

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113 - BILL LUXFORD STUDIO
THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018
8:30 A.M.**

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

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer; Ann Ames, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Dan Nolte, County Clerk; and Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

Advance public notice of the Board of Commissioners Staff Meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board and the Lancaster County, Nebraska web site and provided to the media on June 27, 2018.

The Chair noted the location of the Open Meetings Act and opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 21, 2018

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Avery seconded approval of the June 21, 2018 Staff Meeting minutes. Brinkman, Avery and Wiltgen voted yes. Schorr abstained from voting. Amundson was absent. Motion carried 3-0, with one abstention.

2. RURAL WATER DISTRICT (RWD) NO. 1 WATER QUALITY ISSUES – Randy Kempkes, Chair, Rural Water District (RWD) No. 1; Jordon Bang, District Manager, RWD No. 1; Jill Heng, RWD No. 1 Board of Directors; Alan Wood, Legal Counsel for RWD No. 1

Discussion took place regarding a recent water quality issue in an area of rural Lancaster County that is served by Rural Water District (RWD) No. 1. Drinking water was discolored and had particles floating in it.

Amundson arrived at the meeting at 8:39 a.m.

Jordon Bang, Manager, Rural Water District (RWD) No. 1, said there was a large water demand in two of the areas of RWD No. 1 that had the most users during the week of May 20th. Temperatures were higher than normal and many customers were watering their lawns. The RWD's pumps read when there is a high water demand and "kick up" the flow to fill the water towers. He said the extra flow from the wells was high in iron and manganese and scoured the pipes and that water got into the system.

Alan Wood, Legal Counsel for RWD No. 1, said the RWD's Board of Directors met last week and revised their regulations relating to insufficient water supply resulting from lawn watering and

irrigation of lawns (Exhibit A). That information was disseminated to customers through mailings, the RWD's website, and through social media. Other communication paths are also being explored.

Bang said they are exploring several options, including chlorine treatment, and customers will be surveyed to see how they would like to proceed. Jill Heng, RWD No. 1 Board of Directors, said customers were surveyed several years ago and a large majority opposed water treatment.

In response to a comment from Avery, Wood clarified that the RWD does not have taxing authority.

Wiltgen asked whether there is a capacity issue. Bang said pumping capacity and the water levels aren't an issue, adding ground storage for the areas that use the most water was recently upgraded. He said they will need to add some flush hydrants.

Wiltgen then asked whether customers who have wells can water their lawns with their own well water. Bang said they would recommend that they do so.

Terry Lowe, 3151 Martell Road, Hickman, Nebraska, appeared and said he believes the RWD Board has handled the issue well. He said demographics have changed and stressed the need to communicate the differences between rural and urban water to those seeking to build in the area. Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, noted County Extension has a publication available titled "A Place in the Country: The Acreage Owner's Guide."

Wiltgen inquired about the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department's role. Wood noted he and Bang meet with the Planning Department on an annual basis to discuss plans for development. Steve Henrichsen, Development Review Manager, Planning Department, appeared and explained the RWD is informed of any requests for a new subdivision in their district to see if they have comments or concerns. He said the City/County Comprehensive Plan could be adjusted if there were concerns about the number of customers that were coming on. Henrichsen said restricting water use is more of a RWD operation issue than including a restriction in a Community Unit Plan (CUP). Heng added every new user goes through the RWD's engineer for approval on capacity.

Amundson exited the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

- 3. PENDING LITIGATION** – Doug Cyr, Chief Deputy County Attorney; David Derbin, Deputy County Attorney; Sue Eckley, County Risk Manager; Emily Motto, Baylor Evnen LLP

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Schorr seconded to enter Executive Session at 9:15 a.m. for the purpose of protecting the public interest with regards to pending litigation.

The Chair said it has been moved and seconded that the Board enter Executive Session.

ROLL CALL: Brinkman, Schorr, Avery and Wiltgen voted yes. Amundson was absent. Motion carried 4-0.

The Chair restated the purpose for the Board entering Executive Session.

Amundson returned to the meeting.

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded to exit Executive Session at 9:33 a.m. Schorr, Avery, Amundson, Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

E. Claim for Review: Payment Voucher (PV) No. 615993 to Kari Wiegert, Risk Management, in the Amount of \$111.50. The County Board Has Requested a Review of All Claims over \$100.00 for Employee Reimbursement Other than Those Related to Travel for County Business.

