

Logan County Commissioners Work Session
February 25, 2025

Present: Mike Brownell, Jim Yahn, Alan Samber, Debbie Unrein, Marilee Johnson, Mike Burri, Rob Kasper, Rick Cullip, and Jennifer Crow.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS SESSION - Commissioner Yahn moved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2025 Work Session as written. Commissioner Brownell seconded, and the motion carried, 2-0.

REVISIONS TO THE WORK SESSION AGENDA – Chairman Brownell mentioned that the Board has received a request for a letter of support from Resound Resources by February 26th. They are wanting to get a Broadband project started called BEADS. It might not be a good idea to approve a letter of support at this time as the company may need some type of permits from the County in the future. The Board would feel like they are bound to approve permits if they sign a letter of support right now.

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS FOR JANUARY 2025, FEBRUARY SALARY PUBLICATION – Commissioner Yahn moved to approve the Commissioners Proceedings for January 2025 and the February Salary Publication which includes employees’ gross salaries for 2024. Commissioner Brownell seconded and the motion carried 2-0.

LOGAN COUNTY AMBULANCE COLLECTION ASSIGNMENTS - Commissioner Yahn moved to approve assignment of Logan County Ambulance debt collection account to Wakefield and Associates, the account number ending in 9023, service date April 19, 2021, and allow the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Brownell seconded and the motion carried 2-0.

HB21-1110 PROGRESS – This will be tabled until next week when Commissioner Sonnenberg can be present.

CATTLE GUARDS – Mike Burri and Rob Kasper met with the Board to discuss a request for cattle guards. Jason Klinzman has requested two cattle guards on CR 30 west of CR 21. Burri asked if Klinzman needs to meet with the Commissioners for approval of the request. Commissioner Brownell stated that the Board wants to make sure that the Road and Bridge Department approves the cattle guards. The only other problem that Commissioner Brownell is aware of is that a landowner tried to put a gate across the county road after the cattle guard was installed. Neighbors might want to move big equipment or cattle down the road. A gate to the side of the cattle guard could be installed to allow equipment to be moved through. Signs will be posted that say Open Range, or Livestock on Road. The neighbor is Tim Duncan. The Board wants to make sure the neighbors realize what is happening and approve.

Mike Burri let the Board know that the landowner pays the cost of the cattle guard, and the county installs it. Rob Kasper believes that there will be a lot more landowners requesting cattle guards to be installed with the increased cost of fencing. Burri stated that his concern is that the County must clean the cattle guards out. With the regular type of cattle guards, they have to close the entire road and tear the road completely out for most of them. The federal cattle guards with the concrete boxes are easier to clean out and do not require closing the road. Burri and Kasper agreed to work on getting specs for the federal cattle guards with the concrete footers. The Road and Bridge Department installed four cattle guards last year. Right now, the department maintains over thirty cattle guards in the county. They can maintain only two cattle guards in one day.

DODGE RAM CLASS ACTION SUIT – Alan Samber asked Mike Burri and Rob Kasper whether the Road and Bridge Department had any vehicles that would be eligible to participate in the Dodge Ram pickup lawsuit. The County could opt into a settlement if we own model years 2017 and 2018 RAM 2500, 3500, 4500, 5500 pickups. This involves the ABS module and the brake hydraulic control units. Burri and Kasper both agreed that the department has a number of these pickups. Rob Kasper stated his 2018 pickup currently has a problem in the rear end and the brakes are growling. He is going to get it back in with the mechanics. About a year ago, it had a piston in the rear calipers that froze. It was caught before it did any damage. Alan is going to see what kind of documentation is required to join the class action suit.

TIRE QUOTES – Mike Burri discussed quotes for semi tires that he received from two companies. The quote from a company out of Haxtun for 14-ply tires is lower than the quote from Great Western Tire of Sterling for 16-ply tires. The Great Western Tire price is \$1,700 more for 24 tires. Great Western could not quote a 14-ply tire. As much abuse as the county roads give the tires, Burri believes the 16-ply would be the better tire to go with. The Board agreed that the 16-ply tires would be better tires.

IRIS DRIVE AND CR 37 - Burri and Kasper discussed possible solutions for the intersection of Iris Drive and CR 37. The Board is interested in purchasing a small piece of property at that intersection to make it safer for traffic traveling north on CR 37 and transitioning on Iris Drive. Burri and Kasper showed the Board pictures of proposed plans and discussed possible solutions. No decisions were made.

FUEL TANK AT FLEMING SHOPS – Burri also asked the Board what they would like to do about the 2,000-gallon fuel tank at the Fleming shop. The law states that they have to have containment for anything over 650 gallons. Burri showed the Board quotes for several different tanks including a double-wall tank that does not require containment. He also suggested that they could purchase another single-wall tank and build some kind of concrete containment system around the tank. Another solution would be that they could keep the two 500-gallon tanks out there and have them filled weekly on a route. Sterling Fuel said that would not be a problem. During the last cold spell, there was a problem where all of the fuel that was obtained from CHS gelled up. CHS only sells a 70-30 blend. They were not aware of this. Only the machine that was fueled in Sterling was operating as it was running on a 50-50 blend and did not gel up. The ease and convenience for the operators might be more important. The bridge crew could build the containment for a larger tank. It could be made large enough so that if they want to put in the 2,000-gallon tank later it could be done. Burri will look into construction of the containment system.

COURTHOUSE GENERATOR TESTED – Rick Cullip updated the Board on the Courthouse generator. Generac came out and did the initial startup on the generator yesterday. All went well, there were no flaws or problems at all. If there are future power outages the generator should kick in to provide power to the Courthouse and the Annex. Each department is advised to look at their battery backup systems to make sure they are working properly.

ELEVATOR – Rick Cullip informed the Board that communications with TK Elevators have not been good. They were doing great and working well with him and providing the information he requested. Now there is no communication. He has sent three emails and made two phone calls and can't seem to reach anyone. He is going to go back to square one and call the operator desk and ask to speak with someone. There is one elevator here at the Courthouse and five elevators at the Justice Center. He has reached out to two other vendors that would be willing to come on board. This process started in December, discussing the renewal of the contract. He feels the company may have purposely drug their feet, knowing that they had us in a tight spot. They have been a good company, However, Cullip does not agree with their automatic five-year contract renewal. The contract was coming up for renewal when he went out for medical leave. Alan Samber suggested that we should have sent a notice to terminate to end the problem. Alan Samber suggested that Cullip try to keep everything diplomatic with them. Pricing does not seem to be a problem.

Samber suggested software to keep track of contracts deadlines and contract administration. Cullip has gone through and put dates on the calendar so that he knows a year out when the contracts expire.

GAZEBO PROJECT – Rick Cullip reported on the Gazebo project. They have found that when it was built, it was built to 36” on center joists instead of 18” on center joists. They are adding structure to make them 18” on center joists. The decking will be Trex, or another composite material installed with hidden clips.

SLIP AND FALL AT FAIRGROUNDS/FOOD BANK – Rick Cullip reported that someone slipped and fell on some ice at the fairgrounds food bank this morning. That is all the information he has right now. The only location he can think of where there might be ice is where the snow is piled up near the drain, the pile might be melting and a little bit of water that is in the valley there might be a little bit of ice. He will put a report together to determine what happened and report back.

SLIP AND FALL AT HERITAGE CENTER – Commissioner Brownell reported that there was a trip and fall at the Heritage Center a woman had tripped over a small chunk of sidewalk and hurt her elbow and another where there was an old light standard or something where there were some bolts sticking up. Commissioner Brownell reported both items to Gary Stone. Rick will follow up with Gary to make sure they were taken care of. Alan Samber noted that our insurance has something called premises medical payment regardless of fault. It will pay up to \$5,000 if somebody gets hurt on county property.

AMBULANCE BILLING RFP – Commissioner Yahn asked if the RFP for the ambulance billing had been sent out on Bidnet. Debbie sent the RFP to Chief Ritter. Commissioner Yahn will be meeting with Chief Ritter and discuss it with him.

Commissioners Brownell and Yahn will be meeting with the CU Denver students, Cynthia Mills, and Wade Gandee on the Rec Center/Heritage Center proposal over Zoom at 1 p.m. Rick Cullip was invited to attend.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.