

**LANCASTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS  
2018 SESSION**

**INTRODUCTION**

The 2017 legislative session opened with lower than expected tax receipts and pessimistic revenue forecasts, resulting in cuts to the existing State budget by Governor Ricketts and a large reduction in the final budget for the next biennium. In response, Lancaster County was forced to adopt a defensive posture to oppose legislation shifting State costs to the county level, and thereby increasing the burden on our property tax payers. For example, a significant cost shift proposed by the State during the 2017 session was the elimination of the State's disability program under LB 333. As originally drafted, LB 333 could have increased Lancaster County General Assistance payments by almost \$1 million. After strong opposition from Lancaster County, NACO, and a number of State senators, the language eliminating the State disability program was stricken from the final version of LB 333.

Lancaster County did achieve a key legislative goal with the passage of LB 508, which raises the population threshold to 400,000 for the mandatory creation of a Civil Service Commission. LB 508 also changes the composition of the County's existing Personnel Policy Board. Effective January 1, 2018, the Board will consist of five members: one appointed by the County Board; one appointed by elected department heads; two appointed by the classified employees covered under the County's personnel system; and a fifth member appointed by the other four members.

Other Bills passed during the 2017 session which could benefit the County include LB's 152 and 259:

- LB 152 amends Neb. Rev. Stat. §33-109 to eliminate the sunset clause for the revenue source for the register of deeds technology fund.
- LB 259 could help lower the jail population by requiring judges to take into account the ability of offenders to pay fines or post bail. LB 259 also increases the credit on fines and fees from \$90 to \$150 for each day served in jail.

2017 was the first year of the State's fiscal biennium, and a number of Bills of interest to Lancaster County will carry over to the 2018 session:

- LB 567 relieves all counties of the obligation to pay rent for Health and Human Services facilities pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §68-130, a savings of over \$300,000 to Lancaster County. The Bill is a County priority, but remains held in committee.
- LB 441 proposes to expand Medicaid, and also remains held in committee.
- LB 47 eliminates county responsibility to pay the cost of grand juries and autopsies for deaths which occur in a State correctional institution, and is another Bill still held in committee.

- LB 68 gives the State exclusive power to regulate firearms. The Lancaster County Sheriff opposes LB 68 in its present form because it would restrict the authority of the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County to prevent the open carry of firearms into courts and other facilities.
- LB 510 places a cap of \$25 million on installment contracts held by political subdivisions. The County is opposed to LB 510 because it would unreasonably restrict the ability of the County to provide the facilities and buildings necessary to house public safety agencies.
- LB 434 authorizes juvenile court judges to conduct evidentiary hearings by video conferencing without the consent of all parties, so long as due process rights are protected. While the County believes video conferencing can reduce transportation costs and increase public safety, the County also recognizes the importance of protecting the rights of the parties involved in the juvenile justice system. Although the County's position on LB 434 is neutral, it would support the expanded use of video conferencing if it can be done without compromising the due process rights of juveniles and their families.
- LB 367 would shift the responsibility for juvenile post-adjudication transportation costs from Probation to the counties. The estimated annual fiscal impact to Lancaster County is more than \$128,000. The County opposes LB 367.
- LB 81 raises the application fee for a handgun certificate from \$5 to \$25. LB 81 did advance to General File.
- LB 357 increases the annual fee for a certificate of title from \$10 to \$25 for a person who obtains a title in Nebraska for more than one motor vehicle or trailer from outside Nebraska. The first title is still \$10, and each subsequent title is \$25. This Bill remains in committee.

During the 2018 session the Legislature will continue its ongoing discussions regarding property and income tax relief. Lancaster County will need to monitor these discussions carefully, and continue to support tax policies which help reduce the burden on our property tax payers.

## **NEW PROPOSALS**

### **1. Increase Funding for Behavioral Health**

State resources are not adequate to handle the demand for behavioral health services. This has a direct impact on Lancaster County in several areas. Most significantly, criminal defendants who have been found to be incompetent to stand trial are being held in the County's jail for an average of 45 days before they can be admitted to the State Regional Center for treatment to restore competency. The average cost to the County for holding these

individuals while they await treatment is \$85,000. Additional funding from the State is necessary to address this issue.

