# STAFF MEETING MINUTES LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2019 COUNTY-CITY BUILDING ROOM 113 - BILL LUXFORD STUDIO 8:30 A.M.

Commissioners Present: Roma Amundson, Chair; Sean Flowerday, Vice Chair; Rick Vest and Christa Yoakum

Commissioners Absent: Deb Schorr

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer; Ann Ames, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; and Leslie Brestel, 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 October 2, 2019.

The Chair noted the location of the Open Meetings Act and opened the meeting at 8:31 a.m.

# **AGENDA ITEM**

# 1) APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

**MOTION:** Flowerday moved and Yoakum seconded approval of the September 26, 2019 Staff Meeting minutes. Amundson, Vest, Flowerday and Yoakum voted yes. Schorr was absent. Motion carried 4-0.

2) POTENTIAL LITIGATION — Jen Holloway, Deputy County Attorney; and David Derbin, Deputy County Attorney

**MOTION:** Vest moved to enter Executive Session at 8:32 a.m. for the purposes of receiving legal advice, and to protect the public interest.

Derbin and Holloway stated the motion should be for potential litigation.

**MOTION:** Vest moved and Yoakum seconded to enter Executive Session at 8:32 a.m. for the purposes of potential litigation, and to protect the public interest.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Amundson, Vest, Flowerday and Yoakum voted yes. Schorr was absent. Motion carried 4-0.

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

**MOTION:** Yoakum moved and Vest seconded to exit Executive Session at 8:53 a.m. Amundson, Vest, Flowerday and Yoakum voted yes. Schorr was absent. Motion carried 4-0.

### CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

**A.** County Board Initiatives Update

Ames said the new County website trainings will be held the week of October 14 with the launch date set for November 4. The old servers will still be used for non-migrated pages from the Election Commissioner's Office and the County Clerk's Office.

Eagan stated the County Attorney's Office is reviewing the Enterprise Rental Car implementation.

Amundson said a meeting for the Vehicle Fleet plan implementation is scheduled for next Thursday.

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) position closed on September 29.

**B.** Legislative Priorities Discussion (October 8, 2019 at 8am)

A special staff meeting to discuss legislative priorities was set for October 8 at 8:00 a.m.

**C.** Community Wildfire Protection Plan Steering Committee Designation

It was the consensus of the Board for Jim Davidsaver, Emergency Management Director, or Mark Hosking, Emergency Management Deputy Director, or their designee to be on the committee.

**D.** No Staff Meeting on October 10, 2019

There will be no staff meeting on October 10, 2019 due to lack of a quorum.

**E.** LSF Complex Tour Date

The Lincoln Sports Facilities Complex tour will be October 17, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. or 12:30 p.m. Eagan will confirm the exact start time with the complex.

**F.** Tri-County Meeting Date

It was the consensus of the Board to request Monday, November 4 for the Tri-County meeting.

# **DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS ATTENDED**

**A.** Lincoln Chamber of Commerce Coffee – Amundson/Vest

Amundson reported there were discussions on the streets, solar amendment, scooters, Lincoln Children's Zoo, wheel tax, Lincoln Public Schools and University of Nebraska – Lincoln enrollments.

### **BREAK**

The meeting was recessed at 9:11 a.m. and reconvened at 9:15 a.m.

3) INTRODUCTION OF MAYOR GAYLOR BAIRD'S STAFF – Jennifer Brinkman, Mayor's Chief of Staff

Brinkman stated the Mayor's meeting with the Board Chair and Vice Chair is held as needed.

Jon Carlson, Deputy Chief of Staff, said he helps support Mayor's Office initiatives.

Adelle Burk, Mayoral Aide, stated she is working on the One Lincoln initiative which focuses on equity, diversity and inclusion.

Kevin Cass, Mayoral Aide, said he is working on the Engage Lincoln initiative in which citizens are connected to City government. He also works on the social media and web presences.

Alyssa Martin, Mayoral Aide, stated she is working on the Lincoln Forward initiative which focuses on advancing the community through economic and workforce development. Additionally, Martin serves on the District Energy Corporation Board.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Kim Etherton, Community Corrections Director, stated Veterans Court is run through Probation as will any additional problem-solving courts per direction of the Nebraska Supreme Court. Adult Drug Court is offered through Community Corrections. The upcoming Drug Court graduation is October 21.

Yoakum and Vest exited the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Yoakum and Vest returned to the meeting at 9:31 a.m. and 9:32 a.m., respectively.

4) REVIEW OF DISASTER DECLARATIONS DATED MARCH 13, 2019 AND JUNE 11, 2019 — Pam Dingman, Lancaster County Engineer; and David Derbin, Deputy County Attorney

Derbin stated he wanted the Board to be aware a state of emergency is over when the Board terminates it. He reviewed Nebraska Revised Statutes § 81-829.50 (Local emergency; declared; principal executive officer of a local government; effect; interjurisdictional emergency management organization) and § 81-829.51 (Local government; school district; educational service unit; emergency expenditures; vote of governing body; when).

Dingman said she felt it will take five years to recover from the March 2019 flooding. The Engineering Office has researched three closed bridges and can stabilize the bridges to have them reopened in a few days instead of full bridge replacement. The stabilization would be contracted out without going through the formal bid process.

Amundson supported going forward under emergency declarations.

Eagan stated in a true emergency, there is no time to follow the Purchasing Act. If there is time for the bidding process, it is best to do it since the County is using taxpayer dollars.

Dingman said there is no time for the bid process for the bridges in question. It is a specialized project with limited time availability. There are no other vendors available for the project.

Derbin stated the County Attorney's Office has no objection to the contract. He is informing the Board on how the emergency declarations work and the Board's duty regarding those declarations.

Dingman said she intends to have the contract to the Board as soon as possible.

5) AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION NO. R-19-0037 TO INCLUDE PROCEDURE FOR TERMINATION OF EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS — David Derbin, Deputy County Attorney

Derbin reviewed the amendment of Resolution R-19-0037 (see agenda packet). This will be on the next Tuesday agenda.

When asked if there are any past emergency declarations to close, Eagan answered no declarations have ever been terminated.

**OPENGOV REPORTING** – Dennis Meyer, Lancaster County Budget & Fiscal Director

Meyer demonstrated the OpenGov reporting dashboard (Exhibit A). The site will be available to the public at a later date.

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) GRANTS: (A) REENTRY EXPANSION AND ENHANCEMENT (\$1M); (B) VETERANS COURT ENHANCEMENT (\$496,991) — Kim Etherton, Community Corrections Director; Jeff Curry, Chief Adult Probation Officer; and Dean Rowher, Veterans Court Administrator

Judge John Colborn was also present.

Rowher said Veterans Court received a three-year grant of \$496,991 to help with rental assistance, transitional housing assistance, and transportation issues, including assistance with ride-share tickets, bus passes and gas vouchers. A program standard review will be conducted every three years. Additionally, ongoing staff trainings will be completed, including a specialized trauma training in Tennessee.

Judge Colburn added Veterans Court eligibility criteria has been expanded which allows more individuals to qualify for the program. The Nebraska Supreme Court allows retired judges to help in problem solving courts. Retired judges are compensated through the Nebraska Supreme Court budget.

Regarding the re-entry expansion and enhancement, Etherton wrote a \$2,000,000 grant (\$1,000,000 federal funds and \$1,000,000 County match funds over four years) to expand the current re-entry grant targeting 18-25-year-old males to include women. Additionally, the grant allows for a re-entry

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