

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING
COUNTY CITY BUILDING, 555 S. 10TH STREET
ROOM 112 - CHAMBERS**

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

Others Present: David Derbin, Chief Administrative Officer; Kristy Bauer, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; and Leslie Brestel, County Clerk's Office

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 October 11, 2021. Notice was also published in the Lincoln Journal Star print and digital editions on October 8, 2021.

The Chair noted the location of the Open Meetings Act and opened the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1. APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 7, 2021

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

2. STEPPING UP INITIATIVE UPDATE Kim Etherton, Community Corrections Director

Etherton reviewed her PowerPoint presentation (see agenda packet).

It was the consensus of the Board to direct the County Attorney's Office to draft a resolution as a commitment to the Stepping Up program.

Schorr noted for the record that she will leave the staff meeting at 10:00 a.m. due to a meeting conflict.

3. PER DIEM REIMBURSEMENT RATE – Kevin Nelson, Accounting Operations Manager

Nelson discussed County Resolution R-21-0053 as it pertains to meal reimbursement rates and the IRS Notice 2021-52 (see agenda packet). He noted the meal rates are changing from \$65 for high-cost localities and \$52 for other localities within the continental United States to \$74 and \$64, respectively.

It was the consensus of the Board to direct the County Attorney's Office to draft a resolution that would track and follow the IRS guidelines regarding meal reimbursement rates.

4. COVID-19 UPDATE

Pat Lopez, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department Director, reported vaccine clinics continue and booster clinics have begun. Booster clinics have focused on first responders, the elderly, immunocompromised and educators. The jail will be able to administer their own vaccine boosters. Additionally, the County's hospitalization rates continue to be extremely high.

Lopez voiced her concerns about the rising jail population and urged the Board that any conversations or actions to reduce the jail population would be appreciated. Schorr suggested Lopez attend the next meeting of the law enforcement, Community Corrections and Courts group that is working to lower the incarceration rates. Flowerday was appreciative of the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office (LSO) and the Lincoln Police Department (LPD) in their support to lower the incarceration numbers.

Schorr exited the meeting at 9:58 a.m.

5. DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS ATTENDED

- A. **Realtors Association Government Affairs Committee** – Amundson/Flowerday
- B. **Youth Crisis Response Committee** – Amundson
- C. **LIBA Elected Officials Forum** – Schorr/Yoakum

Yoakum, Flowerday and Amundson stated they were not able to attend the meetings.

OTHER MEETINGS ATTENDED

Meeting with the Mayor's Office

Amundson reported there was discussion on the construction of the law enforcement memorial, Public Building Commission (PBC) capital projects and security issues.

6. SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

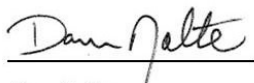
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7. EMERGENCY ITEMS

There were no emergency items.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Amundson moved and Yoakum seconded to adjourn at 10:02 a.m. Amundson, Flowerday, Yoakum and Vest voted yes. Schorr was absent. Motion carried 4-0.



Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk

