

## Logan County Commissioners Work Session

February 1, 2022

Present: Byron Pelton, Jane Bauder, Joe McBride, Alan Samber, Rhonda Chrisp, Jerry Casebolt, Debbie Unrein, Chance Wright, Trae Miller, Rob Quint, Faith Blankenship, Jeff Rice and Diana Korbe .

Chairman Pelton called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS SESSION** – Commissioner McBride moved to approve the minutes from January 25, 2022 as written. Commissioner Pelton seconded and the motion carried. Commissioner Bauder abstained as she was not present.

**REVISIONS TO WORK SESSION AGENDA** – Commissioner Pelton added a letter from the Air Force, a letter from the Treasurer, The Lower South Platte, OEM Jerry Casebolt has an item he would like to discuss, Behavioral Health Transformational Task Force.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE HUMAN SERVICES SCHEDULE OF BILLS** – Ashley Smith called and reported there is a problem with their software. She will send over a report and the Commissioners will send an email approval and sign later.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE SCHEDULE OF COUNTY BILLS** – Rhonda Chrisp met with the Board to review the Logan County schedule of bills dated January 25, 2022. The Board approved all bills as presented.

**REVIEW BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA** – The Board reviewed the Business Meeting agenda for January 25, 2022.

**Solar and Wind Moratorium** - Attorney Alan Samber asked about the battery project? Commissioner Pelton said the wind and solar would charge the battery. If there is no wind or light that day you would still be able to have stored up energy. It marketed as green although Commissioner Pelton said he didn't think it was very green. Would need to apply for a separate application because of battery storage. May need to add another resolution. It would require a permit but we currently don't require one now. There is a concern on the current battery project and how it would affect the environment. Attorney Alan Samber said it may need to be added in the zoning permit as a permission to be able to use. Former Senator Brooke is going to get a group together to explain what the battery is going to look like.

**FEMA UPDATE** – Commissioner McBride, Attorney Alan Samber, and Rob Quint met with FEMA representative over the phone last Tuesday. If FEMA was to pull out would it matter insurance wise. Joe stated he would like to look at other options if this would happen. Alan thought it was a positive meeting. They are meeting again next Tuesday. The County needs to have something in place by the end of March, stating what they will do with each property, the steps they will take, and how long it will take. Alan has located the case law authority called an Estoppel with regard to some of the properties involved. Rob will meet again in two weeks, February 15, 2022, during the work session with the Commissioners.

**Behavioral Health Task Force**- Came out last Friday 450 million grant funds were available from ARPA funds. Commissioner Pelton and Commissioner Thomas with Douglas County were on the subcommittee where two of the items got recommended. Local government and community base will have access to over 45 to 100 million dollars from the ARPA funds to help the local government fill in the gaps with continuing care. The other one is to expand the behavioral work force and that is to use our local college to train. Currently working

with CCI to get the funds distributed correctly. If anyone in the community would like to have access to the money, they would need to approach the county. The county would have to approve it. Then they would have to meet whatever the expectation the county would have in place.

**AIR FORCE** – They have requested a contact person for any entities interested in the community meetings they will hold. Commissioner McBride has already been in contact and there is nothing to report that is new.

**Lower South Platte Conservancy District and Logan Well Users** – would need to send in proxy to vote for members other than our own. Commissioner Bauder will go to the meeting.

**Closure of Justice Center Funds - Sales and Use Capital Improvement Fund Resolution 2022-07** - Update on Release of Funds – Patty Bartlett, Treasurer sent a letter asking for the county to provide an attorney to address the money regarding the justice center. Commissioner Pelton has requested to ask Treasurer, Patty Bartlett to be at the next meeting to discuss. Commissioner Bauder stated that every time they attempt to bring Patty up, she never shows. Attorney Alan Samber stated he cannot reason with her. She is not willing to transfer the money. Commissioner Bauder asked why we are continuing to deal with the situation. We have passed a resolution and sent a letter. Commissioner Bauer asked that they give her till the end of February to transfer the money. Treasurer, Patty Bartlett thinks the money should only be used for the construction of the Justice Center. The money will only sit in the account and not be used for anything else. Commissioner McBride and Commissioner Bauder would like Jeff Rice with the New Press to interview her. Attorney Alan Samber said the citizens voted to use the money for capital expenditures once the center has been paid off -in which it has. The next step would be a lawsuit directed toward a governmental official stated by Attorney Alan Samber. There will be no additional funding for lawyers stated by Commissioner Bauder.

The meeting was recessed at 9:32a.m. and reconvened at 9:49a.m.

**ANNEX** – Trae Miller said the original budget for the Annex is short for the ready lift. He asked Greg Etl about DOLA grant money. They stated to leave it out for now and see if there is any money left over. Possibly do a supplemental grant DOLA wants matched funds. They are asking for a 50/50 match. Trae is asking the county to give 50% of the money. The county would be contributing \$7,146.00. Commissioner Pelton asked if the city would be willing to contribute any money. Trae said he could go talk to the city and see if they could give at least 50% which would be \$3,500.00 of the money. Commissioner McBride said in last week's meeting DOLA has stated that the county has too much money on the books to give any more money. At the last meeting there was a split vote, Commissioner Bauder would be the deciding vote. Commissioner Bauder said it was only \$7,146.00 and it will keep things going. Commissioner McBride said he would like for the space to be handicapped accessible. Commissioner Bauder said that the people who are using the facilities are from the county. Commissioner Bauder is in favor of the county giving the money to continue the project.

**Commissioners Proceeding and Salaries to be Published** – Commissioners proceedings for October, November, December 2021, and the Gross Salaries for 2021. Commissioner McBride has made the motion to approve. Commissioner Bauder seconded and the motion carried for both proceeding and salaries.

**TIENA PRICE TRUST PROPERTY CLEANUP** - Attorney Alan Samber said the trustee agrees to allow the county to work with Price to have the property cleaned up and advised after the snow melts would be a good time to go to the property and take pictures. Commissioner McBride asked Attorney Alan Samber to set up a meeting to take pictures of the property and he will meet him at the location.

**OEM** – Jerry Casebolt, Emergency Manager said the county was approached by a gentleman name John Emy who would like to put a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) together. The organization would have to be backed by a government entity. Jerry met with Lavone Ritter, Sterling Fire Chief to see if he would be interested in helping put together a CERT Team. Chief Ritter said they are not interested. The purpose of a CERT team is to come in if a disaster would happen in the county. The city had one at one time, but lack of natural disasters and volunteers were the deciding factor to discontinue it. Commissioner McBride asked Jerry if this is something that would be useful. Jerry is torn between whether it is necessary. Commissioner McBride has never seen a team activated. They could go door to door to help with evacuation. CERT teams have been used to help with educating the public. Jerry said he did not want to run the team, nor would he create a team unless the fire Chief would be on board. Chief Ritter was not interested in doing it right now and the commissioners agreed.

**ARPA Allocation** - Attorney Alan Samber said it would be easier to allocate the funds to revenue loss. Alan will be doing a resolution allocating the funds to the revenue loss. Commissioner Bauder said that would be better to keep any red flags from popping up.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.