

**MINUTES**  
**LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 112**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2021**  
**9:00 A.M.**

*Advance public notice of the Board of Commissioners meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board, the Lancaster County, Nebraska, web site, emailed to the media and published in the Lincoln Journal Star print edition and website on June 25, 2021.*

**Commissioners present:** Rick Vest, Chair; Deb Schorr, Vice Chair; Roma Amundson; Sean Flowerday; and Christa Yoakum

**Others present:** David Derbin, Chief Administrative Officer; Jenifer Holloway, Deputy County Attorney; Dan Nolte, County Clerk; and Monét McCullen, County Clerk's Office

The meeting was called 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, June 22, 2021.**

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Schorr seconded approval of the minutes. Schorr, Amundson, Yoakum, Flowerday and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- B. Approval of the minutes of the Board of Commissioners tour of St. Monica's Women are Sacred Program held on Tuesday, June 22, 2021.**

**MOTION:** Yoakum moved and Amundson seconded approval of the tour minutes. Flowerday, Schorr, Amundson, Yoakum and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**2) CLAIMS:**

- A. Approval of all claims processed through June 29, 2021.**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Yoakum seconded approval of the claims. Yoakum, Flowerday, Schorr, Amundson and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**3) SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

- A. Presenting George Leavitt, Corrections, with the following awards:**

- 1. Department of Corrections 2020 Employee of the Year (See correlating item 6A).**
- 2. Commissioners' Award of Excellence in the category of Productivity for May, 2021.**

The Clerk read the Commissioners' Award of Excellence nomination into the record (see agenda packet). Brad Johnson, Lancaster County Corrections Director, said the department formed a committee to develop strategies and plans during COVID- 19. Mr. Leavitt was responsible for following through on a number of tasks.

Johnson said he appreciated Mr. Leavitt for his efforts and the department would not have been successful without him.

Flowerday presented Mr. Leavitt with plaques for the Commissioners' Award of Excellence and Corrections Employee of the Year.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Leavitt for his service, loyalty and commitment to the County.

Mr. Leavitt thanked the County Board, Brad Johnson and Rick Gray for the nomination. In addition, he thanked Corrections staff for their efforts.

- 4) **CONSENT ITEMS:** 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 contract with Robert L. Benes Revocable Trust, Southwest 86<sup>th</sup> Street and West Wittstruck Road, in the amount of \$544. (C-21-0475)**
  - B. **Grant contracts funded by the Joint Budget Committee for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 with the following:**
    - 1. **The Bridge Behavioral Health for the Civil Protective Custody program in the amount of \$232,000. (C-21-0473)**
    - 2. **Cedars Youth Services for the Emergency Shelter program in the amount of \$304,580. (C-21-0474)**
  - C. **Amendment to County Contract C-19-0617 with Tradebe Environmental Services for Annual Services - Hazardous Waste Services (RFP No. 19-103. The amendment renews the contract from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The cost to the County is not to exceed \$2,000.) (C-21-0472)**
  - D. **Amendments to the following County contracts for Annual Supply - Office Seating (Bid No. 18-117. The amendments renew the contracts with a price increase from July 10, 2021 through July 9, 2022. The cost to the County is not to exceed \$30,000 for all contracts):**
    - 1. **All Makes Office Equipment Co., of Lincoln (C-21-0477)**
    - 2. **encompass (C-21-0478)**
    - 3. **Office Interiors & Design, Inc. (C-21-0479)**
  - E. **Amendment No. 1 to County Contract C-20-0770 with the City of Lincoln to allow for three days' notice of DEC (District Energy Corporation) meetings in accordance with the By-Laws and Open Meetings Act instead of the original seven-day requirement. (C-21-0480)**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Yoakum seconded approval of the consent items. Amundson, Yoakum, Flowerday, Schorr and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- 5) **PUBLIC HEARING:**

- A. Issuance by the County of its Revenue Bond (Series 2021, in one or more series, in the maximum aggregate face amount not to exceed \$4,000,000) for the benefit of Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties, a Nebraska nonprofit corporation. (See correlating item 6B)**

The Clerk announced this item has been withdrawn from the agenda.

**6) NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Request under Personnel Rule 17.14 (b) for a one-time cash award of \$500 to George Leavitt.**

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Yoakum seconded approval of the one-time cash award under personnel rule 17.14 (b). Schorr, Amundson, Yoakum, Flowerday and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- B. Resolution authorizing the issuance of Revenue Bonds, Series 2021, in a principal amount not to exceed \$4,000,000 for the benefit of Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties, a Nebraska nonprofit corporation. (R-21-0037)**

The Clerk announced this item has been withdrawn from the agenda.

- C. Resolution in the matter of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative in Lancaster County. (R-21-0038)**

The Clerk announced this item has been held.

- D. Appointment of Maysoon Shaheen to Aging Partners Areawide Council.**

Randall Jones, Aging Partners Director, introduced Maysoon Shaheen and gave a brief overview of her background.

Ms. Shaheen said she is honored and looks forward to help serve the Arab community.

In response to Schorr's question, Ms. Shaheen said her doctorate study will be in education teaching ESL (English as a second language) to adults.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Shaheen for her willingness to serve.

**MOTION:** Yoakum moved and Amundson seconded approval of the appointment. Amundson, Yoakum, Flowerday, Schorr and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- E. Third Addendum to County Contract No. C-03-0329 between the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce and the County to assist the County with carrying out the provisions of the Nebraska Visitors Development Act. The Third Addendum provides for funding through the American Rescue Plan Act for the period from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2025. (C-21-0481)**

Jeff Maul, Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Director, appeared with Becky Perrett, Chair of the Visitors Promotion Committee, and thanked the Board for their belief in tourism.

