effective upon final signature and shall continue for five years. (C-18-0380)

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Schorr seconded approval of the agreement. Avery, Amundson, Schorr, Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

G. Interlocal Agreement among Butler County, Cass County, Colfax County, Dodge County, Douglas County, Lancaster County, Platte County, Sarpy County, Saunders County and Seward County to create the Lower Platte Weed Management Area to address noxious and invasive plant problems in the Lower Platte River drainage area. (C-18-0381)

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Avery seconded approval of the agreement. Amundson, Brinkman, Avery, Schorr and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

H. Contract with New Heights Tree Service for Unit Price – Tree Trimming & Removal Services, (Bid No. 18-066). The contract term is from July 20, 2018 through July 19, 2019. The cost to the County shall not exceed \$15,000. (C-18-0382)

**MOTION:** Brinkman moved and Avery seconded approval of the contract. Avery, Schorr, Brinkman, Amundson and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

I. Agreement with Lincoln Orthopaedic for specialized medical care and assistance to general assistance clients. The provider will be reimbursed at the Medicaid rate. The agreement is effective upon execution and shall continue for five years. (C-18-0394)

**MOTION:** Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded approval of the agreement. Brinkman, Amundson, Schorr, Avery and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

J. Grant Contract and Addendum with the Human Services Federation in the amount of \$3,425 for the Youth Thrive Trainings program. The contract is funded by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Community-based Juvenile Services Aid State Grant (#17-CB-0529). Term of the grant contract is May 1, 2018, through June 30, 2018. (C-18-0383)

**MOTION:** Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded approval of the grant contract.

In response to Wiltgen's inquiry about the timeframe of the addendum, Sara Hoyle, Human Services Director, said case management training occurred in early June and the contract needed to be extended for that length of time.

ROLL CALL: Schorr, Avery, Amundson, Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

K. Grant contract with the People's City Mission in the amount of \$252,000 for housing, community resource allocation and coordination at the People's City Mission's Curtis Center for Sentence Conversion Program participants. Term of the grant contract is June 1, 2018 through October 1, 2020. (C-18-0384)

Kim Etherton, Community Corrections Director, said the program targets 18 to 25-year-old individuals with hopes of reducing the rebooking rate. Etherton gave further overview of the program.

Schorr asked for a cost per day breakdown. Etherton explained that the Curtis Center rate is \$50 per day. In general, County Corrections is around \$15 to \$20 per day.

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Schorr seconded approval of the grant contract. Avery, Brinkman, Schorr, Amundson and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

L. Grant contract with the Asian Community and Cultural Center in the amount of \$4,225 for the New Americans Task Force program. The contract is funded by the Grants Fund for the period of May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2021. (C-18-0385)

**MOTION:** Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded approval of the grant contract. Brinkman, Schorr, Amundson, Avery and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- M. Grant contracts funded by the Juvenile Justice Prevention Funds for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 with the following:
  - 1. Boys & Girls Clubs of Lincoln/Lancaster County in the amount of \$27,900 for the Teen Outreach program. (C-18-0386)
  - 2. The Mediation Center in the amount of \$55,285 for the Restorative Justice Practices program. (C-18-0387)

Clair Nelson, The Mediation Center – Project Restore Coordinator, said this is a collaboration with Lincoln Public Schools, County Attorney's Office, Lincoln Police Department and Human Services. The concept of this program is to provide a second chance for youth based on incidents that mostly occurred within the school. Nelson provided a statistical overview of the program along with a brochure (Exhibit C).

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Brinkman seconded approval of the grant contracts. Schorr, Amundson, Avery, Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- N. Grant contracts funded by the Joint Budget Committee for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 with the following:
  - 1. CEDARS Youth Services in the amount of \$295,858 for the Emergency Shelter and Crisis Stabilization programs. (C-18-0388)
  - 2. Asian Community and Cultural Center in the amount of \$10,000 for the Family Resource program. (C-18-0389)
  - 3. Voices of Hope in the amount of \$6,750 for the Crisis Intervention & Advocacy program. (C-18-0390)

Meagan Liesveld, CEDARS Youth Services Executive Vice President, said this is the only shelter that is for unaccompanied youth in all of Southeast Nebraska. An added provision of this grant is adding a licensed mental health therapist to any and all children that are in their care.

Sheila Dorsey Vinton, Asian Community and Cultural Center Executive Director, said this program serves all immigrants and refugees and gave a brief overview of the program.

Marcee Metzger, Voices of Hope Executive Director, explained the different services they provide to women, men and children.

