

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2023, AT 8:30 A.M.
COUNTY CITY BUILDING, 555 S. 10TH STREET
ROOM 112 – CITY COUNTY CHAMBERS**

Commissioners Present: Christa Yoakum, Chair; Roma Amundson, Matt Schulte and Rick Vest

Commissioners Absent: Sean Flowerday, Vice Chair

Others Present: Dave Derbin, Chief Administrative Officer; Kristy Bauer, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; and Courtney Lyons, 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 August 30, 2023. Notice was also published in the Lincoln Journal Star print and digital editions on August 28, 2023.

Yoakum noted the location of the Open Meetings Act and opened the meeting at 8:33 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR AUGUST 24, 2023

MOTION: Vest moved and Schulte seconded approval of the minutes. Vest, Schulte and Yoakum voted yes. Amundson and Flowerday were absent. Motion carried 3-0.

Amundson arrived at 8:34 a.m.

2. INSURANCE UPDATE – Sue Eckley, Risk Manager; and Tom Champoux, President and Risk Consultant, UNICO

Eckley reviewed the insurance policies the County needs to renew. She stated she will return to a future Board meeting to review specific numbers.

Champoux provided an overview of the current insurance market. The cost of property insurance, deductibles and auto liability have increased. Liability lines and workers' compensation have remained stable. Overall pricing will increase slightly. Eckley noted current plan deductibles are small when compared to other plans.

Schulte asked how the County buildings are valued. Champoux answered valuations are based on costs of replacement and checked with the County Assessor's valuations. Eckley said the jail is difficult to value due to its size. Champoux and Eckley discussed steps taken to accurately value the jail.

Vest asked if updates to the County's cyber security policies affected insurance rates. Eckley answered she anticipates a decrease this year due to those changes. Champoux noted the insurance market is softening on cyber security concerns. Eckley said she has discussed combining cyber

security policies for the City and the County with Abby Eccher, Chief Information Officer.

3. QUARTERLY VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICE UPDATE – Mark Lakamp, Veteran's Service Officer

Lakamp reported that the number of veterans served has continued to increase after the opening of the new building (see agenda packet). Service numbers have also been high due to the deadline to file for PACT Act benefits. He noted they are receiving several walk-ins from clinic referrals.

Lakamp reviewed County Veterans Aid amounts for the current calendar and fiscal year (see agenda packet). He then discussed State and County veterans statistics from last fiscal year, including the veteran population, total expenditures, direct payments and medical care costs (see agenda packet). He noted the Department of Veterans Affairs does not track Veterans Affairs (VA) loans.

Yoakum asked if the number of referrals from the clinic has increased or if the number of referrals is the same, but veterans are finding getting to the new building easier. Lakamp answered it is a combination of both. Lakamp noted visitors to the new location appreciate the parking available.

4. DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS ATTENDED

A. Lancaster County Ag Society

Amundson reported attendees discussed the upcoming name change of the Lancaster Event Center. Vest reported attendees discussed the recent Super Fair, which Amundson noted will continue to be held at the Lancaster Event Center.

B. LIBA

Schulte reported the meeting was cancelled.

C. JBC

Yoakum reported attendees discussed casino funds and there were reports from the Mayor's Office, Lancaster County Human Services and United Way of the Midlands. Derbin added there were updates on annual numbers for the various programs.

D. Monthly Meeting with Chair, Vice-Chair, and Planning

Yoakum reported there was an update on changes to rural roads and an update on The Shed venue.

E. Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development (LPED) Meeting

Amundson reported there was a report from the Mayor on tax increment financing and a presentation from Chris Rasmussen, Chief Executive Officer of Zoetis Inc. Vest added there was discussion of an additional parking garage using tax increment financing and discussion of a new baseball complex, a new Google facility, the recent air show and the recent University of Nebraska volleyball match.

F. Other Meetings Attended Since Last Staff Meeting

There were no additional meetings discussed.

5. SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

See agenda.

6. EMERGENCY ITEMS

There were no emergency items.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Vest moved and Amundson seconded to adjourn at 9:03 a.m. Amundson, Schulte, Vest and Yoakum voted yes. Flowerday was absent. Motion carried 4-0.



Matt Hansen
Lancaster County Clerk

