

Logan County Commissioners Work Session
September 23, 2025

Present: Mike Brownell, Jim Yahn, Jim Santomaso, Alan Samber, Rick Cullip, Mike Burri, Debbie Unrein, Tony Johnson, Callie Jones, and Jennifer Crow.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS SESSION - Commissioner Santomaso moved to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025 Work Session. Commissioner Yahn seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.

NORTH STERLING STATE PARK - Tony Johnson, North Sterling State Park Manager met with the Board to introduce himself as the new park manager at North Sterling State Park. He offered to work with the Board on any projects going on in Logan County or any Colorado Parks and Wildlife things that they might need help with.

He has been here since mid-July and came from State Forest State Park in Jackson County. He's trying to move his family here full time when he gets his house sold in Walden. The board welcomed him to Logan County. Johnson commented that Logan County has a lot more full-time resources such as Fire, Police and Sheriff's Department than Jackson County has. There are a lot of community events and activities for kids here as well.

North Sterling State Park is a bigger responsibility for him but a much smaller state park than his former position, State Forest State Park is 72,000 acres; it is a big land mass. He is looking forward to attending Commissioners meetings. He worked hand in hand with Jackson County Commissioners.

Commissioner Yahn mentioned that Dave Piper, the former State Park Manager, was a member of the Logan County Lodging Tax Board and asked if Johnson would be willing to do that also. Johnson said that he would be willing to serve on the Lodging Tax Board. Jennifer will email Johnson an application.

ROAD AND BRIDGE DEPARTMENT – Mike Burri discussed a problem with paving County Road 79 south of Fleming. There are some soft spots that were showing up in the road. Burri met with a Martin Marietta representative last spring who discussed the cracking in the asphalt road with his boss. This person recommended the Full Depth Reclamation (FDR) treatment. Burri said that when he got out to the project site, the crew asked him why the road was being tilled up. He told the Martin Marietta crew that's what they had recommended. They told Burri that they never do this. They called their boss who told them to do it anyway. Supposedly, this is all hearsay, because nobody's going to back Burri up. They ended up tilling the whole road up instead of just stopping and saying that it should be investigated a little more. Nobody told Burri anymore until after they were done. The County may end up having to double up on the pavement for a mile because of the number of soft spots. Burri did not have anything in writing about the recommendation from Martin Marietta.

Burri has had a roller at the site putting millings in the soft spots. One of the spots was three feet deep. It will probably need to be doubled up on the paving at a cost of \$180,000 because of all the soft spots. He said the way CR 79 is, there's are no bridges or big culverts or anything. They put pans in, and they just put it out the bottom, and then the water comes right across the road. They did soil stabilization on one area, and it is hard as a rock now with 14" of concrete.

Commissioner Brownell stated that he used to live southeast of Fleming and traveled that road frequently. He

does not remember anything ever being done on the road other than overlay. Burri said he talked to the Martin Marieta road grader operator when they first started working on the project. The guy told him that he made a phone call right away and said that they should not be doing what they're doing. Burri tried to talk to him later after he talked to Alan and the man said he was not supposed to talk to him. All of the Martin Marieta guys were saying that to him. They have a good product, they put out some really nice asphalt and they do a good job laying it down, it's nice and tight, and they come in and get the job done. However, the communication is not that great. It's a bad situation.

Burri reported that there was a school bus stuck this morning north of Sterling due to the rain and muddy conditions. They sent a strap up with a road grader to pull it out. They will have to repair the road later.

Commissioner Brownell discussed a call from Daniel Schell about County Road 34 east of Hwy 138. They are going to be hauling silage when the weather cooperates. Daniel Schell said that road has been a problem for at least 15 years. Burri said that he would take a look at it and call Mr. Schell.

BUDGET MEETINGS – Debbie Unrein asked Alan Samber about the Public Trustee's budget. The Board does not really have any say over it. This year she says she's going to spend all of it, which is more than what was approved during the budget last year. Commissioners in the past have not looked at it that way. They always cut it, just the Public Trustee budget, not the Treasurer budget. The Board will see that she's going to spend more than what was budgeted last year. Alan said state statutes allow the Public Trustee to adopt their budgets separately. He will look at the statutes again. Debbie said it is a very small amount, but she wanted to be able to answer questions correctly.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.