## **2. Allow Outpatient Treatment for Restoration of Competency to Stand Trial**

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §29-1823, criminal defendants found mentally incompetent to stand trial must be sent to the Lincoln Regional Center for treatment to remove the disability and restore competency. In some cases outpatient treatment to restore competency may be more appropriate than inpatient treatment. Allowing for outpatient treatment in appropriate cases could help reduce the County's jail population, as well as help reduce overcrowding at the Lincoln Regional Center.

## **3. Appointed Counsel Costs**

For many years Lancaster County has struggled with the escalating cost of court appointed counsel. In 2011 the Lancaster County Indigent Defense Advisory Committee undertook a complete review of the issue. The Committee made a number of recommendations, including the following legislative proposals:

- a. Restrict the right to appointed counsel in juvenile court cases for non-custodial parents who do not have charges filed against them;
- b. Examine low-level misdemeanors to determine which offenses could be reduced to infractions which do not carry jail time;
- c. Amend Neb. Rev. Stat. §29-3604 to allow diversion for driving under the influence cases;
- d. Expand the State contribution for indigent defense, including more funding for the Commission on Public Advocacy; and
- e. Increase the indigent defense fee under Neb. Rev. Stat. §33-156.

## **4. Statutory Changes to Implement Statewide 24/7 Sobriety Program**

The 24/7 Sobriety Program has been successfully used in other states to reduce recidivism for alcohol-related offenses such as driving under the influence. Lancaster County is in the process of establishing a 24/7 program under the supervision of the County's Community Corrections Department. Statutory changes are needed to mandatory sentencing and drivers license provisions to provide incentives for participants to actively participate and complete the program.

**5. Amend Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-3108 to Increase Minimum Purchasing Thresholds**

§23-3108 of the County Purchasing Act mandates the procedure for how personal property or services are purchased, depending on the estimated value of the personal property or service. This section has not been amended since 2003. The threshold for requiring competitive sealed bids is presently \$20,000 or more; and should be raised to \$50,000. The thresholds for requiring at least three informal bids are presently a minimum of \$5,000 but less than \$20,000; and should be increased to a minimum of \$10,000 but less than \$50,000. See Attachment A for a thorough discussion of this proposal.

**6. Amend Neb. Rev. Stat. §13-906 to Require Strict Compliance with Six-Month Waiting Period**

§13-906 provides that no suit shall be permitted under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act unless the political subdivision has made a final disposition on the claim, or in the alternative, final disposition of the claim has not been made within six months after the claim was filed. The Nebraska Court of Appeals has held that the notice requirements of §13-906 are to be liberally construed, and a claimant does not need to wait six months so long as they substantially comply with the six-month requirement and the lack of compliance has not caused prejudice to the political subdivision. The doctrine of substantial compliance creates uncertainty, and the legislature should amend this section to clarify that strict compliance with the notice requirements under §13-906 is required.

**7. Remove Sales Tax Exemption on Soda, Energy Drinks, and candy, and Earmark the Proceeds for Property Tax Relief**

Based on existing sales tax rates, removing the sales tax exemption for soda, energy drinks, and candy could raise \$12 million per year. Implementing a 1.5¢ per ounce sales tax on soda and energy drinks could raise \$150 million per year. These new proceeds could then be used for property tax relief.

**8. Work with the State to Restore Medicaid Funding for Civil Protective Custody**

Civil protective custody services are provided for the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County by The Bridge. Changes in Medicaid reimbursement policies have resulted in a loss of income to The Bridge of \$157,000 last budget year and nearly \$145,000 this budget year. The County needs to work with the State to develop a Medicaid service definition to restore this funding.

**9. Continue Funding the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program Created Under 2016 Neb. Laws LB 605**

The Legislature created the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program in 2016 to help counties offset jail population increases caused by LB 605. In 2016 \$500,000 was appropriated for the Grant Program for the entire State. Data indicates the County's jail population has increased as a direct result of LB 605, and will continue to do so in the future. Funding for the Grant Program should be increased and appropriated annually.

**10. Conduct a Legislative Review to Examine How the Length of Time Post Adjudicated Youth Spend in Secure Detention While Awaiting Placement Can Be Reduced**

Post adjudicated youth held in the County's Youth Services Center should be placed into community treatment as soon as possible. However, placement can be difficult because of a number of issues involving these youth. The Legislature should conduct a legislative review to examine how the length of stay in secure detention can be reduced for post adjudicated youth.

**EXISTING PROPOSALS**

**1. Allow financing of County Bridges under Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-120(3)(b)**

The number of structurally deficient county bridges in Nebraska is increasing at an alarming rate. In Lancaster County alone there are twenty (20) structurally deficient bridges and five (5) functionally obsolete bridges. Amending §23-120(3)(b) to include county bridges could provide a steady source of revenue for addressing this important public safety issue.

**2. Strengthen Prisoner Litigation Statutes to Discourage Frivolous Lawsuits**

Frivolous litigation filed by state and local prisoners is time consuming, expensive, and a waste of limited judicial resources. The deliberate filing of frivolous lawsuits by prisoners could be discouraged if all prisoners were required to have some financial stake in filing an action. Federal statutes governing civil rights actions of prisoners require that a prisoner seeking to proceed in forma pauperis is still required to pay the full amount of the filing fee. Along with the affidavit seeking to proceed in forma pauperis, a prisoner is also required to submit to the court a certified copy of their institutional trust fund account for the six month period immediately preceding the complaint or notice of appeal. The prisoner may then be allowed to

pay the filing fee over time based on a payment formula in the federal statutes. Federal law also gives judges greater discretion in dismissing actions filed by prisoners which the court determines to be frivolous, malicious, or fail to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

Presently, Neb. Rev. Stat. §25-3401(2)(a) provides, "A prisoner who has filed three or more civil actions, commenced after July 19, 2012, that have been found to be frivolous by a court of this state or a federal court for a case originating in this state shall not be permitted to proceed in forma pauperis for any further civil actions without leave of the court..." This statute should be amended to include the federal law provisions which require the prisoner to pay the filing fee and which provide greater discretion to judges to dismiss frivolous or malicious claims.

### **3. Increase the Cigarette Tax**

The average cost per pack of cigarettes in the United States is \$1.49. In comparison, the Nebraska tax on a pack of cigarettes is only 64¢. There are numerous health and economic benefits to raising the cigarette tax. Statistics indicate price increases on cigarettes cause adults to quit smoking and prevent teenagers from starting to smoke. LB 1013 would have raised the cigarette tax to \$2.14 per pack, but the Bill did not advance out of the Revenue Committee during the 2016 session. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department strongly supports increasing the cigarette tax, and the County should again support future legislative attempts to increase the tax.

### **4. Amend Neb. Rev. Stat. §29-2022 to Give Trial Courts Discretion with Regard to Sequestered Juries in Criminal Cases**

Defendants in criminal cases have the right to keep a jury sequestered until a verdict is reached, regardless of the severity of the case or the actual risk the jury members may be influenced by improper contact or communications. See Neb. Rev. Stat. §29-2022. When a jury is sequestered counties are responsible for paying all the costs of housing and feeding the jury members, as well as the costs of providing security. These expenses can be significant. Additionally, sequestration can result in a substantial hardship to the members of the jury. This statute should be amended to give the trial court discretion in deciding whether a jury in a criminal case should be sequestered until a verdict is reached, based on the actual potential of the jury being improperly influenced. 2016 Neb. Laws LB 976 would have given trial courts discretion on jury sequestration. However, it was withdrawn prior to consideration by the Judiciary Committee.

**5. Reasonable Fees for Services Provided by the County Engineer for Issuance of Driveway Permits, Right-of-Way Utility Permits, Subdivision Reviews, and Load Permits**

The Lancaster County Engineer's Office spends a significant amount of time issuing driveway permits, right-of-way permits for utilities, vehicle load permits, and reviewing proposed land subdivisions. These services primarily benefit individual companies or persons. Enabling legislation is necessary to give counties the authority to charge a reasonable fee for these services.