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded to handle the claim as a regular claim. Avery, Amundson, Brinkman, Schorr and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

4. PUBLIC DEFENDER MATTERS – Joe Nigro, Public Defender **A. SOVAL SOLUTIONS, LLC PROPOSAL FOR STUDY OF PUBLIC DEFENDER'S SOCIAL WORKER**

Joe Nigro, Public Defender, and Dr. Mitchel Herian, PhD, owner of Soval Solutions, LLC, outlined a proposal for Soval Solutions to measure the effectiveness of the social worker position in the Public Defender's Office. Herian said he believes this effort will fit with the broader effort that was discussed at the recent Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Mapping exercise. It was noted that Herian is also providing consulting services for Community Corrections' Supervised Sentence Conversion Re-entry Program and 24/7 Sobriety Program and establishment of caseload standards for the County Attorney's Office.

Schorr asked Nigro whether he budgeted for this item. Nigro said he did not. Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer, appeared and explained those other contracts were paid out of the General Fund.

Brinkman felt weak points in the system need to be identified. She said she would also be interested in seeing information about the agencies the social worker is working with, what programs and services those agencies are providing, and where there is lack of capacity. Herian noted a gap analysis will be done as a follow-up to the SIM Mapping effort which might address some of those issues.

Amundson asked whether it would be beneficial to have an analyst on staff to better coordinate efforts. Wiltgen said Sara Hoyle, Human Services Director, is working on a contract with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) to obtain the services of a PhD student.

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded to direct the County Attorney's Office to prepare a contact with Soval Solutions, LLC, for evaluation of the Public Defender's Office's Social Worker initiative. Amundson, Brinkman, Schorr, Avery and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

B. RENEWAL OF LEGAL AID OF NEBRASKA CONTRACT

Milo Mumgaard, Executive Director, Legal Aid of Nebraska, and Pat Carraher, Managing Attorney, Legal Aid of Nebraska, appeared and discussed the contract to represent indigent juveniles and parents in the Separate Juvenile Court of Lancaster County. It was noted Legal Aid is seeking one modification to the contract which involves the way problem solving court appointed cases are counted.

Nigro said the Indigent Defense Advisory Committee met last week and unanimously recommended that the County approve the contracts with Soval Solutions and Legal Aid of Nebraska.

The County Board will act on the contract renewal at the July 3, 2018 County Board of Commissioners Meeting.

5. ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF \$300,000 FOR MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS CENTER – Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer; Scott Etherton, Mental Health Crisis Center Director

Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer, said the Mental Health Crisis Center will require an additional appropriation of \$330,000 to finish out the fiscal year. He said the fund balance that was used in the past to help offset cash flow issues has been expended and Region V Systems will not be re-allocating funds back to the County.

Scott Etherton, Mental Health Crisis Center Director, disseminated information on expenditures, revenues and the per diem (Exhibit B). He also discussed the Medicaid reimbursement delays that have created cash flow issues. Etherton noted a Medicaid reimbursement claim that was recently submitted through the new Credible software for Nebraska Total Care went through "cleanly."

Schorr asked whether other crisis center facilities in Nebraska are experiencing the same reimbursement delays. Etherton said he didn't know but said other providers have had similar payment issues.

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded to authorize the additional appropriation in the amount of \$330,000 from the General Fund to the Mental Health Crisis Center. Brinkman, Schorr, Avery, Amundson and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

INFORMATION SERVICES (IS) CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY – Steve Henderson, Chief Information Officer, Information Services (IS)

Steve Henderson, Chief Information Officer, Information Services (IS), said IS would like to distribute a survey to City and County employees to gather information about how their services are perceived. He indicated the results will be reported back to the Information Services Policy Committee (ISPC).

There was no objection to the request.

6. **BREAK**

The meeting was recessed at 10:21 a.m. and reconvened at 10:36 a.m. Avery exited the meeting during the break.

7. **INFORMATION SERVICES (IS) CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY – Steve Henderson, Chief Information Officer, Information Services (IS)**

Item was moved forward on the agenda.

8. **COUNTY BOARD PRIORITIES – Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer** **A. OUR VALUES, VISION, AND MISSION** **B. SHORT AND LONG TERM PRIORITIES**

Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer, noted the Board will need to make decisions on the requests for additional personnel and road and bridge funding.

Amundson felt the Board should utilize the values, vision, mission and priorities it established during its strategic planning session when making budget decisions. She noted the Mayor's budget identifies desired outcomes and shows how funds were directed to fulfilling those and asked whether the Board is interested in doing something similar. Wiltgen said the County operates in a different manner. The Board can set priorities but the elected officials determine how they will spend the funds they are allocated. Brinkman said she considers those documents to be a communications tool when explaining budget decisions to the public.

There was consensus to schedule discussion of personnel requests with the respective elected officials/directors on the July 5th Staff Meeting agenda and to schedule a special Staff Meeting for further budget discussion on July 10th, if necessary. **NOTE:** The July 5th Staff Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. rather than the normal 8:30 a.m. starting time. Discussion of the County Engineer's budget request and carryover will be scheduled on the July 12th Staff Meeting agenda.

9. **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT**

A. Developmental Disabilities County Match

Eagan provided a history of developmental disabilities funding, noting the County currently contracts with Community Alternatives of Nebraska (CAN) which provides services to persons with developmental disabilities. **NOTE:** CAN supervises its clients who are working at Records and Information Management.

Amundson exited the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

Wiltgen said he would like information on how much the County spends on development disabilities and on other providers in the County. **NOTE:** Region V Services has asked the County to restore funding, on a per capita basis, to their development disability services public provider. The County ceased providing a per diem to Region V Services in 2004 after a legal opinion indicated that funding

was a State obligation. Wiltgen said he has also asked to be notified if there are individuals being denied services in Lancaster County.

B. County Extension Board Appointment (Angelina Stoval-Amos)

Item was scheduled on the July 3, 2018 County Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

- C. Claim for Review: Payment Voucher (PV) No. 615999 to Becky Hight-Moravec, Election Commission, in the Amount of \$175.10. The County Board Has Requested a Review of All Claims over \$100.00 for Employee Reimbursement Other than Those Related to Travel for County Business.

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Schorr seconded to handle the claim as a regular claim. Schorr, Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Amundson and Avery were absent. Motion carried 3-0.

- D. Claim for Review: Payment Voucher (PV) No. 616261 to Lynne Albin, District Court, in the Amount of \$169.44. The County Board Has Requested a Review of All Claims over \$100.00 for Employee Reimbursement Other than Those Related to Travel for County Business.

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Schorr seconded to handle the claim as a regular claim. Brinkman, Schorr and Wiltgen voted yes. Amundson and Avery were absent. Motion carried 3-0.

- E. Claim for Review: Payment Voucher (PV) No. 615993 to Kari Wiegert, Risk Management, in the Amount of \$111.50. The County Board Has Requested a Review of All Claims over \$100.00 for Employee Reimbursement Other than Those Related to Travel for County Business.

Item was moved forward on the agenda.

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Amundson seconded to handle the claim as a regular claim. Avery, Amundson, Brinkman, Schorr and Wiltgen voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- F. Claim for Review: Payment Voucher (PV) No. 616286 to Deb Schorr, County Commissioner, in the Amount of \$160.61. The County Board Has Requested a Review of All Claims by Elected Officials.

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Wiltgen seconded to handle the claim as a regular claim. Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Schorr abstained from voting. Amundson and Avery were absent. Motion carried 2-0, with one abstention.

- G. Claim for Review: Payment Voucher (PV) No. 615977 to Troy Hawk, Clerk of the District Court, in the Amount of \$183.50. The County Board Has Requested a Review of All Claims over \$100.00 for Employee Reimbursement Other than Those Related to Travel for County Business.

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Schorr seconded to handle the claim as a regular claim. Schorr, Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Amundson and Avery were absent. Motion carried 3-0.

H. Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Class Action Lawsuit

MOTION: Schorr moved and Brinkman seconded to join the payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) class action lawsuit and designate Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, as the County's contact. Brinkman, Schorr and Wiltgen voted yes. Amundson and Avery were absent. Motion carried 3-0.

10. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. Stage Theater Production of Bonnie and Clyde: A New Musical (225 Locust Street, Hickman, Nebraska on July 19, 2018)

Informational only.

B. July 5, 2018 Staff Meeting

See agenda Item 8.

11. DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. Lancaster County Fairgrounds Joint Public Agency (JPA) – Wiltgen/Amundson

The meeting was cancelled.

12. SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

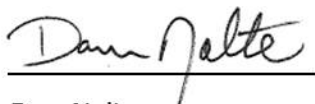
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13. EMERGENCY ITEMS

There were no emergency items.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Brinkman moved and Schorr seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 a.m. Schorr, Brinkman and Wiltgen voted yes. Amundson and Avery were absent. Motion carried 3-0.



Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk

