

## **Logan County Commissioners Work Session**

**September 20, 2022**

Present: Byron Pelton, Jane Bauder, Joe McBride, Alan Samber, Ashley Smith, Kristan Lange, Debbie Unrein, Janie Rasmussen, Faith Blankenship, Matt Chrisp, Diana Korbe, Dave Appelhans, Dennis Vierow, Rebecca Curtis, Jordan Ocanas, Erin Mendenhall, Jerry Sonnenberg, Jeff Rice and Jennifer Crow.

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

Chairman Pelton congratulated Alan Samber on his marriage.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS SESSION** – Commissioner Bauder moved to approve the minutes of September 6, 2022. Commissioner McBride seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

**REVISIONS TO WORK SESSION AGENDA** – Commissioner Bauder added discussion of a grant with Dave Appelhans. Commissioner McBride added a Wakefield assignment and also discussion on Ambulance transfers.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE HUMAN SERVICES SCHEDULE OF BILLS** – Ashley Smith met with the Board to review Logan County Department of Human Services schedule of bills dated September 20, 2022. The Board approved all bills as presented. The Board also approved the Department of Human Services payroll for the period August 27 through September 9, 2022.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE SCHEDULE OF COUNTY BILLS** – Kristan Lange met with the Board to review the Logan County schedule of bills dated September 20, 2022. The Board approved all bills as presented.

**REVIEW BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA** – The Board reviewed the Business meeting agenda for September 20, 2022. The minutes will be amended to reflect the unanimous approval of Resolution of 2022-27 which temporarily waived certain building permit fees for construction activity in Logan County. It will be taken out of the consent agenda and voted on first.

**JANIE RASMUSSEN MISS RODEO LOGAN COUNTY FUNDS** – Logan County Fair Board Queen Coordinator Janie Rasmussen and Logan County Finance Director Debbie Unrein joined the meeting. Janie expressed frustration trying to get the Logan County Fair Queen reimbursed for expenses submitted such as mileage. Last year they were told to turn in mileage, not receipts for reimbursements. Now they are being told that they need proof that they actually attended events. Janie also submitted an e-mail from Etsy for a brush that was purchased as an award. It was personalized with the words “Miss Rodeo Logan County 2022”. Janie asked for a little bit of leniency in the reimbursement process as the girls raised \$2,400 for to help pay for their expenses.

Janie was under the impression that the money can't be carried over at the end of the year. Debbie Unrein stated that it is up to the Fair Board whether the money can be carried over to the

following year's budget. The money has its own revenue budget line item. The Queen's line item is totally covered by fundraising and is intended to help cover expenses. If they don't spend it all, it can be re-appropriated to spend the next year by the Fair Board if the Fair Board approves. Janie has been told in the past, that the budget does not get the money rolled over.

The Etsy e-mail was returned to Janie because it was not an official invoice. It did come from Amanda's e-mail and was paid through her Paypal account. Debbie said if Janie would sign-off on the purchase it could be paid. It should typically run through the county to avoid sales tax.

The mileage was typed up on a blank sheet and included trips to town and dates from 2021. Janie had highlighted the trips that should be paid but it did not come out on the copy that the Finance Department was given. They were not asking for the 2021 mileage but the Finance Department could not tell that from the copy they had. Janie does have the county mileage request form now. Going forward, the expenses will be turned in in a timely manner on the appropriate form and with appropriate documentation.

**MATT CHRISP BIG IRON SALES AGREEMENT** – Matt Chrisp met with the Board to request permission to sell a 2004 963C Track Loader with 12,000 hours on the Big Iron online auction on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Rick Cullip has been working through the steps to do this online since he has been on desk duty. The Board will ratify the auction listing seller agreement on the October 18<sup>th</sup> agenda.

**MEMORIAL SIGNS IN COUNTY RIGHT OF WAYS** – Alan Samber will prepare this for the October 18<sup>th</sup> agenda.

**DAVE APPELHANS - COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE SHOOTING RANGE SMALL GRANT AGREEMENT** – The Board approved the grant for the Logan County Shooting Sports Complex shade structures in 2020. The grant contract is finally coming through the state channels. It will come through DocuSign. They have Dave Appelhans as the primary signor. He must have approval from the Board when the contract comes through to sign. There are a couple of minor changes needed. The date will need to be changed to reflect the date that it is signed. Alan Samber noted that the County is the grantee so the Board will need to sign the grant agreement. This will need to be placed on the October 18<sup>th</sup> agenda.

The 2022 application will also need signatures on October 18th. It is for the benches that will go under the shade structures that will be built from the 2020 grant.

**LOGAN COUNTY AMBULANCE COLLECTION ASSIGNMENTS** - Commissioner McBride moved to approve assignment of a Logan County Ambulance debt collection account to Wakefield and Associates, the account number ending in 8063 and allow the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Bauder seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

The meeting recessed at 9:29 a.m. and reconvened at 9:54 a.m.

**DIANA KORBE CHP RATES FOR 2023** – Diana Korbe met with the Board to discuss the County Health Pool insurance rates for 2023. The rates will go up 5%. However, they did not go up in band. CHP will stay with Anthem Blue Cross. They will be investigating other

companies for 2024. Anthem wanted a 55% increase for stop loss this year. Katie Gallagher got involved and worked very hard to get the stop loss down from 55% to 13%.

Diana reached out to Brian Hillier with Benefit Health Advisor but they could not provide quotes as good as County Health Pool.

The District Attorney was allowed to come back to County Health Pool in the middle of the year this year from another company. They have always gone with PPO Plan A and will have to designate that plan again if the Board will allow it. Diana has messaged Jill on that and she is supposed to be letting her know. The employee PPO Plan B2000 went up \$41 and the Family Plan where the county pays 65% and the employee pays 35% it is a \$99 increase and for the high deductible the amount goes down for both. Dental, Vision and Life have not changed, in fact they have been the same for years. It is still a two-year commitment. If someone comes on those plans, they have to stay on them for two years.

The Board agreed to allow the District Attorney to select the PPO Plan A.

The Board asked Alan to prepare a resolution for the District Attorney to opt out of FAMILI. The D.A. cannot opt out on their own. All the counties must opt out for him. All the counties will copy the resolution and adopt similar resolutions. Diana did a bulletin board flyer from a template given to them by the State. She will share this with the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial District to post on their bulletin board.

**AMBULANCE TRANSFERS** – Commissioner McBride received a call from Tom Bedford last week. Originally the ambulance was doing transfers through the Logan County Ambulance/Fire Department from the hospital to other major hospitals. (Well before this Board.) It was becoming too much for the Fire Department, so Banner then started running their two ambulances. Then Banner was going to start flying people out. Now apparently that has changed. A patient needed a bypass – and they had to sit in the hospital for 15 hours waiting for a transport out.

After some investigation, Tom Bedford was calling the City, the County and the hospital over the issue, and everyone saying it's not their problem, Commissioner McBride suggested a joint meeting to discuss the issue.

Commissioner Bauder noted that the reason Banner quit doing them is because Medivac bought that portion out. They kept the ambulances but they do want to transport more patients by air. However, that patient did not want to be transported by air. That patient chose not to do that. Because of HIPPA, she cannot say more. Medivac will use local off-duty Fire Department Paramedics if they are available and willing to work for Medivac for transfers. The plan is for more air transfers. Monday was a super busy ground transport day. That's why the ambulance had to come from Colorado Springs, because all of the Front Range ambulance transportation was full.

New legislation just passed, called the no surprises legislation, which means the patient can't be presented with a huge bill. They have to work with insurance companies.

Commissioner McBride looked up the new legislation. As of January 1, the Federal No Surprises Act is in effect. It expands federal surprise billing protection to individuals with insurance plans not regulated under the Colorado Law which protects a person when they receive emergency care from a facility or provider that is out of network.

Commissioner Pelton will set up a meeting between the hospital, Kevin Blankenship, Sterling City Manager, Chief Ritter of the Fire Department, and a representative from Medivac.

**COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS FOR AUGUST 2022** – Commissioner McBride moved to approve the Commissioners proceedings for August 2022. Commissioner Bauder seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner McBride commented on the successful Sugar Beet Days celebration and commended Marla Foxhoven and Chip Steger on running such a successful event.

**NORTHEASTERN COLORADO REVOLVING LOAN FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** – December 31, 2021 Valerie Hibbert dropped the financial statements off last week for the BOCC to look at.

**CONFERENCE INFORMATION FOR CDVA** – The information was incomplete.

**COLORADO PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARD** – Jeff Rice announced that Jerry Sonnenberg was awarded the Colorado Press Association Defender of the First Amendment Award. Mr. Rice congratulated Mr. Sonnenberg and noted that he has always been transparent and honest and open and very willing to work with the media. There will be an article in the Sterling Journal-Advocate later this week.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.