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Amundson seconded approval of the grant contracts. Amundson, Avery, Brinkman, Schorr and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

5) <u>CONSENT ITEMS</u>: These are routine business items that 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. Right-of-way contracts with the following:

- 1. Samuel Kaplan, South 90<sup>th</sup> Street and Hickman Road, in the amount of \$1,675. (C-18-0391)
- 2. Debra K. Lyford, South 96<sup>th</sup> Street and Hickman Road, in the amount of \$505. (C-18-0392)
- 3. Mary S. and David R. Montague, North 27<sup>th</sup> Street and Agnew Road, in the amount of \$1,189. (C-18-0393)

# B. Amendments to the following contracts:

- 1. County Contract C-15-0316 with Legal Aid of Nebraska for legal services. The amendment extends the term of the contract from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2021, and inserts new language regarding how to calculate maximum caseloads for drug court cases. The cost to the County is \$56,016 per month. (C-18-0396)
- 2. County Contract C-16-0438 with Transitworks for the County Engineer's HPRTK Network Subscription. The amendment renews the contract for an additional two (2) year term beginning August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2020. (C-18-0397)
- 3. County Contract C-16-0041 with LanguageLinc for On-Site Interpreters, Interp-3. The amendment is for a price increase of approximately 5%, not to exceed \$1,187.50, for the remainder of the contract term. The revised contract total for products/services to the County is not to exceed \$61,187.50. (C-18-0355)
- 4. County Contract C-17-0831 with Soval Solutions, LLC for completion of a Gap/Needs/Capacity analysis for the behavioral health and crimination justice system. The contract will be increased \$30,000 for the additional service. The revised total cost to the County is not to exceed \$100,000. (C-18-0398)
- C. Utility Permit No. 1678 allowing Windstream Nebraska to install new fiber optic cable under South 68<sup>th</sup> Street from Roca Road to Wittstruck Road, from South 64<sup>th</sup> Street to South 68<sup>th</sup> Street along Roca Road and from South 54<sup>th</sup> Street to South 68<sup>th</sup> Street along Wittstruck Road.
- D. Receive and place on file the following reports for June, 2018:
  - 1. Assessor/Register of Deeds
  - 2. Clerk of the District Court
  - 3. County Clerk
  - 4. Records and Information Management
  - 5. County Engineering

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Schorr seconded approval of the consent items. Avery, Brinkman, Schorr, Amundson and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

6) <u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u>: Those wishing to speak on items relating to County business not on the agenda may do so at this time.

No one appeared for public comment.

# 7) ANNOUNCEMENTS:

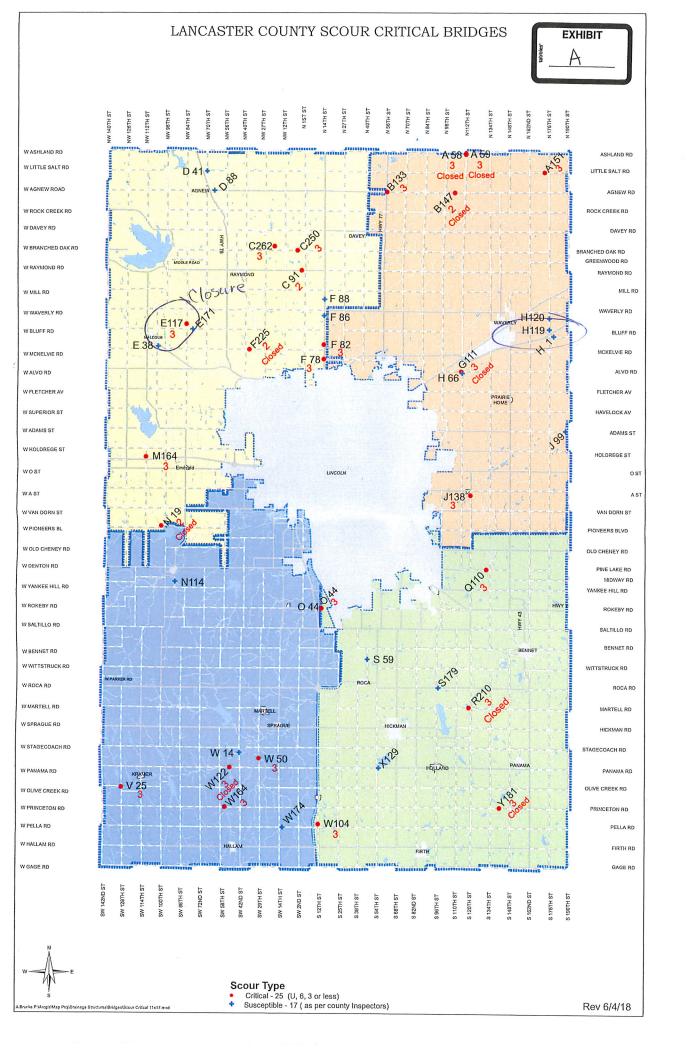
- A. The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners will hold a staff meeting on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 immediately following the Board of Equalization meeting in the Bill Luxford Studio (Room 113) of the County-City Building (555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln).
- B. The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners will hold a staff meeting on Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 8:30 a.m., in the Bill Luxford Studio (Room 113) of the County-City Building (555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln).
- C. The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners will hold its next regular meeting on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., in Room 112 of the County-City Building (555 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln) with the Lancaster County Board of Equalization meeting immediately following.
- D. County Commissioners can be reached at 402-441-7447 or commish@lancaster.ne.gov.
- E. The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners meeting is broadcast live on LNKTV City. For the rebroadcast schedule visit lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: LNKTV). Meetings are also streamed live on LNKTV and can be viewed on YouTube (LNKTVcity).

# 8) ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Amundson seconded to adjourn the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:56 a.m. Brinkman, Schorr, Amundson, Avery and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Dan Nolte

Lancaster County Clerk



# **Project Restore Gives Youth a Second Chance**

Operating since November of 2015, Project Restore has provided an alternative for youth who have committed an offense in a Lincoln middle or high school to make amends to their victims and families outside of the court system.

Youth are referred to The Mediation Center by Lincoln Public Schools via the County Attorney, which gives youth the choice to participate in victim youth conferencing (also known as victim offender mediation) as a means to be accountable for their actions. Victims are also given the choice to meet face to face with the youth who caused them harm, and if they choose not, a community surrogate attends the conference in their place. Once the mediation conference has been held and restitution has been completed, the youth's offense is dismissed.

50 youth received VYC services as an alternative to court.

**Project Restore Victim Youth** Conferencing **Outcomes** 

94% of completed VYC's resulted in a reparations agreement for the youth to make amends.

98% of reparations agreements were successfully fuliflled by youth and 2% are in progress.

November 2015 to **June 2017** 

4 out of 5 youth who participated in VYC did not have a second offense sent to court within 1 year.

The main objective is to intervene early when youth make mistakes, so they stay out of the court system. In addition to providing the youthful offender with a process that encourages them to take steps towards feeling reinstated as a respected member of the school community, Project Restore as an early intervention also has the potential to positively affect the graduation rate of youth offenders.

- Read the Lincoln Journal Star news article about Project Restore: Project helps young people find solutions to keep them out of court system
- Read the Lincoln Journal Star editorial applauding the program's initial success: Editorial, 5/26: Promising pilot merits closer look

Project Restore is a collaborative partnership of The Mediation Center, Lincoln Public Schools, Lancaster County Attorney's Office, Lincoln Police Department and Lancaster County Department of **Human Services.** 

Made possible with funding from the Nebraska Crime Commission ...

### **Our Mediators**

are skilled and experienced in assisting participants to hear and be heard. understand each others' perspective, clarify interests, generate and explore solution options, focus on the future, and move toward resolution.



All mediators have received at least 30 hours of approved mediation training and have additional specialized training in the Victim/Youth Conferencing process.

# **Participant Responses**

"It lets you talk to the people you affected. It gets emotions off your mind and makes you feel better."

"Glad that I could do this as opposed to court. It was very effective."

"As the victim, I also valued being able to meet and speak with the offender, which is not as possible in the court system."

"I liked the mediators a lot. They were very helpful. I'm extremely satisfied with this process!"

"Puts all parties on neutral ground, with help if needed. Allows for everyone to tell their 'story'."

"... can reach a solution for both parties versus being forced into a solution or resolution."



Where solutions are discovered

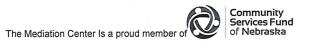
The Mediation Center fills a unique and important niche in our community. With staff possessing expertise in the areas of conflict resolution. consensus building. collaborative strategies, along with the commitment of more than 50 extensively trained, highly skilled mediators, the Center is dedicated to providing our community access to professional mediation services.

Established in 1992 as a 501c(3) The Mediation Center is the only nonprofit organization in the Lincoln community where efforts are devoted exclusively to the resolution of conflict. Over the years, thousands of mediations have benefited thousands of individuals.

The Center's professional space has been carefully designed around the specific needs of mediation, including soundproof mediation rooms that safeguard the integrity of the confidential mediation process.

The Mediation Center is one of six mediation centers across the State approved and regulated by the Nebraska Office of Dispute Resolution under the iurisdiction of the Nebraska Supreme Court.

> 610 'J' St., Ste 100 Lincoln, NE 68508 402-441-5740 www.TheMediationCenter.org info@themediationcenter.org

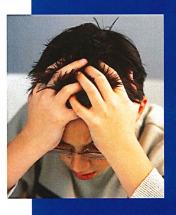




Where solutions are discovered

# Victim/Youth Conferencing

A Restorative **Justice Program** 



The Mediation Center 610 'I' Street, Suite 100 Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 402-441-5740

www.TheMediationCenter.org



# Victim/Youth Conferencing

Where solutions are discovered

# What is Victim / Youth Conferencing?

Victim/Youth Conferencing is a face-to-face meeting, in the presence of a trained mediator, between the victim of an offense or a youth surrogate for the victim, and the youth who committed the offense. They talk about the impact of the offense by identifying who was affected by the offense and how they were affected, express feelings, and discuss how the youth can repair the harm done.

Victim/Youth Conferencing is based on the principles of *Restorative Justice* where an offense is seen as an act against another person or the community instead of the state and the law.

Strategies used in a Conference focus on the offense's impact on the victim, the offender, and the community. In the philosophy of Restorative Justice, "justice" is the process of restoring the inequity and repairing the damage done as a result of the offense.

Victim/Youth Conferencing is part of a course of action referred to as Restorative Justice

### Restorative Justice . . .

- Sets a higher priority on restoration of the victim than on punishment of the offender
- Elevates the importance of the victim in the criminal justice process
- Holds the youth directly accountable to the victim
- Involves the entire community
- Can promote healing for the victim and the youth offender



# -Victim/Youth Conferencing-

- Provides a process which helps to acknowledge the facts as perceived by both parties.
- Recognizes the injustice done and gives the youth a chance to see the human consequences of their offense and to work to make things right.
- Provides for expression of feelings.
- Provides an opportunity for victims to reassert control over their lives after an offense.
- Gives youth an opportunity to take ownership and initiative to reshape their future.
- Provides closure for all people affected by the offense.
- Assists the parties in reaching an agreement on the reparation needed.
- Helps to clarify future intentions, actions, and relationships.
- May produce a written agreement for restitution or reparation that all can sign.

# What Can I Expect To Happen?

A Victim/Youth Conference is a 2-part process.

- 1. Personal Interview Before the actual conference is held a facilitator meets with each party individually to familiarize the youth with the process so that they can be well prepared. It is important that everyone understand the process and how to best benefit from it.
- 2. Conference While everyone else listens, each party is asked to describe the situation as he or she sees it (tell their story). The youth and the victim or youth surrogate for the victim talk to each other about what happened, the effects of the offense on their lives, and their feelings about it.

The mediator asks questions that encourage both sides to participate in the dialogue. Offending youth have an opportunity to take responsibility for what they have done and learn the impact of their actions on others. At

this meeting they take an active role in making things right, for example, through a



written apology or community service. Options for repairing the damage done are explored by the parties with the help of the mediator.

### Do Parents Attend?

Parents and family members are included in a conference in a supporting role. Mediators maintain constructive communication between the youth involved. Parents are not part of the dialogue between the youth but their presence is a valuable asset to the process.

# MINUTES LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 112 TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Advance public notice of the Board of Commissioners meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board and the Lancaster County, Nebraska, web site and emailed to the media on July 6, 2018.

Commissioners present: Todd Wiltgen, Chair; Jennifer Brinkman, Vice Chair; Roma Amundson, Bill Avery and Deb Schorr

Others present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer; Ann Ames, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Jenifer Holloway, Deputy County Attorney; Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk; and Monét McCullen, County Clerk's Office

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:56 a.m., the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was announced.

# 1) MINUTES:

**A.** Approval of the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting held on Tuesday, June 19, 2018.

**MOTION:** Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded approval of the minutes. Amundson, Schorr, Brinkman, Avery and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

# 2) <u>NOTICE OF ASSESSED VALUATION CHANGE FOR PROPERTY TAXATION PURPOSES</u>:

**A.** Horsemens Benevolent & Protective Association Inc.

Rob Ogden, Chief Field Deputy County Assessor, said this property has been missed on the tax roll. The improvement portion of the building was completed in 2014, and it was recently discovered that it had been omitted. He said a notice of a permit was not given to the Assessor's Office. Ogden said the assessed valuation change notice will reflect 2014 through 2018.

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Amundson seconded approval of the notice. Schorr, Brinkman, Avery, Amundson and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

# 3) **PUBLIC HEARING**:

**A.** Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption Applications (See correlating item 5)

University of Nebraska Foundation	St. Monica's Home
Trinity United Methodist Church	American Red Cross
Villa Marie School	Connecting Pointe Church of the Nazarene
Epona Horse Rescue	The American Legion, Dept. of Nebraska
Food Bank of Lincoln, Inc.	Indian Hills Community Church

The Chair opened the public hearing.

No one appeared in support, opposition or a neutral position.

The Chair closed the public hearing.

# 4) ACTION ON MOTOR VEHICLE TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Avery seconded approval of the motor vehicle applications. Brinkman, Avery, Amundson, Schorr and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**: Those wishing to speak on items relating to County Board of Equalization business not on the agenda may do so at this time.

No one appeared for public comment.

# 6) ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Avery seconded to adjourn the Lancaster County Board of Equalization meeting at 10:02 a.m. Avery, Amundson, Schorr, Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Dan Nolte

Lancaster County Clerk