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Flowerday seconded approval of the third addendum. Schorr, Amundson, Yoakum, Flowerday and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**F. Approval of the following appointments to the Visitors Promotion Committee (“VPC”):**

- 1. Jeff Barclay/Pillar Restaurant Group, for a 4 year term, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025;**
- 2. Jason Hoehne/New Victorian Inn & Americinn South, for a 4 year term, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025**
- 3. Aaron Stitt as Chair of the VPC**
- 4. Tara Knuth as Vice Chair of the VPC**

Maul thanked Ms. Perrett for serving as President of the VPC. In addition, he thanked Roland Morgan for serving as Vice President on the committee.

Perrett thanked the incoming members and the existing members who will continue to serve.

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Flowerday seconded approval of the appointments.

The Board gave Ms. Perrett a round of applause for serving a two year term on the VPC.

**ROLL CALL:** Flowerday, Schorr, Amundson, Yoakum and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**G. Lancaster County Visitors Promotion Market Grant 2021-2022 Application and Guidelines.**

Perrett said these applications will award \$5,000 microgrants presented by the Visitors Promotion Committee for the sole purpose of marketing. Perrett provided marketing examples and discussed the timeline of the grant cycles.

**MOTION:** Flowerday moved and Yoakum seconded approval of the application and guidelines. Yoakum, Flowerday, Schorr, Amundson and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**H. Agreement with Summit Food Service LLC for the provision of an on-site food service and preparation skills course for inmates in the custody of the Lancaster County Corrections Department. The term of the agreement is a maximum of one-year from date of execution. The cost to the County is not to exceed \$11,492.49. (C-21-0476)**

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Flowerday seconded approval of the agreement. Amundson, Yoakum, Flowerday, Schorr and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**I. Authorization for David Derbin to submit written acceptance of Amendment to Administrative Services Agreement with Prudential to permit Qualified Birth or Adoption Distributions (QBAD) under the Secure Act § 113 to incorporate Lancaster County’s previous adoption on November 24, 2020 of QBAD for its 457 Deferred Compensation Plan.**

David Derbin, Chief Administrative Officer, said two modifications were approved regarding the 457 Deferred Compensation Plan for distributions on qualified births and adoptions. This authorization will solidify the amendment in the Administrative Services Agreement for Prudential to process distribution requests.

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Yoakum seconded approval of the authorization. Schorr, Amundson, Yoakum, Flowerday and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**J. Setting the salary for Daniel Zieg, Chief Deputy County Attorney, in the amount of \$154,571.04 as Chief Deputy Civil Division, effective July 1, 2021.**

Pat Condon, Lancaster County Attorney, said Mr. Zieg will replace Doug Cyr as Chief of the County Attorney's Civil Division.

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Schorr seconded approval of the salary. Flowerday, Schorr, Amundson, Yoakum and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**K. Recommendation from the Purchasing Agent and Kerin Peterson, Facilities and Properties Director, to award a bid to BiC Construction for Election Commission Expansion Construction (Bid 21-137). The total cost to the County is \$631,500. (B-21-0137)**

Kerin Peterson, Facilities and Properties Director, said the initial quote for this expansion was \$795,000.

**MOTION:** Amundson moved and Schorr seconded approval of the recommendation. Yoakum, Flowerday, Schorr, Amundson and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

**7) UPDATE ON COVID-19 AND LANCASTER COUNTY RESPONSE**

No discussion was held.

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

Larry Hudkins, President of the Lancaster County Farm Bureau, said Robert Retzlaff lives on 176<sup>th</sup> Street near Wittstruck Road. The bridge on that road has been closed for over two years. Mr. Retzlaff was served papers for eminent domain and he will not grant access to the County until the bridge near his property is repaired to service his farm. He provided a history of the Retzlaff family in Lancaster County.

Robert Retzlaff asked the Board to consider a policy that would not allow a road to remain closed for an extended period of time. Hudkins said he thinks the County Engineering Department should be provided with funds to stockpile culverts for culvert replacement projects.

Pam Dingman, Lancaster County Engineer, said the pipe failure mentioned by Mr. Hudkins and Mr. Retzlaff was unanticipated, which now requires a new pipe design. In addition, there are policies and procedures set forth by the Federal Government that are required along with drainage studies, extensive delays with telecommunication utilities, design concerns with environmental issues, studies for endangered species and plants, compliance with nesting bird and bat pup season, along with a shortage of steel. There are a number of community members who suffer from the crisis level that County infrastructure has reached. She noted this process does take funding and time.

The County Clerk and Commissioners thanked Monét McCullen for her service within the County Clerk's Office.

9) **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. **The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners will hold a staff meeting on Thursday, July 1, 2021 at 8:30 a.m., in Room 112 of the County-City Building (555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln).**
- B. **The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners will hold its next regular meeting on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., with the Board of Equalization immediately following in Room 112 of the County-City Building (555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln).**
- C. **County Commissioners can be reached at 402-441-7447 or [commish@lancaster.ne.gov](mailto:commish@lancaster.ne.gov).**
- D. **The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners meeting is broadcast live on LNKTVCity. For the rebroadcast schedule visit [lincoln.ne.gov](http://lincoln.ne.gov) (keyword: LNKTVCity). Meetings are also streamed live on LNKTVCity and can be viewed on YouTube (LNKTVCity).**

10) **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Yoakum seconded to adjourn the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:43 a.m. Amundson, Yoakum, Flowerday, Schorr and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

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Dan Nolte  
Lancaster County Clerk