**6. Limit Workers' Compensation Awards to Retirement Age**

Rising workers' compensation costs are a concern to the County. Awards for permanent disability are expensive and can extend an indefinite period into the future. Limiting disability awards to the age of retirement would still benefit the injured worker by helping replace lost wages during wage-earning years. At retirement other revenue sources, such as social security and pensions, then become available to support the injured worker. The benefit to the County would be lower costs and a greater ability to manage workers' compensation cases.

**7. Tax Increment Financing**

The Nebraska Redevelopment Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §58-501 et seq. is intended to encourage economic growth through redevelopment of blighted and substandard areas within cities. The Act generates funds for redevelopment projects by creating tax increment financing (TIF) districts. TIF is widely used by cities and villages to finance community redevelopment projects. Essentially, two land values are established for tax parcels lying within the boundaries of a project: the value of the parcel prior to redevelopment and the value of the parcel after redevelopment. Property tax increases within the TIF district attributable to the project are placed in a special fund to be used solely to pay the principal, interest, and premiums on any bonds, loans, notes, or other indebtedness incurred to finance the redevelopment project. Lancaster County has identified the following concerns with TIF:

**A. Clarify Who is Entitled to the Proceeds in a Tax Increment Financing Special Fund Upon Payment of All Bonds, Loans and Other Indebtedness for a Redevelopment Project**

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 18-2147(1)(b)(Reissue 2007) provides, " When such bonds, loans, notes, advances of money, or indebtedness, including interest and premiums due, have been paid, the authority shall so notify the county assessor and county treasurer and all ad valorem taxes upon taxable real property in such a redevelopment project shall be paid into the funds of the respective public bodies..."

A question has arisen regarding whether a city has the authority to amend a redevelopment project after all indebtedness has been paid, and thus continue using the proceeds in the special fund for redevelopment purposes instead of distributing the balance of the special fund to the respective public bodies which levy on the property. Legislation is needed to clarify whether a city or village has the authority to amend a redevelopment project after the original indebtedness has been paid.

**B. County Input in the Approval of Tax Increment Financing Districts Which Affect the County Tax Base**

Other taxing entities in the county where the TIF district is located lose the benefit of the property valuation increase for the entire district during the period the project is financed. In recent years there has been a sharp increase in the number of TIF districts created by the City of Lincoln. TIF districts often encompass a large area, regardless of the size or number of the individual projects within the TIF, and regardless of whether the entire district is blighted or substandard. Since the other taxing entities, including counties, are being denied essential tax revenue, they should have direct input into the establishment of TIF districts. This would help guarantee TIF districts are actually targeted to blighted or substandard areas and do not unnecessarily remove growth from the assessed valuation for other taxing entities.

**8. Extend Deadline for Issuing Greenbelt Valuation Notice**

When a property owner simultaneously has a pending board of equalization valuation protest and an application for special Greenbelt valuation, it is possible that a landowner will receive conflicting valuation notices. This problem can be solved by amending Neb. Rev. Stat. §77-1345.01(2) to extend the final date for the board of equalization to send a notice of special valuation from July 22nd to August 15<sup>th</sup>.

**9. Modify Strict Liability Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. §13-911 When a Vehicular Pursuit Is Terminated by a Law Enforcement Officer**

As interpreted by the Nebraska Supreme Court, a political subdivision can be held strictly liable under §13-911 for damages to an innocent third party caused by a fleeing motorist, even after a pursuing law enforcement officer has stopped the pursuit. §13-911 should be amended to eliminate strict liability when the damages are caused by the fleeing motorist after the pursuit has been terminated by the officer. This amendment would provide an incentive to law enforcement to stop pursuits which have become dangerous to innocent third parties.



**10. Clarify Funding Source When Courts Assign Non-IV-D Cases to a Child Support Referee**

Under Neb. Rev. Stat. §43-1610 funding for a child support referee shall be provided by the county and state to the district Court, separate juvenile court, and county court. Neb. Rev. Stat. §43-1611 provides these courts may by rule or order assign any matter regarding the establishment and collection of child, spousal, or medical support, paternity matters, and protection orders to a child support referee. However, when a child support referee is assigned non-IV-D cases federal funds may not be used to cover the cost. Since the courts have complete discretion in assigning cases to a child referee, it is possible the county may incur additional costs under the IV-D program over which it has no control. The statutes should be clarified to provide state funding will be used in this situation rather than county funding.

**11. Corrections Booking Fee**

A significant portion of the cost for housing inmates is incurred during the booking process. The Lancaster County Corrections Department has recommended the imposition of a booking fee to help recoup these expenses. However, legislation is needed to create statutory authority for the County to charge booking fees.

**12. Provide Statutory Guidance on Enforcement of Insurance Subrogation Clauses**

In the case of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska, Inc. v. Dailey, 268 Neb. 733 (2004), the Nebraska Supreme Court held a subrogation clause in the insurance contract could not be enforced against the insured under the equitable made whole doctrine. The Dailey case involved an employee covered under an insurance contract between his employer, the Nebraska Association of County Officials, and Blue Cross. The employee was injured as a result of the negligence of a third party, and subsequently recovered a one-time payment of \$1,225,000 and monthly payments of \$10,000 for life against the third party. Even though the contract clearly provided Blue Cross would be entitled to recover approximately \$794,000 it had paid on behalf of the insured for injuries caused by a third party, the Supreme Court held Blue Cross was not entitled to recover these funds because the insured had not yet been made whole for the injuries. A statutory solution is needed to provide for the enforcement of reasonable subrogation clauses to help control health insurance costs.

### **13. Occupation Tax on Wineries**

Neb. Rev. Stat. §53-132(4) gives authority to cities, villages and counties to charge an occupation tax on retail, craft brewery, and micro distillery licenses. However, no such authority exists for farm winery licenses. Given the growing number of farm wineries, it may be advisable to authorize an occupation tax on farm winery licenses.



LANCASTER COUNTY  
REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN STATE STATUTE **ATTACHMENT A**  
SUBMITTED BY: Bob Walla – County Purchasing Agent

The County Purchasing Act is based on Nebraska Statute 23-3101 to 23-1115. The purchase thresholds associated with this Statute have been in place since the last adjustment in 2003. In that time there have been significant changes in technology and the overall cost of all types of goods and services. In order to expedite procurement of goods and services, and provide open and fair competition, I request that the Legislature change the County Purchasing Act, Section 23-3108 "Triggering Dollar Amounts" to the following amounts:

- \* Less than \$10,000 – (Agency Purchase Authority) No bids required
- \* \$10,000 - \$50,000 – Request for at least three informal bids.
- \* In excess of \$50,000 – Must be competitively bid.
- \* Purchases cannot be divided into several smaller purchases to avoid competitive bidding.

These new amounts are increased in the following areas:

- \* Current minimum amount for "No bids required" - \$5000
- \* Current Informal Bid Amount and language - \$5,000 to \$20,000 – At least three informal bids, if practicable.
- \* Competitive Bid - In excess of \$20,000

The overall County budgets for goods and services has increased significantly since 2003. The population in Nebraska in 2003 was 1.739 million people. In 2017 the population has grown to 1.925 million. The increase in the number of people has resulted in more purchases made by each County for services ranging from cleaning of offices to building new facilities, and commodities/goods from air filters to motorgraders. Each of these purchases takes time and money to perform correctly and legally. A change in the threshold will still result in a fair and open competitive process with the award being made to the lowest, responsible, responsive bidder.

Another consideration in the increase of the threshold is the use of technology in the bid and RFP process. Several Counties are using electronic bidding systems which notify Vendors immediately of bid opportunities and allow them to submit electronically as well. Electronic bidding has increased the number of Vendors who participate in the bid process in Lancaster County significantly. With over 8,500 Vendors registered in the County Ebid system, and growing by the week, we are promoting competition on a local and national level. We are doing this quicker and more efficiently, and promote the use of the Ebid system to other Counties and entities in the State of Nebraska.

Finally, changing the bid thresholds to the requested amounts above will be in line with the State of Nebraska bid thresholds which took effect on August 24, 2017. The exception to the State threshold is the request for a \$10,000 Agency Purchase Threshold in place of a \$25,000.00 threshold.

I have contacted the Purchasing Agents at Douglas County and Sarpy County. Both of them support this increase and can provide feedback upon request. I am available to answer any questions regarding this request.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Walla  
City/County Purchasing Agent



## ATTACHMENT B

### Lancaster County, Nebraska Services Provided to the State of Nebraska

		<u>Updated Information</u>	<b>Budget Year <u>2016-17</u></b>
County Treasurer	The Treasurer collects sales tax and remits to the State through the motor vehicles division. Collected \$29,238,776 in FY12 and collections fees kept by the county were \$1,800.	Collected \$38,086,753 in FY16 and collection fees kept by the county were approximately \$2,700	
West O Building	Lancaster County provides 4,075 square feet to the State for Drivers License Examiners. This includes utilities and custodial services. The cost per sq/ft at West O is \$14.88.	The cost per sq/ft at West O is \$18.50 (2016-17)	\$ 75,388
Motor Vehicle Building	Lancaster County provides 1,651 square feet to the State. This includes utilities and custodial services. The cost per sq/ft is \$7.47.	The cost per sq/ft is \$9.72 (2016-17)	\$ 16,048
Register of Deeds	The Register of Deeds does all of the work required to file land records yet is required to send a portion of the documentary stamp tax to the state to fund other programs. County keeps 22.22% and the State receives 77.78%. Based on \$2 million collected - state receives \$1,555,000. (76-903)	Calculated amount is still reasonable	\$ 1,555,000
Election Commissioner	Billable costs for elections are not allowed to be billed to the state. Costs are passed down to other political subdivisions but not to the state. State costs would range from 50% to 60% of billable costs. Last primary billable costs were \$356,000.		
County Court (BU 6280)	Lancaster County is required to remit certain court costs to the State. If those fees cannot be collected from defendants, the County must pay.	Court Costs (All 3 courts have been combined)	\$ 305,000

**Lancaster County, Nebraska**  
**Services Provided to the State of Nebraska**

		<u>Updated Information</u>	<b>Budget Year</b> <b><u>2016-17</u></b>
County Court	All County Court staff are state employees. Lancaster County pays for operating expenses, computers, and office equipment.		\$ 470,852
	Lancaster County is required to provide for office space and courtrooms. Cost includes custodial services, utilities, security, and parking. 29,195 sq/ft at a cost of \$14.72 per sq/ft. (New Courtroom is under construction)	31,422 sq/ft @ \$15.45 plus parking	\$ 490,870
Juvenile Court	Juvenile Court Judges are state employees. The County pays for a Court Administrator, 3 Clerk Typists, and 4 bailiffs. (Personnel Costs)		\$ 617,783
	Lancaster County also pays for Court Appointed Attorneys, Boarding contracts, and other operating expenditures.	LB 894 has increased budget by \$75,000 due to appointing attorneys for all juveniles in court.	\$ 1,231,012
	Lancaster County is required to provide for office space and courtrooms. Cost includes custodial services, utilities, security, and parking. 12,632 sq/ft at a cost of \$14.72 per sq/ft.	12,500 sq/ft @ \$15.45 plus parking	\$ 197,805
District Court	Lancaster County is required to remit certain court costs to the State. If those fees cannot be collected from defendants, the County must pay.		-
	District Court Judges are state employees. The County pays for a Court Administrator, 2 Law Clerks, and 8.75 bailiffs. (Personnel Costs)		\$ 1,214,103

**Lancaster County, Nebraska**  
**Services Provided to the State of Nebraska**

**Updated Information**

**Budget Year**  
**2016-17**

Lancaster County has had a District Court Referee for many years. State Statute states the county and state should pay for the costs. IV D pays for 2/3 of the costs but the state pays zero.

Lancaster County also pays for Court Appointed Attorneys, juror fees, and other operating expenditures.

\$ 1,016,731

Lancaster County is required to provide for office space and courtrooms. Cost includes custodial services, utilities, security, and parking. 33,524 sq/ft at a cost of \$14.72 per sq/ft.

33,524 sq/ft @ \$15.45 plus parking

\$ 525,506

County Sheriff

Special Services Division provides security for the courtrooms. This cost is incorporated into the cost per sq/ft in rent calculations.

The Civil Division is responsible for the process of writs and documents. Sheriff does receive revenue but it does not offset the cost of performing the service.

Register sex offenders and complete handgun registrations in the Administrative Support Division. 2 employees - does not include supervisor time.

