

Logan County Commissioners Work Session
June 26, 2018

Present: Byron Pelton, Joe McBride, Dave Donaldson, Alan Samber, Valerie Richards, Lindsey Reeves, Michelle Hoff, Marilee Johnson, Scott Szabo, Debbie Unrein, Don Saling, Curt Penny and Wade Gandee.

Chairman Pelton called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS SESSION - Commissioner McBride moved to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2018 work session as corrected. Commissioner Donaldson seconded and the motion carried.

REVIEW DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS) SCHEDULE OF BILLS - Valerie Richards met with the Board to review the DHS schedule of bills dated June 26, 2018. The Board approved all bills as presented.

REVIEW LOGAN COUNTY SCHEDULE OF BILLS - Lindsey Reeves met with the Board to review the Logan County schedule of bills dated June 26, 2018. The Board approved all bills as presented.

REVIEW LOGAN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES SCHEDULE OF PAYROLL BILLS - Michelle Hoff met with the Board to review the Logan County Human Services schedule of payroll bills dated June 26, 2018. The Board approved all bills as presented.

The meeting recessed at 9:13 a.m. and reconvened at 9:20 a.m.

REVIEW OF 2017 AUDIT - Scott Szabo and Debbie Unrein met with the Board for a review of the 2017 audit. Mr. Szabo noted the summarized information that will be of interest to the Board in the audit. Cash changes were noted from 2016 to 2017. Overall cash balances increased by \$302,000. The prior year fund balances increased by \$146,000.

Fund balances can decrease by the need to expend the funds after building a reserve in the fund for several years or reaching the mill levy. Overall, fund balances went up \$1,172,000 with the prior year fund balances up \$599,000. Logan County fund balances are very healthy across the board. The number of months in reserve can vary from year to year depending on spending. A fund balance history report was provided to the Board.

Everything is trending well for the county and finances are in great shape. Szabo noted that Debbie Unrein and her staff do a remarkable job with the audit and provide all information requested. The federal program audited was the Foster Care Program and no problems were discovered in that program.

The link to the audit is posted to the Logan County website, however was not activated at this time. The Board thanked Debbie Unrein for the work she does to provide information for the audit.

The meeting recessed at 9:35 a.m. and reconvened at 9:49 a.m.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Darlene Carpio from Senator Cory Gardiner's office met with the Board to touch base and find out what need to do to support Logan County. Ten days ago Senator Gardiner introduced a bill to repeal the Federal Excise Tax on heavy duty trucks and trailers. The Rural Physicians Workforce Production Act was introduced in the last two weeks with the goal of promoting medical residencies in rural areas. Medical residencies that are performed in rural areas are more apt to stay in rural areas where there is a great need. This provides monies to help with residencies.

The State's Act would remove hemp from the list of controlled substances. Colorado had many more acres of hemp planted than any other state. There are a number of counties issuing permits for hemp processing facilities now.

The Appropriations Bill passed out of the Senate and will move forward and the Senate will now start moving forward on the Farm Bill. The majority of the Farm Bill is the SNAP or nutrition program. This cannot be avoided as support for the Farm Bill is necessary and cannot be obtained with out the inclusion of the SNAP portion of the bill.

The Senate will not be taking the summer recess this year and Senator Gardner will have limited time in the state this session. He has asked regional directors in the state to identify meetings in the state where DC policy staff needs to be in attendance.

The Board asked if the Senator's Office knows about the impacts of the tariffs on agriculture. There have been some articles written. Ms. Carpio addressed that DC staff, no way to assess what the final impact of the tariffs will be. Senator Gardner is supportive of the stance the President has taken regarding tariffs and has been very engaged in making sure that the impacts on the Ag community are made known.

Commissioner Donaldson discussed the immigration issue which is disrupting the entire country and expressed the hope that the entire legislature will work to get is resolved.

WAIVER OF ANNEXATION - City Manager Don Saling met with the Board to discuss the Waiver of Annexation Report which was requested by the City of Sterling. The city acquired land near the Sugar Beet factory area. The easement to access the property from Lee Roth was perpetual to the land. Saling was not comfortable with the easement as it ran across the raised levy. The city was able to purchased 23 acres from Mr. Rothe for the easement. Mr. Saling discussed that the city owns land adjacent to the river on the west and the east and reviewed the city's Master Plan for the city parks which includes trails along the river. Most of the criteria for an annexation impact report does not apply to this situation. The school district is not impacted, and the weed district is not impacted. Wade Gandee noted there is already a large power transmission line for available power if necessary.

The Board questioned whether there would be an increase in traffic volume on Edith Avenue as residences are currently complaining because of dust. Mr. Saling answered that the city does not anticipate much increase in traffic volume. The city's future plans may include purchase of 77 acres from Lee Rothe for an amphitheater and ball park. When and if that happens, the city will annex the property and the road will belong to the City of Sterling. The focus right now is for the trails. Any increase of traffic will be minimal.

CITY/COUNTY IGA - Mr. Saling noted that he is limited as to what he can say unless the

meeting goes into an executive session. Saling noted that City Council was not happy with the way the news came out that the County is terminating the IGA. Council was surprised to learn the County is terminating the IGA and would have liked to see negotiations take place before the notice of termination and termination only if negotiations were not mutually successful.

Commissioner Donaldson stated that the county's position was to give the city a letter of termination before July 1 to enter into negotiations on a new IGA by the end of the year which will affect the 2019 budget.

The only item in the original IGA which is still relevant is the landfill. All the other items are obsolete. Mr. Saling noted that the ambulance IGA also expires at the end of the year. Curt Penny noted that there is a lot at stake with the termination of the IGA. From the city's viewpoint, it is preferred that the IGA not be terminated and negotiations for the new IGA begin and go into effect the next budget year.

Commissioner McBride said that he preferred to have as much of the IGA discussion in public meetings rather than in executive sessions. Commissioner Donaldson agreed, negotiations can be done in executive sessions, however it is illegal to make decisions in executive sessions. Mr. Saling noted that he makes recommendations to City Council and receives direction from City Council in executive sessions.

Commissioner Pelton moved to go into Executive Session to determine positions relative to matters that are subject to negotiations, as concerns the Logan County/City of Sterling Intergovernmental Agreement and its termination as allowed by C.R.S. section 24-6-402(4)(e). Commissioner Donaldson seconded and the motion carried.

The executive session ended and the meeting was called back to order at 12:10 p.m.

Participants in the Executive Session were: Don Saling, Sterling City Manager, City Attorney Curt Penny, Alan Samber, County Attorney, Commissioners Pelton, McBride and Donaldson. Persons who participated in the executive session were asked if any substantial discussion of matters not included in the motion to go into executive session occurred during the executive session, or if any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law. No concerns were stated.

LETTERS TO BANKS RE: HIDDEN ACCOUNTS - Patty Bartlett would like the Board to send letters to area banks inquiring whether there are accounts in the name of Logan County to be assured there are no "hidden funds."

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.