

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113 - BILL LUXFORD STUDIO
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Larry Hudkins, Chair
 Deb Schorr
 Roma Amundson
 Bill Avery
 Todd Wiltgen

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
 Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
 Dan Nolte, County Clerk
 Tory Carkoski, 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 January 7, 2015.

The Chair noted the location of the Open Meetings Act and opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 18, 2014 STAFF MEETING

MOTION: Amundson moved and Schorr seconded approval of the minutes of the December 18, 2014 Staff Meeting. Amundson, Schorr, Avery, Wiltgen and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

2 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- A. Meeting of the Nebraska Chapter of Professional Engineers
- B. Request from Prosper Lincoln

MOTION: Amundson moved and Wiltgen seconded approval of the additions to the agenda. Amundson, Schorr, Avery, Wiltgen and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

3 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Joe Kohout and Jonathan Bradford Kissel/E&S Associates

Joe Kohout, Kissel/E&S Associates, reported senators have elected Standing Committee Chairs and Senator Gaylen Hadley of Kearney was elected Speaker of the Legislature. He provided a handout of the 2015 Legislative Committees (Exhibit A). Kohout also gave a brief overview of the Committee on Committees Preliminary Report, Standing Committees (see Exhibit A). The final report will be adopted on January 9, 2015.

Schorr noted there is not a Lancaster County senator on the Revenue Committee. Kohout said it has been at least four years since Lancaster County had a representative on the Committee.

Amundson asked about the yellow highlights. Kohout said the highlights indicate members of the Lancaster Delegation and said he neglected to highlight Senator Baker on Health and Human Services Committee.

Kohout said that Senator Nordquist has agreed to introduce legislation on behalf of Lancaster County to increase the total employer and employee pension contribution from 13% to 16%.

Avery asked about the adoption of rules with secret ballots. Kohout remarked there is a lot of pressure on some members to disband the secret ballot. In his opinion, a secret ballot is one of the checks and balances on process in a unicameral legislature. It lets individuals elect whoever they think is best and not be subject to outside influences.

The City of Lincoln is sponsoring legislation to regulate homeowner associations. Originally, the City intended to include homeowner associations located in both the City and County. However, the City decided they would have a better chance of getting the legislation passed if the proposed bill only covered homeowner associations located within the City limits. If the bill passes the County can decide at a later date if it wants to expand the legislation to include counties. The County Board concurred with this strategy.

Eagan also informed the Board the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) has sent over a bill that if there is a death in a state correctional facility the cost be covered by the State rather than General Assistance.

Doug Cyr, Chief Deputy County Attorney, appeared and noted Lancaster County has more prisons and inmates than any other county in the state. Lancaster County is

incurring grand jury and autopsy costs, which are fairly substantial. The County convenes about 24 grand juries a year related to deaths of inmates held in State Correctional facilities. The cost of each incident is \$1500.00 to \$1800.00 per funeral plus the Grand Jury cost. The autopsies are performed in Omaha with a transport cost of \$300.00.

Schorr asked about interim studies related to unfunded mandates and bridges. Kohout stated Senator Crawford is working on legislation related to unfunded mandates. As for bridges, discussion regarding budgets and needs for additional resources has been unsuccessful. On both fronts, there are positive developments that could be worked out in the next few days.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. Increase Credit Limit on Sheriff's Administrative Support Division Credit Card to \$10,000

Brief discussion took place regarding to request to increase the credit limit. No action was taken at this time.

- B. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Application, Requesting \$209,047 From Nebraska Crime Commission

MOTION: Amundson moved and Schorr seconded to authorize the Chair to sign the grant application. Amundson, Schorr, Avery, Wiltgen and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. County Board Officers

Eagan noted formal action to appoint County Board officers will be scheduled on the January 13, 2015 County Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

Schorr felt the standard operating procedure of the Chair and Vice Chair serving a two year term works best for everyone. She also stated she supports Amundson taking a leadership role.

Hudkins indicated he would be willing to continue to serve as Chair or Vice Chair.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Wiltgen seconded to appoint Amundson as Chair for a two-year term. Amundson, Schorr, Avery, Wiltgen and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

MOTION: Amundson moved and Wiltgen seconded to appoint Hudkins as Vice Chair for a one-year term. Amundson, Wiltgen and Hudkins voted aye. Schorr and Avery voted nay. Motion carried 3-2.

B. Bailiff I Salary - Pauline Balta

Eagan noted it is a part time position. The Board will take action on this matter at the January 13, 2015 County Board of Commissioners Meeting.

C. Human Services Interview Process

Eagan reviewed the letter that was sent to the candidates explaining the interview process. There was consensus to schedule the interviews one hour apart and to allow 40 minutes for interview and 20 minutes for discussion.

D. Improvement Fund Grant Request for City of Lincoln (\$35,000)

There was consensus to forward the grant request to the Visitors Promotion Committee (VPC) for review and recommendation. Schorr questioned about a waiver in the insurance with the theater. Eagan said that they do not have automobiles and employees waiver for workman's comp insurance and automobile insurance. Eagan said he is comfortable with that.

E. Grant Contract Amendment for City Airport Entry Corridor Grant

There was consensus to schedule the item on the January 13, 2015 County Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

F. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Institute of Excellence

Schorr encouraged the new board members to attend as they might find it beneficial.

G. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Commissioner Orientation

It was suggested the new Commissioners attend.

H. Committee Assignments

Committee assignments are as follows:

Hudkins - Budget Monitoring Committee, District Energy Corporation (DEC), General Assistance (GA) Monitoring Committee, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Public Building Commission (PBC) and Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD)

Schorr - Community Mental Health Crisis Center, Board of Corrections (Chair), District Energy Corporation (DEC), Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Board of Directors, Human Services Joint Budget Committee (JBC) and Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD)

Amundson - *Chamber of Commerce Coffee, Human Services Joint Budget Committee (JBC), Juvenile Justice Review Committee (JJRC), Public Building Commission (PBC) and Board of Health

Avery - Air Pollution Control Advisory Board, Budget Monitoring Committee, Emergency Medical Services Oversight Authority (EMSOA), Lancaster County Fairgrounds Joint Public Agency (JPA) and Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD)

Wiltgen - General Assistance (GA) Monitoring Committee, Information Services Policy Committee (ISPC), Lancaster County Fairgrounds Joint Public Agency (JPA), Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA) Budget Monitoring Committee and Region 5 Governing Board.

*Chamber of Commerce Coffee - Other Commissioners will alternate attendance, according to availability.

4 PENDING LITIGATION - Doug Cyr, Chief Deputy County Attorney; Andrew D. Strotman, Cline Williams, L.L.P.

MOTION: Amundson moved and Avery seconded to enter Executive Session at 9:31 a.m. for the purpose of protecting the public interest in regards to pending litigation.

The Chair restated the motion for the record.

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

MOTION: Amundson moved and Schorr seconded to exit Executive Session at 10:25 a.m. Amundson, Schorr, Avery, Wiltgen and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**5 PENSION REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:
(A) ADD VANGUARD SELECT VALUE FUND, ELIMINATE MID CAP VALUE/SYSTEMATIC & PERKINS VALUE T FUNDS (MAP ASSETS TO VANGUARD); AND (B) RETAIN CORE PLUS BOND/PIM FUND**

Doug Cyr, a member of the Pension Review Committee (PRC), presented the following recommendations from the PRC:

- The Vanguard Select Value Fund (VASVX) should be added to the investment arrays for the 401(a) and 457 Programs, and the Mid Cap Value/Systematic and Perkins Value T Funds should be eliminated, with their assets mapped to the Vanguard Select Value Fund.
- The Core Plus Bond/PIM Fund should be retained in the investment arrays for the 401 (a) and 457 Programs.

**6 COUNTY CLERK CUBICLE RECONFIGURATION - Dan Nolte,
Lancaster County Clerk**

Dan Nolte explained that with staffing change there is a need for a change in seating arrangements. The estimated cost is \$1,500.00, plus Information Services' costs. Nolte indicated the cost will be absorbed in the County Clerk's budget.

**7 INTRODUCTION OF JIM ROWOLDT, INTERIM CHIEF PROBATION
OFFICER - Gene Cotter, Probation Assistant Deputy Administrator**

Cotter introduced Rowoldt to the Board.

8 CHIEF DEPUTY SALARIES

Pam Dingman, County Engineer; Troy Hawk, Clerk of the District Court; Joe Kelly, County Attorney; Joe Nigro, Public Defender; Dan Nolte, County Clerk; Rob Ogden, Chief Field Deputy Assessor/Register of Deeds; Andy Stebbing, County Treasurer; Terry Wagner, Lancaster County Sheriff, appeared and discussed the chief deputies' salaries. Stebbing also stated he believes his position and that of his chief deputy are significantly underpaid.

Doug McDaniel, Lincoln-Lancaster County Human Resources Director, appeared and outlined the salary survey his department conducted.

Hudkins exited the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

MOTION: Avery moved and Amundson seconded approval of the recommendations for Chief Deputies salary increases. Avery and Amundson voted aye. Wiltgen and Schorr voted nay. Hudkins was absent from voting. Vote tied. Motion failed due to the lack of a majority.

Amundson requested reconsideration of the matter.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Avery seconded to reconsider the previous motion. Schorr, Avery and Amundson voted aye. Wiltgen voted nay. Hudkins was absent from voting. Motion carried 3-1.

MOTION: Avery moved and Amundson seconded the approval of the increases in Chief Deputies salaries. Schorr, Avery and Amundson voted aye. Wiltgen voted nay. Hudkins was absent from voting. Motion carried 3-1.

9 ACTION ITEMS

- A. Increase Credit Limit on Sheriff's Administrative Support Division Credit Card to \$10,000

Item was moved forward on the agenda.

- B. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Application, Requesting \$209,047 From Nebraska Crime Commission

Item was moved forward on the agenda.

10 CONSENT ITEMS

There were no consent items.

11 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. County Board Officers
- B. Bailiff I Salary - Pauline Balta
- C. Human Services Interview Process
- D. Improvement Fund Grant Request for City of Lincoln (\$35,000)
- E. Grant Contract Amendment for City Airport Entry Corridor Grant
- F. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Institute of Excellence
- G. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Commissioner Orientation
- H. Committee Assignments

Items A-H were moved forward on the agenda.

12 PENDING

There were no pending items.

13 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. Lancaster County Fairgrounds Joint Public Agency (JPA) -
Hudkins/Amundson

Amundson reported they approved claims. The Ag Society Board discussed many different proposal that they are moving forward including communications and various marketing questionnaires sent out to discuss all the improvements that they are doing. December was a very good month for them financially and they are beginning to gear up for the next Lancaster County Fair.

RETURNING TO ITEM 9A

Terry Wagner, Lancaster County Sheriff, appeared and explained that monies from drug forfeiture seizures must be maintained in a separate account and there are strict federal guidelines on how those funds can be spent. This would be a separate account of those forfeiture assets that would be set up for equipment and training.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Wiltgen seconded approval of the request to increase the limit on the credit card for the Lancaster County Sheriff's Administrative Support Division to \$10,000. Schorr, Avery, Wiltgen and Amundson voted aye. Hudkins was absent from voting. Motion carried 4-0.

B. Public Safety Interlocal Meeting - Schorr

Schorr said that they had their final meeting and approved the draft report that was sent to the Mayor regarding a possible sales tax increase for a three-year period to fund the new 911 operating system and renovation of fire stations.

C. Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA) Breakfast -
Amundson

Amundson reported that Richard Meginnis, Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) Board of Education, discussed school board issues and the development in Southeast Lincoln.

Ann Post, Director of Policy and Research for the Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA), appeared and stated there was general discussion on legislation.

D. Chamber Coffee - Amundson

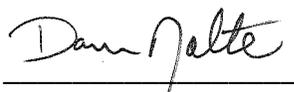
Amundson reported that Lincoln Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) has some district guides that are available. There were 22 writers about travel that have visited Lincoln in December and they discussed the food, the hospitality and the craft beer. There were three food blogs that were started about the food in Lincoln. Licorice International was a huge hit and one of the travel writers is writing an article that will be put in American In Flight magazine. Cornhusker State Games are July 28, 2015 to August 7, 2015. Overall our taxes are not low however the functions of our government are working well. They trust our government and our economy is coming right along. Sales tax for public safety is supported. January 21, 2015 is the Growth and Development Forum. LES is going to present information on solar and wind energy. January 28, 2015 is a Public Forum. Doug Emery, Carl Eskridge and Lerion Gaylor Baird spoke about activities on the City Council. Talked about Windstream coming in. Talked about the sales tax for the 911 system and two more fire stations being built. Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) is working on their annual audit and LPS has been praised on how they manage their finances. Meginnis talked about the Suicide Prevention Coalition and would love more people involved in that coalition. Discussion continued on the transformation on Southeast Lincoln. Tim Clare discussed the Arena JPA and some of the issues worked out with UNL athletics. Clare also said that there were 42 countries represented in the last graduation and there are 30 different states and they are trying to keep graduates in the State of Nebraska after graduation. Ground breaking has happened for Breslow Ice Center. They also discussed selling the UNL president's house and zeroing in on Presidential hires.

14 EMERGENCY ITEMS AND OTHER BUSINESS

There were no emergency items or other business.

15 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Schorr moved and Avery seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 a.m. Amundson, Schorr, Avery and Wiltgen voted aye. Hudkins was absent from voting. Motion carried 4-0.



Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk





KISSEL/E&S
ASSOCIATES

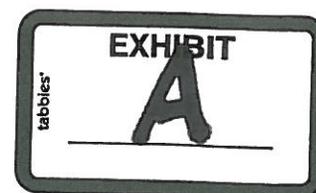
A Limited Liability Company Associated with Erickson and Sederstrom, P.C.

Gordon E. Kissel, *Managing Partner*

Suite 400 Cornhusker Plaza / 301 S. 13th Street / Lincoln, NE 68508-2571

Telephone (402) 476-1188 / Facsimile (402) 476-6167

Email gkissel@kisseles.com / Website www.kisseles.com



MEMORANDUM

TO: Lancaster County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Gordon Kissel
Joseph D. Kohout
Jonathan Bradford

DATE: January 8, 2015

RE: First Weekly Update on the 2015 Legislature

Please accept this as the first of your weekly reports for the 2015 Legislative Session. Yesterday, the Legislature convened and elected new leadership for the 2015-16 session. We are attaching with this memorandum the elections to the leadership as well as the preliminary recommendation of the Committee on Committees. I have highlighted those members of the Lancaster County delegation on that sheet.

While bill introduction did begin yesterday, none of those bills will be read in until 10am today when the Legislature convenes at 10am. Later today at 130pm, the inaugural ceremonies will be held in the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber where Governor-Elect Ricketts, Lt. Governor-Elect Foley, Attorney General-Elect Peterson and other constitutional officers will be sworn in. Governor-Elect Ricketts will deliver his Inaugural Address at that time.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you might have.

2015 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES
Committee on Committees Preliminary Report
Standing Committees

Updated 1/7/15

Agriculture (8)

Rm. 2102 - Tuesday

Johnson (C), Bloomfield, Chambers, Harr, B., Kolterman, Larson, Riepe, Schilz

Appropriations (9)

Rm. 1524 - Monday & Tuesday

Rm. 1003 - Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

Mello (C), Bolz, Haar, K., Hilkemann, Kintner, Kuehn, Nordquist, Stinner, Watermeier

Banking, Commerce and Insurance (8)

Rm. 1507 - Monday & Tuesday

Scheer (C), Campbell, Craighead, Gloor, Howard, Lindstrom, Schumacher, Williams

Business and Labor (7)

Rm. 2102 - Monday

Harr, B. (C), Bloomfield, Chambers, Crawford, Ebke, Johnson, McCollister

Education (8)

Rm. 1525 - Monday & Tuesday

Sullivan (C), Baker, Cook, Groene, Kolowski, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks, Schnoor

General Affairs (8)

Rm. 1510 - Monday

Larson (C), Coash, Hansen, Hughes, Kolterman, Krist, Riepe, Schilz

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs (8)

Rm. 1507 - Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

Murante (C), Bloomfield, Craighead, Garrett, Groene, Hansen, Larson, McCoy

Health and Human Services (7)

Rm. 1510 - Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

Campbell (C), Baker, Cook, Crawford, Howard, Kolterman, Riepe

Judiciary (8)

Rm. 1113 - Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

Seiler (C), Chambers, Coash, Ebke, Krist, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks, Williams

Natural Resources (8)

Rm. 1525 - Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

Schilz (C), Friesen, Hughes, Johnson, Kolowski, Lindstrom, McCollister, Schnoor

Nebraska Retirement Systems (6)

Rm. 1525 - At call of Chair

Nordquist (C), Davis, Groene, Kolowski, Kolterman, Mello

Revenue (8)

Rm. 1524 - Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

Gloor (C), Brasch, Davis, Harr, B., Scheer, Schumacher, Smith, Sullivan

Transportation and Telecommunications (8)

Rm. 1113 - Monday & Tuesday

Smith (C), Brasch, Davis, Friesen, Garrett, McCoy, Murante, Seiler

Urban Affairs (7)

Rm. 1510 - Tuesday

Crawford (C), Coash, Ebke, Hansen, Hughes, Krist, McCollister

Select Committees

Committee on Committees (13)

McCoy (C)

District 1:

Campbell

Coash (VC)

Garrett

Schumacher

District 2:

Harr, B.

Krist

Mello

Smith

District 3:

Bloomfield

Hadley

Schilz

Watermeier

Enrollment and Review (1)

Hansen (C)

Reference (9)

Krist (C), Watermeier (VC), Campbell, Chambers, Coash, Hadley, Hughes, Larson, Murante, Mello (nonvoting ex officio)

Rules (6)

Garrett (C), Bloomfield, Krist, Nordquist, Schumacher, Hadley (ex officio)

Special Committees

Building Maintenance (6)

Education Commission of the States (3)

Executive Board of the Legislative Council (9)

Krist (C), Watermeier (VC), Campbell, Chambers, Coash, Hadley, Hughes, Larson, Murante, Mello (nonvoting ex officio)

Legislative Performance Audit (7)

Legislature's Planning (9)

Midwestern Higher Education Commission (Midwest Compact) (2)

Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact (2)

State-Tribal Relations (7)