Corrections

The Jail has provided 859 DNA tests for the State over the last 2.5 years.



**Lancaster County, Nebraska**  
**Services Provided to the State of Nebraska**

**Updated Information**

**Budget Year**  
**2016-17**

The Jail has completed 7,175 full sets of fingerprints for the State system (NSP) over the last 2 years.

The Jail has completed 22 sex offender registrations over the last 2 years.

The Jail has had to answer 138 Ombudsman's request with time spent researching, interviewing, making repeated phone calls, and email contacts with the Ombudsman's office over the last 2 years.

The Jail has completed approximately 18,000 warrant checks on offenders before releasing over the last 2 years.

Time and staff effort to send inmate medical files to the State of Nebraska over the last 2 years.

Jail Reimbursement - housing of prisoners on behalf of the State. The State's rate was only \$35 per day and funding would run out during the fiscal year. Funding ended after FY11.

Amount billed FY00-FY11	15,696,765
Amount collected	8,626,242

Amount unable to be billed because funding ended:	
FY12	1,809,255
FY13 - 10-31-12	669,305

Amount unable to be billed because funding ended: (through June 30, 2016)

\$ 7,070,523

\$ 9,392,425

Juvenile Probation

Juvenile Probation staff are state employees. Lancaster County pays for operating expenses, computers, and office equipment. This also includes contracts with the State Probation Office.

Computer Request  
 (County is no longer funding Drug Court after September)

\$ 82,804

5,410

**Lancaster County, Nebraska**  
**Services Provided to the State of Nebraska**

		<u>Updated Information</u>	<u>Budget Year</u> <u>2016-17</u>
	The Juvenile Drug Court was funded by the State with grants but the County started funding in FY05.		
	Lancaster County provides space for the department and the juvenile drug court. Cost includes custodial services, utilities, security and parking. 3,736 sq/ft at a cost of \$14.72 per sq/ft.	Heritage Square thru March 605 Building After April (14,181 sq/ft @ \$15.45 plus parking)	\$ 218,768
Adult Probation	Adult Probation staff are state employees. Lancaster County pays for operating expenses, computers, and office equipment. This also includes a contract with the State Probation Office.	Computer Request	\$ 176,690 \$ 13,322
	Lancaster County provides space at the Jail and office space at Trabert Hall. Cost includes custodial services, utilities, security and parking. 6,323 sq ft at a cost of \$11.75 per sq/ft at the jail and 17,572 sq ft at a cost of \$10 per sq/ft at Trabert Hall.	K Street - 2,254 sq/ft @ \$11.75 plus parking 605 Building - 20,405 sq/ft @ \$15.45 plus parking Trabert Hall New Reporting Center at MSC	\$ 316,812
Community Corrections	Drug Court - reimbursement for employees. Dollar amount of reimbursement has not changed over 6 years - despite Kim's request. Employee Costs - \$276,156 (salaries only) State Reimb - \$183,839	The state has increased their reimbursement by \$65,000 to \$248,839. Still does not cover employee costs (\$446,851)	
Youth Services Center	The state does not reimburse the county for the cost of care for youth detained and/or in an alternative to detention post adjudication and beyond. The requirement is only when the youth is committed to HHS/OJS and should be adjudicated youth in juvenile court. The state should also be responsible for the cost of care for youth who are	State Probation does not cover actual costs Staff Secure has been eliminated in FY16-17	

**Lancaster County, Nebraska**  
**Services Provided to the State of Nebraska**

Updated Information

**Budget Year**  
**2016-17**

	detained due to a violation of probation pre-adjudication status.	
General Assistance	Lease agreement with Health & Human Services - 41,267 square feet x 13.60 per sq ft. x 51.62% nonfederal share = \$289,707.55 (Included on legislative list)	\$ 277,933
County Fees	A number of county statutory fees have not been raised for many years. Fees are not allowed to be increased to cover costs. A few examples: locksmith license marriage license handgun permits motor vehicle inspection fees Treasurer fees	
Other Court Related Costs	Clerk of the District Court	\$ 1,781,294
	Jury Commissioner	\$ 153,744
	Mental Health Board	\$ 141,260

Note: List was started in FY12-13 and updates have been added throughout the years.