

Logan County Commissioners Work Session

April 12, 2022

Present: Byron Pelton, Jane Bauder, Joe McBride, Alan Samber, Rhonda Chrisp, Debbie Unrein, Jennifer Crow, Ashley Smith, Marilee Johnson, Faith Blankenship, Jeff Rice and Jerry Casebolt.

Chairman Pelton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS SESSION – Commissioner Bauder moved to approve the minutes from April 5, 2022 as written. Commissioner McBride seconded and the motion carried.

REVISIONS TO WORK SESSION AGENDA – No revisions were noted.

REVIEW AND APPROVE HUMAN SERVICES SCHEDULE OF BILLS – Ashley Smith met with the Board to review the Logan County Department of Human Services schedule of bills dated April 12, 2022. The Board approved all bills as presented.

REVIEW AND APPROVE SCHEDULE OF COUNTY BILLS – Rhonda Chrisp met with the Board to review the Logan County schedule of bills dated April 12, 2022. The Board approved all bills as presented.

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS – Commissioner McBride moved to approve the Commissioners Proceedings for the month of March, 2022 as written. Commissioner Bauder seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

LOGAN COUNTY AMBULANCE ACCOUNTS ASSIGNED TO COLLECTIONS – Commissioner McBride moved to approve the assignment of the Logan County Ambulance account numbers ending in 6002 and 3001 to Wakefield and Associates and allow the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Bauder seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

EXHIBIT CENTER/COMMUNITY CENTER ADDITION – Bidders are working on estimates now. One of the bidders made a statement that the project will be approximately \$1.6 - \$1.8 million rather than \$1 million as is hoped.

COUNTY TREASURER RELEASE FUNDS FROM JUSTICE CENTER FUND – Commissioner Bauder discussed this with Patty Bartlett last week. The Justice Center was paid off December 1, 2021. She said she could not move any funds collected prior to that, she could only move funds she has received since that time. But that is not what she has been doing. She has been depositing money into the Sales and Use Tax Fund because there was a sufficient fund balance in the Justice Center Fund. She believes that it should go back to a vote of the taxpayers to ask them, which is what the Board did in the 2019 election. She is insisting that her interpretation is correct and County Attorney Alan Samber and the D.A. are wrong. It was suggested that maybe she does not want to take the \$860,000 out of the bank because she is a shareholder in First Farm Bank. All of the county's accounts are at First Farm Bank. Previously a resolution designated the banks that the treasurer is authorized to deposit funds in.

The Commissioners believe that the Treasurer told them where she deposits them in her own choice of banks after she did bids. It appears to be a conflict of interest that she is a shareholder.

Patty Bartlett has told commissioners where county bank accounts were going. The Board believes that they have no say where funds are deposited and were told that by Patty several years ago. Alan select five or six institutions permissible and treasurer select from them. RTA Board bid to other banks. Commissioner Pelton asked Alan Samber to start the process to obtain a court order to get the money transferred to the Sales and Use Tax Fund. Commissioner Pelton said that he thinks we are at that point now. She will not meet with the Commissioners, she is not represented by a lawyer. Alan Samber noted that since he provides ongoing counsel to the Treasurer, he will assign Kim to the duties. Alan Samber suggested that Patty call the Division of Local Governments' local government section that has experts on local government budget and finance matters. If she sent all of the information to them and asked them to weigh in on the matter it would resolve the impasse. Commissioner Bauder said that she would take every opportunity to avoid spending thousands of dollars on attorney fees defending the matter. Commissioner Bauder will talk with her about it. Commissioner Bauder asked Patty if the Board got her an attorney and the attorney's opinion sided with the Commissioners, if she would turn over the money. Patty agreed that she would turn over the money in that event.

SMALL TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS – Commissioner McBride reported that he and Jerry Casebolt were the only attendees at the small towns' councils meeting. This is the third time trying to set up this meeting. Four people had agreed to attend, but only Joe and Jerry attended. Joe recommended that the CSU Engagement Center go out to the Co-Ops to give their presentation individually to the towns.

EMERGENCY MANAGER REPORT – Jerry Casebolt reported that in the last week there were no bad fires in the county. There was one fire in the Crook area that was contained in a pit area. It was actually burning from a week earlier and charred embers had been covered with dirt. The wind blew off all the dirt, uncovered some live embers and started the fire again. Another fire was started when a power line was blown over. Sources were not determined for several other small fires.

The meeting recessed at 9:16 a.m. and reconvened at 9:28 a.m.

FAIR MANAGER UPDATE - GUY MCANDAFFER – Guy McEndaffer met with the Board to updated members about the status of fair planning. He reported that the carnival deal is done.

Mr. McEndaffer has had several conversations with the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) and J.D. Sexton the last two weeks concerning avian flu.

CDA has canceled all poultry exhibits for the next 90 days which puts it to July 1 when it will be reevaluated. They don't want to cancel (the fair exhibits) if they don't have to. So, they want to let it go on and let the kids purchase their project, knowing there is the possibility it could be canceled. The same situation occurred in 2015 but by summertime it was not a problem. The Colorado Department of Agriculture will "give cover" no matter what.

Bird flu has been reported in Sedgwick County. There are no major poultry producers in Logan County, but it would not be responsible to continue with the poultry show and to not protect the poultry producers. They will let it ride out until July 1st and see what the CDA does. If the CDA keeps the restrictions in place, then the show would have to be canceled. They will play it by ear and see what happens.

There is no vendor chairperson on the Fair Board, there is two names on the list for the Commercial Exhibitor Coordinator.

Commissioner McBride presented a list of duties put together that the Fair Manager takes care of. The list was given to Mr. McEndaffer. He asked who provides the golf carts for the fair. He also stated that most of the tasks (on the list) will be under each of the department heads (Fair Board members), but he will oversee it to make sure it is getting done. Mr. McEndaffer asked where the golf carts were obtained. Ermar used to provide the golf carts. Transwest and Horizon provided golf carts and ATV's wheelers. Wickham Tractor, also provided the larger golf carts that seat four people. Chance Wright will know. One gator was provided by John Deere. The Buildings and Grounds Department has two gators used all year long and during fair.

The day that the campers move in will require the spots to be marked by the Fair Manager and he may need to be a go-between for camping neighbors to solve disputes. There will be a map of camper spots available at the camper lottery. Commissioner Pelton said there will be several new spots available this year.

The Fair Manager is to find a sponsor for Fair Board shirts. Commissioner Pelton said that Eagle is interested in sponsoring shirts this year. The Fair Manager will need to gather Fair Board shirt sizes and place the order.

McEndaffer discussed possibly having beer concessions during the Junior Livestock Sale. A lot of fairs do it. He suggested asking Lance Hettinger for his tap machine to be used. Liquor licensing was discussed.

The Knights have the Beer Garden Liquor license and the Grandstand Arena is also licensed for the events. One idea is to give past buyers a ticket for a free beer to show some appreciation. Does the Fair Board want it to be a money maker or do they want it to be a courtesy to the buyers? This will have to be discussed.

The wine project is off the table. She did not think that she had enough help to do it.

The Calcutta will not be possible. It was heavily discussed but it cannot be done. Commissioner McBride noted that if anyone is still interested in the Calcutta, to have them call the CBI Gaming unit to discuss it. They will be told that it is illegal.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.