

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JOINT MEETING WITH CITIES AND VILLAGES
THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2022 AT 8:30 A.M.
COUNTY CITY BUILDING - 555 S. 10TH STREET, ROOM 303

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

Village Representatives: Nancy Niemann, Raymond Village Clerk; Frank Robbins, Raymond Village Board Chair; Stephanie Fisher, Waverly City Administrator; Megan Frye, Waverly City Clerk; and Michele Lincoln, Village Clerk/City of Bennet

Others Present: David Derbin, Chief Administrative Officer; Kristy Bauer, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Saige Walker, County Board Administrative Secretary; Mikayla Johnson, Grant Coordinator; Bennie Shobe, Lincoln City Council; Pam Dingman, County Engineer; Margaret Reist, Lincoln Journal Star; and Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk

Advanced public notice of the meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board and the Lancaster County, Nebraska, website and emailed to the media on June 28, 2022. Notice was also published in the Lincoln Journal Star print and digital editions on June 27, 2022.

A copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted on the wall of the conference room. The Chair opened the meeting at 8:33 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

- 1. ADDRESSING BY GIS** – Adam Miller, GIS Project Manager, City of Lincoln; Doug Guess, Data Systems Manager, Lancaster County Assessor/Register of Deeds; and Dave Sankey, 911 Director, State of Nebraska

Adam Miller, GIS Project Manager, City of Lincoln, provided an overview of Lancaster County's Single Addressing Authority (see agenda packet). He noted NextGen 911 is an update to the current 911 system. The project should be completed in 2023 and will provide more seamless sharing of voice, text, pictures and video between cities and 911 centers across the State.

Miller said the single addressing authority goal would be to have all cities and villages using the same system whereby one entity would assign and update all Lancaster County addresses. Benefits would include consistent and accurate call routing for emergency services, system expertise, redundancy (multiple trained staff to prevent backlog) and having a single point of contact.

Miller noted five villages/cities have already signed interlocal agreements for addressing (see agenda packet) but those will need to be updated to reflect wording changes. He would like to attend village board meetings as soon as possible to answer questions about the project and to get updated interlocal agreements signed. He also requested a list of city/village contacts and meeting dates.

Fisher and Lincoln both indicated that their respective cities have been using the addressing system for some time and it has worked well.

Robbins indicated the Village of Raymond has not participated and would like more information regarding their current addresses and how duplicate addresses in the County will impact their village.

Niemann noted a few years ago there was some dispute between the County and the Post Office regarding the assignment of addresses and asked how that worked out. Miller said he was unaware of the past issue but Building & Safety continues to work closely with the Post Office to assure addresses are uniform.

Schorr said the County's website has links to each city/village and the dates/times of meetings. Walker noted she could also forward this information to Miller.

David Sankey, 911 Director, State of Nebraska, said NextGen 911 is being rolled out to 68 911 centers across the State via the emergency service internet (ESI) protocol network. Callers will be sorted and routed geospatially. Twenty-one 911 centers in the south central and panhandle regions are connected. The southeast region, including Lincoln, will likely be added next spring. He said this will give Miller and his team time to work with stakeholders to collect and upload data.

Robbins asked if the NextGen 911 calls will be routed to landlines. Sankey said currently there is a database that telephone companies have which includes all landline addresses. This information will be geocoded with XY coordinates in the NextGen 911 system. GIS data will be uploaded as created and it will go through a variety of checks to make sure addresses are accurate. Texting is currently available in 50 911 centers. Once the southeast region connects to the ESI network, that feature will also be available.

In response to Vest's inquiry, Sankey explained the 988 number is the national suicide hotline which begins on July 16. It is different than 911, although, the systems will be interoperable.

Schorr asked if there will be any fiscal impacts to villages. Sankey said that would be a question for Miller. As far as he was concerned, the main thing was not to have gaps in the data.

Schorr noted the County is working with rural fire districts to update radios to be more compatible with Lincoln's new 911 system. She added it may be beneficial for Miller to attend a future Mutual Aid meeting to discuss the addressing project.

Robbins asked how homeowners will handle any potential fees associated with address changes. Miller said he would need to discuss this with Building & Safety. Pam Dingman, County Engineer, said her department notifies Building & Safety regarding driveway changes to ensure the address is correct for emergency services purposes.

Schorr suggested Sankey's contact information be included with the minutes for those wishing to contact him. His office number is 402-471-0265 and email is dave.sankey@nebraska.gov.

3. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN INVESTMENTS – Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer

A. County

Commissioners provided an update on Lancaster County's ARPA investments (see agenda packet).

Funds are being allocated to the tourism/travel industry, infrastructure, Family Resource Center, non-profits, adult behavioral health services, local government services and administration and oversight.

Schorr noted Lancaster County received \$62,000,000 and the City of Lincoln received \$43,000,000. The County hired a grants manager to oversee compliance and reporting requirements. A total investment of \$12,500,000 has been reserved for impacted tourism and travel industries. Schorr said an announcement regarding individual awards to various tourism-related entities who were heavily impacted by the pandemic is forthcoming.

Amundson discussed funding allocated to infrastructure improvements (\$14,500,000). She noted this will include rural water and broadband projects as well as culvert replacement.

Yoakum said the County has also allocated funds to behavioral/mental health (\$6,000,000). Youth crisis stabilization and recovery services were designated a priority by the stakeholders and community partners. The Family Resource Center will provide youth and families in crisis with immediate needs like food and housing and will continue to provide services until they are more stable. Schorr added this is also a partnership with law enforcement as it provides another resource as opposed to issuing a citation or involving these individuals in the legal system.

Flowerday said \$15,000,000 will be awarded to non-profit agencies. The criteria used in the application process included basic needs, victim safety, mental health and racial equity. He stated an additional \$3,000,000 was allocated to adult behavioral health services to assist with social detox/civil protective custody and the expansion of adult outpatient treatment.

Vest discussed the \$10,000,000 investment for local government services such as public health, rural fire district emergency response equipment and other projects. A total of \$5,000,000 has yet to be assigned. He noted the allocation deadline is December, 2024. The goal with these funds is to make long-term investments and improvements throughout the County.

Johnson noted quarterly updates would be made to the ARPA budget/expense information on the County's website.

B. Cities and Villages

Fisher said Waverly was awarded \$720,000. An additional water source is needed so the funding is being allocated toward a new well at this time.

Nieman said Raymond was awarded \$16,317 which will be used on a lagoon/wastewater project.

Lincoln said Bennet was awarded \$86,000 with some of the funding being designated for sewer rehabilitation. The rural fire department also requested \$13,000 for equipment. Schorr confirmed that the County's ARPA funds are only being used for radios for rural fire districts. She added that State funding was set aside to replace aging fire trucks and equipment. The rules and regulations are currently being drafted and the application process will likely begin in 60 days. Schorr said she continues to share information with the rural fire districts and the County's lobbyist is also tracking this issue and sharing updates with Mutual Aid.

Lincoln added water is also an issue as Bennet's contract with the Rural Water District may be at a maximum. There is a lot of interest in development north of Bennet but annexation cannot occur until the water issue is resolved.

5. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Fisher said Waverly is working on capital improvement projects such as water infrastructure, streets, a traffic study near the middle/high school and a new aquatic center. Dingman stressed the importance of setting up the traffic study to allow for the application of federal safety funds.

Robbins said Raymond is upgrading its lagoon/sewer system from the 1960s at a cost of \$1,250,000. Niemann noted the Village will also be separating the Clerk/Treasurer into two positions.

Lincoln said Bennet will be transitioning from a village to a city of the second class. Elections for mayor and city council will be held in November. There will be updates to zoning and subdivision regulations and code ordinances. She is also working on establishing an economic development group or Chamber of Commerce.

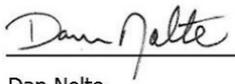
Dingman noted that as a city, Bennet can now request to be a voting member of the Lincoln-Lancaster County MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) which has funding available for roads and bridges on federal aid routes. It would also increase rural representation on the committee.

Dingman reminded cities/villages that they can find budget savings through interlocal agreements with the County for such things as road paving/maintenance, snow removal, material purchases, etc.

Schorr encouraged cities/villages to forward local announcements or other meeting information to Saige Walker in the County Board Office for inclusion on the County's website.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9:45 a.m.


Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk

